

# Welcome to Worship

Ginter Park Baptist Church

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 3401 Brook Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475

Second Sunday after the Epiphany • January 18, 2026 • 10:30 AM

## GATHERING & REFLECTING (10:20 AM)

During this time of reflection, we invite you to take a few moments to prepare yourself for worship. Take a few deep breaths and settle into the quiet. Center yourself through art by coloring the attached picture. Slip off your shoes and remember that you are on holy ground. No matter what this time looks like for you, your whole self is welcome in this space.

## CHIMING THE TRINITY

Lisa Horn

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Raymond Cady

\*Responsive readings like this one are a part of worship. The congregation's part is in **bold**.\*

Leader: I waited patiently for the Lord; God inclined and heard my cry.

**People: God lifted us from fear and despair and set our feet on solid ground.**

Leader: God put a new song in our mouths—a song of praise, a song of trust.

**People: We come to sing, to listen, and to hope.**

Leader: When we were uncertain, God did not turn away. When we felt alone, God stayed near.

**People: We have a faithful friend in the Lord—steady, present, and true.**

Leader: So let us tell the good news of God's faithfulness, not hiding it, not holding it back.

**People: With joyful hearts, we worship the One whose love never lets us go.**

**All: Let us worship God together. Amen.**

## INVOCATION PRAYER

## HYMN No. 631

“Lift Every Voice and Sing”

LIFT EVERY VOICE

\*Some of us stand while singing, and others don't. Please join us in song in whatever way you are comfortable.\*

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS

Raymond Cady

\*Prayer requests are shared out loud with the gathered community. If you have a joy or a concern to share, please raise your hand to request the microphone\*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (ALL)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.**

**Amen.**

HYMN No. 543

“Blessed Assurance”

ASSURANCE

SCRIPTURE

[Psalm 40:1-11](#)

Anita Laffoon

One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God  
**Many: Thanks be to God**

SERMON

“You've Got A Friend”

Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE “‘What a Friend’ with ‘You’ve Got a Friend’”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN 86

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS

CLOSING COMMISSION

Leader: Go now, trusting the God who hears your cries and lifts you onto steady ground.

**People: We go, carried by a love that does not fail.**

Leader: Go with a new song in your heart, ready to tell what God has done.

**People: We will speak of God’s faithfulness with joy and courage.**

Leader: When the road feels uncertain, remember—you are not walking alone.

**People: God goes with us, a faithful friend in every season.**

Leader: Delight in doing God’s will, letting mercy and truth guide your steps.

**People: We will live the good news we have received.**

**All: Thanks be to God, who stays with us always. Amen.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ is with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

**\*\*Our services are hybrid, meaning there are cameras in the worship space to allow those joining us via Zoom to fully participate. If you would rather not be on camera, we have marked the areas where our cameras can’t see you.\*\***



Are you visiting with us today? We’d love to get to know you better!  
Scan the QR code to tell us more about you.

## **Announcements**

### **Metro Richmond at Prayer**

During the week of January 18, we pray to overcome in Christ's name the heritage of racism: To experience the healing power of Jesus's resurrection over all personal and institutional results of racism and racial inequality in this metropolitan city.

### **Pray for our Ministry Partners**

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy is the largest statewide advocacy voice for the faith community in Virginia. The organization focuses primarily on issues of racial, social, and economic justice. They include Virginians of all faiths including people who identify as Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh, Buddhist, Bahai, humanist, "spiritual, not religious," "religious none," and people of goodwill.

### **Page Turners' Book Club**

The book club is reading "The Correspondent" by Virginia Evans, and they will gather for discussion on January 18 at 4pm at the home of Dixie Leathers.

### **Day for All People**

If you registered for Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy's Day for All People on the 21st, and would like to ride with the group, let Anita know!

### **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

The Thursday morning Bible study will resume this Thursday! All are invited to join us at 10 am at the Ashland location, 10981 Richardson Road. Contact Don Poalski for more information.

### **Business Meeting**

Our first business meeting of the year will be on January 25th, right after worship. Please plan to attend either in-person or via Zoom.

### **Save the Date!**

Our annual Chili Cook-off and Bingo night will be January 31st at 6pm! Sign up on Realm to bring chili, sides, or dessert (chili add-ons like cheese and sour cream will be provided). And don't forget to bring a white elephant gift for the Bingo prize table!

### **Backpack Update**

Our backpacks are being prepared at 10981 Richardson Rd, Ashland 23005. Dixie and Connie will continue as co-facilitators of the program. Contact one of them to volunteer. Don't forget to bring in your paper bags!

### **Worship isn't the same without you...**

...and we'd love to have your help! We need volunteers to help on Sunday mornings by leading the Call to Worship and the Prayers of the People, and to facilitate the Zoom room. Contact Anita to sign up!

## **Hymn Texts**

CCLI License # 21155203

### **Lift Every Voice and Sing**

Lift every voice and sing till earth and heaven ring, ring with the harmonies of liberty;  
let our rejoicing rise high as the listening skies; let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
facing the rising sun of our new day begun, let us march on, till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet come to the place for which our parents sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears have been watered;  
we have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;  
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light; keep us for ever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;  
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;  
shadowed beneath thy hand may we for ever stand, true to our God, true to our native land.

### **Blessed Assurance**

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.  
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

### **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.  
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided.

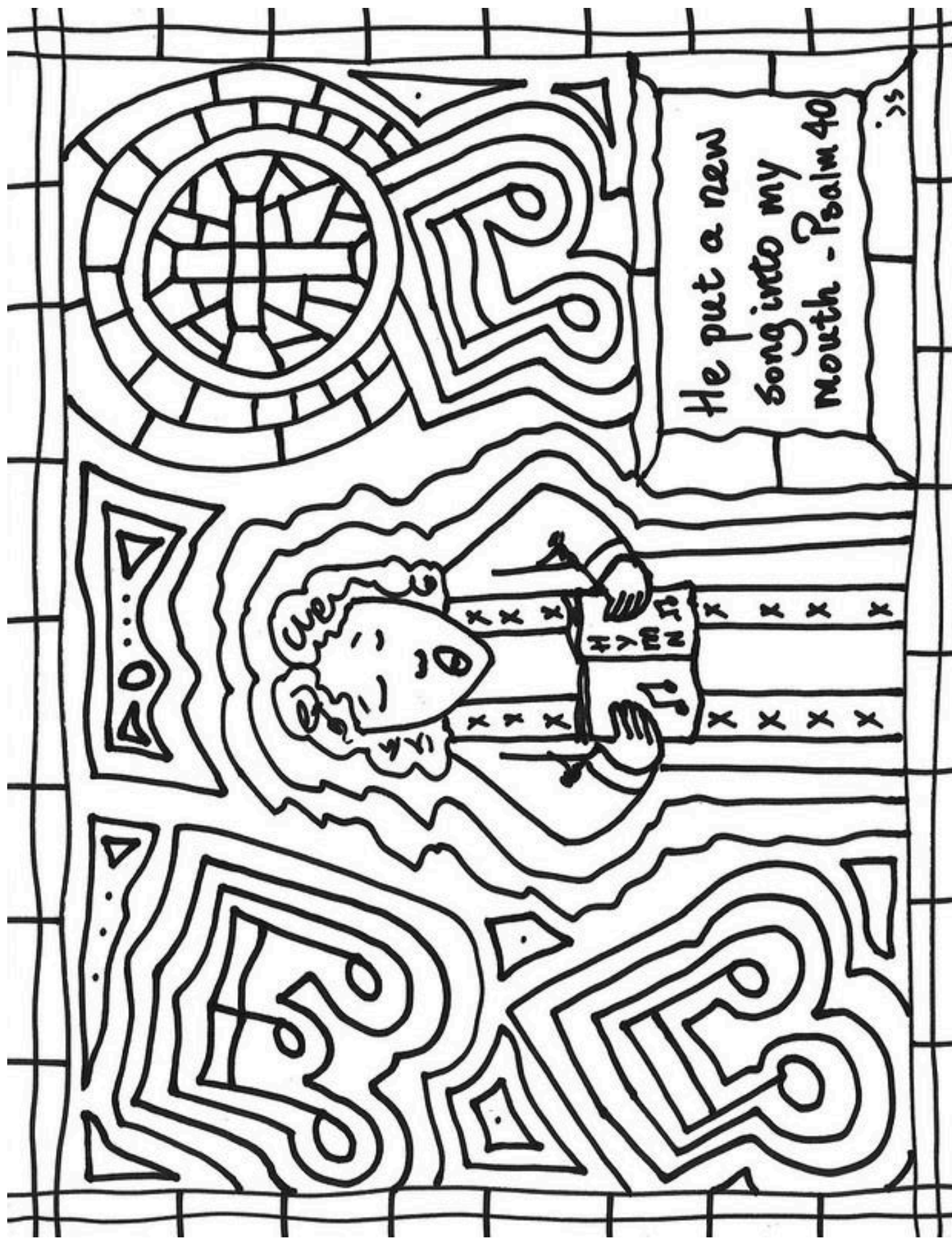
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!



He put a new  
song into my  
Mouth - Psalm 40

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