

# Welcome to Worship

Ginter Park Baptist Church

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 3401 Brook Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475  
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany • February 8, 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

Nadene Eads

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

Leader: You are the salt of the earth, Jesus tells us—meant to bring life, flavor, and healing to the world.

**People:** **We come to be renewed, so our lives may season the world with love.**

Leader: You are the light of the world—not hidden, not silent, not afraid.

**People:** **We come to shine with courage, kindness, and truth.**

Leader: Faith is not only something we believe—it is something the world can see.

**People:** **We will live what we sing and sing what we live.**

Leader: In every generation, God has raised up witnesses—voices for justice, hope, and freedom.

**People:** **We give thanks for those who have gone before us and commit ourselves to the work still unfolding.**

*All:* ***Let us worship the God who calls us to be salt, to be light, and to be faithful witnesses.***

## INVOCATION PRAYER

### HYMN NO. 609

“Take My Life, and Let It Be”

HENDON

\*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

Nadene Eads

\*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****“Keep Your Lamps”****KEEP YOUR LAMPS**

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't get weary, children, don't get weary,  
children, don't get weary, 'til your work is done.

Christian, journey soon be over, christian, journey soon be over,  
christian, journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

**SCRIPTURE**Matthew 5:13-20

Anita Laffoon

One: This is the Word of God, for the people of God

**Many: Thanks be to God**

**SERMON****“Witness”**

Anita Laffoon

**TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH** ““You Are the Light of the World” with ‘Witness’” Arr. Horn

**HYMN****“Lean on Me”**

Withers

Sometimes in our lives, we all have pain, we all have sorrow,  
but if we are wise we know that there's always tomorrow.

Lean on me, when you're not strong, and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on,  
for it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

Please swallow your pride if I have things you need to borrow,  
for no one can fill those of your needs that you won't let show

You just call on me, **neighbor**, when you need a hand. We all need somebody to lean on.  
I just might have a problem that you'll understand. We all need somebody to lean on.

Lean on me, when you're not strong, and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on,  
for it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

You just call on me, **neighbor**, when you need a hand. We all need somebody to lean on.  
I just might have a problem that you'll understand. We all need somebody to lean on.

If there is a load you have to bear, that you can't carry,  
I'm right up the road, I'll share your load, if you just call me.

Lean on me, when you're not strong, and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on,  
for it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

## CLOSING COMMISSION

Leader: Go now as salt for a world that has lost its flavor.

**People: We will live with love that changes what surrounds us.**

Leader: Go now as light in places shadowed by fear and injustice.

**People: We will shine with courage, compassion, and truth.**

Leader: Let your faith be visible—in what you say, how you act, and whom you love.

**People: We will be witnesses to grace, mercy, and hope.**

Leader: Go remembering the cloud of witnesses who inspire us still.

**People: We go strengthened by their faith and guided by God's light.**

**All:** *We go to live the gospel we have heard. Thanks be to God.*

## 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 February 8, we pray for the coming of God's realm in Metropolitan Richmond: For healthy economic development which enhances the Metropolitan community, employs the unemployed, and contributes to the common good.

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

The Baptist World Alliance is a global movement of Baptists sharing a common confession of faith in Jesus Christ. For more than 100 years, the Baptist World Alliance has networked the Baptist family to impact the world for Christ with a commitment to strengthen worship, fellowship and unity; lead in mission and evangelism; respond to people in need through aid, relief, and community development; defend religious freedom, human rights, and justice; and advance theological reflection and leadership development.

### **Guest Speaker**

Our Guest Speaker next week will be our own Bill Nieporte! Thank you Bill, we look forward to hearing from you!

## **Called Business Meeting**

We will have a called business meeting on February 22 immediately after worship to review budget updates. Please plan to attend in person or via Zoom.

## **Thursday Morning Bible Study**

The Thursday morning Bible study meets at 10 am at the Ashland location, 10981 Richardson Road. Contact Don Polaski for more information. All are welcome!

## **Ash Wednesday Service**

We will have a combined Ash Wednesday service with Anointed New Life, First Mennonite, and Bethlehem Baptist churches. It will be at First Mennonite (601 E Parham Rd, Richmond, VA 23227) on February 18th at 7pm. Join us as we mark the beginning of Lent and prepare for Easter.

## **Chili Cook-off - new date!**

Our annual Chili Cook-off and Bingo night will be February 28<sup>th</sup> 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!

## **Page Turners Book Club**

The next book assignment is *The Husbands* by Holly Gramazio. We will discuss this book in March, date TBA.

## **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**

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### **Take My Life, and Let It Be**

Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing; unto God my praise I bring.

Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.

Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

