

Welcome to Worship

Ginter Park Baptist Church

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

Fourth Sunday in Lent • March 15, 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

Carly Maas

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

Leader: Franklin once told Charlie Brown that good friends listen carefully.

People: We come to listen for God's voice.

Leader: Franklin reminds us that fairness matters.

People: We come to see our neighbors with kindness.

Leader: Sometimes our vision becomes cloudy with judgment.

People: But God clears the sky.

Leader: God looks beyond appearances.

People: God sees the heart.

Leader: Let us worship the God who helps us see clearly.

All: Let us worship God!

INVOCATION PRAYER

HYMN No. 586

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

OPEN MY EYES

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

Carly Maas

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.

LENTEN CHORUS

“Give Me Jesus”

GIVE ME JESUS

Oh, when I am alone, oh, when I am alone,
oh, when I am alone, give me Jesus.
Give me Jesus, give me Jesus,
you may have all this world, give me Jesus.

CONFESSION

Leader: God of clear vision, sometimes our hearts become cloudy.

People: We do not always see others as you see them.

Leader: In the Peanuts comics, Franklin often listens quietly and treats people fairly.

People: But we confess that we do not always listen well.

Leader: Sometimes we judge too quickly.

People: Sometimes we overlook the goodness in others.

Leader: Sometimes we let fear, pride, or misunderstanding cloud our vision.

People: Forgive us, O God.

Leader: Clear the clouds from our hearts.

People: Help us see people with compassion.

Leader: Help us notice the overlooked and welcome the forgotten.

People: Teach us to see the goodness you place within every person.

Leader: When our vision becomes cloudy—

People: Clear our sight with your love.

All: God of mercy, open our eyes so we may see clearly the path of kindness, justice, and grace.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear the good news. In today’s scripture from First Book of Samuel, God reminds Samuel:
“The Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

People: God sees the goodness within us.

Leader: Like the clearing of rain clouds in the song “I Can See Clearly Now,” God removes the storms of our past.

People: God gives us new vision and new beginnings.

Leader: Through God’s grace we are forgiven.

People: Through God’s love we are renewed.

Leader: Through God’s Spirit we learn to see clearly.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

EXTINGUISH CANDLE

HYMN NO. 487

“Help Us Accept Each Other”

ACCEPTANCE

SCRIPTURE

[1 Samuel 16:1-13](#)

Anita Laffoon

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

Many: Thanks be to God

SERMON

“I Can See Clearly Now”

Anita Laffoon

TIME OF REFLECTION & RESPONSE “‘Be Thou My Vision’ with ‘I Can See Clearly Now’”

Arr. Horn

ANNOUNCEMENTS & THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

HYMN No. 339

“I Just As I Am”

WOODWORTH

CLOSING COMMISSION

Leader: Franklin reminds his friends that listening and fairness matter.

People: We will go and listen for God’s wisdom.

Leader: Franklin encourages kindness.

People: We will go and treat others with love.

Leader: God clears the clouds from our vision.

People: We will go and see people with God’s eyes.

Leader: Go now in peace.

People: We go to see clearly and love generously.

All: 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 March 15, we pray for the churches and religious institutions of Metropolitan Richmond: For all religious communities, abbeys, orders, brotherhoods, sisterhoods, religious societies, and para-church organizations.

Pray for our Ministry Partners

Virginia Baptist Women in Ministry (VBWIM) is an association of persons, both women and men, lay and professional, who perceive what they do as Christian Ministry, and who seek to provide an avenue for mutual support, encouragement and empowerment. VBWIM is an autonomous entity that, while related in purpose to BWIM, is financially independent from them.

Business Meeting

We will have a brief business meeting TODAY after church to give updates on the progress in the new building. Please plan to attend in person or on Zoom.

Page Turners Book Club

The next book assignment is *The Husbands* by Holly Gramazio. The book will be discussed Sunday March 22, 2026 at 4pm at Nadene Eads' home.

Holy Week Schedule

- Palm Sunday Service - March 29th, 10:30am
- Maundy Thursday – April 2nd, 7pm, Lake Chapel in the Early Center
- Good Friday – April 3rd, 4-8pm, 2301 Hilliard Rd (self-guided, drop-in prayer stations)
- Easter Brunch – April 5th, 9:15am
- Easter Service – April 5th, 10:30am

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!

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

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may
Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Help Us Accept Each Other

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love,
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for righteousness and bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on;
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!

Just As I Am, Without One Plea

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bid'st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

Just as I am, thy love unknown, hast broken ev'ry barrier down;
now, to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

The Lord is my Shepherd

Psalm 23

