Welcome to Worship

Ginter Park Baptist Church

Zoom Meeting ID: 804 359 2475 • 2301 Hilliard Road, Richmond VA • 804-359-2475

Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost • November 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.

Now sadly some will use your faith to build a fear machine
They'll try to start a holy war, even though there's no such thing
Those power hungry men will call you wimpy, weak, and woke
But the humble, just, and merciful are the strongest that I know
A little ancient wisdom in the here and now
Some of that old religion not obsessed with power
Give me that good tradition where the meek are blessed
The prison gates swing open and the weary find their rest.
- Flamy Grant, "Old Religion"

Chiming the Trinity Lisa Horn

Call to Worship Brandon Kelly

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

Leader: We began with a rainbow over a world washed by flood, and we followed Abraham and Sarah into a land they did not yet know.
People: God kept a promise and taught us to trust.
Leader: We sat with Joseph in prison, crossed the sea with Israel, and stood at Sinai to hear how a freed people could live together.
People: God stayed with us and showed us how to live.
Leader: At Shechem we heard Joshua ask whom we would serve. Through Nathan we heard David called to account for his abuse of power.
People: God asks us to choose faithfully and to tell the truth about harm.
Leader: With Solomon we prayed for wisdom. With Naaman we heard a servant girl point the way toward healing.
People: God, give us ears for voices that are easily overlooked.
Leader: Today Micah tells us the mountains tremble before God and asks us to look toward little Bethlehem for a shepherd who will bring peace.
People: God, teach us to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you.
Leader: Come, let us worship the God who calls us to live what we sing.
All: May our worship take root in the way we love our neighbors.

Invocation Prayer

Hymn No. 683 "O for a World" Azmon

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

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 Brandon Kelly

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. 545 "He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought" He Leadeth Me

Scripture Reading Micah 1:3–5; 5:2–5a; 6:6–8 Anita Laffoon

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

Sermon "Old Religion" Anita Laffoon

Time of Reflection & Response. "'They'll Know We Are Christian's' with'Old Religion'" Arr. Horn

Announcements & The Work of the Church

Hymn No. 546 "Amazing Grace" New Britai

Closing Commission

Leader: Go from here to do justice where someone has been overlooked, to love kindness where someone is weary, and to walk humbly enough to be taught by your neighbor.
People: God of Micah, guide our feet in the way of peace.
Leader: In the weeks ahead, Isaiah will ask us to imagine swords made into plowshares. Habakkuk will teach us to trust when the fields are bare, and Esther will call us to speak when another life is at stake.
People: God of courage, teach us to make peace, keep faith, and speak up for one another.
Leader: As Advent deepens, may the light Isaiah promised reach those who wait in darkness. May Joseph's trust help us make room for Emmanuel, God with us.
People: God of hope, make room in us for Christ.
Leader: And when the shepherds hear the news at Bethlehem, may they find us already practicing the peace the angels announce. May the God who comes to us in a child bless you and keep you, today and all the way to Christmas.
All: We go in peace to love and serve. 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 November 15, we pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: For healthy relationships; for constructive, safe, and caring households for the bringing up and nurturing of children and the care of the elderly.

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.

Business Meeting

Our November business meeting will be on Sunday the 15th immediately after worship. Please plan to attend either in person or on Zoom.

Book Club News

The Page Turner's Book Club has a new book to discuss: The Three Graces of Pearl Street by Elizabeth Wellington Rollins. We will discuss the book on Sunday November 15th at 4pm at the church.

Advent Calendar

- Nov 29th – Hope, First Sunday in Advent
- Dec 6th – Peace
- Dec 13th – Joy, and Brunch! Bring a dish to share!
- Dec 20th – Love
- Dec 24th – Christmas Eve service, 6pm

Volunteers Needed

We are working on creating a rotation of volunteers to help with our little ones (birth through kindergarten) on Sunday mornings. Right now, we mostly need people who are willing to be available if needed, knowing that some mornings you'd be free to join us for worship. If you are interested in joining the rotation, let Anita know!

Thursday Morning Bible Study
Thursday morning Bible Study meets at 10am, and all are invited to join the lively, deep conversations that happen as Don Polaski leads and teaches from holy scripture. Bring your Bibles and join in as we study the Acts of the Apostles.

Backpack Update
We are up and running! We have our 36 students on board to receive their weekend bags of food! We are grateful for the principal of Francis McClenney Elementary School, Ms. Pendleton, and Kyra Fontaine, Community Coordinator in the school. These two are partners in this mission project by selecting the students who receive these bags of food and weekly seeing to it that the kids pick up their bags of food for the weekend! It takes a village!!! So thankful for the village of GPBC AND FMES! Together we make it happen!

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

O for a World
O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the week are strong, the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn; outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!
He leadeth me: O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis thy hand that leadeth me.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

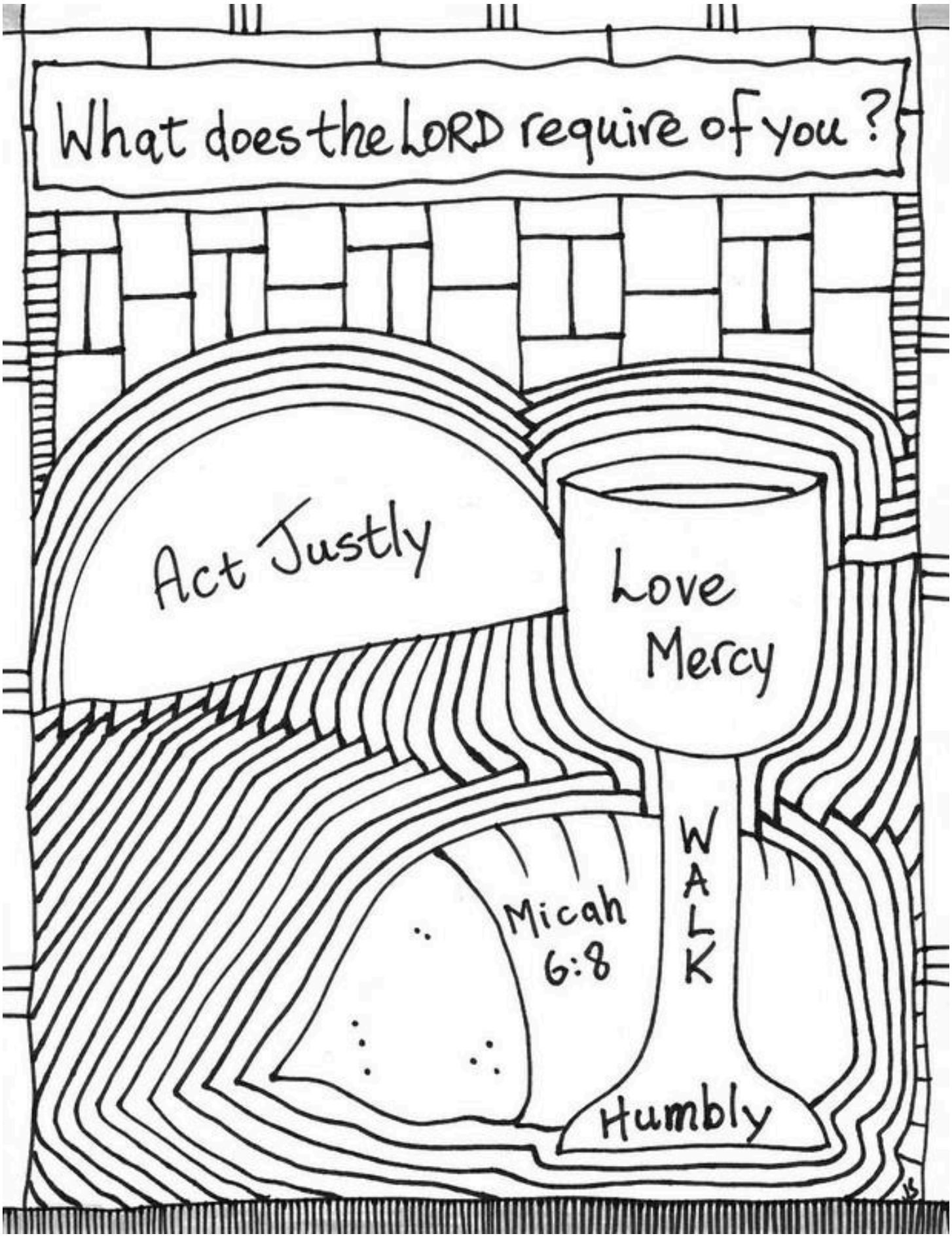
And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God thro' Jordan leadeth me.
He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.

Amazing Grace!
Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace first taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.


What does the LORD require of you?
Act Justly
Love Mercy
WALK
Micah 6:8
Humbly