

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2020

*Today we worship as one congregation in two locations: in-person and via the internet.
Wherever your location, we encourage you to pause for a moment to become aware of God's presence.
Quiet your mind, listen to the voluntary, and prepare to worship God.*

For those worshipping in the sanctuary, we deeply desire this time to be meaningful yet safe.
Please, *silently* offer hymns, prayers, and responses as worshipful reflection.
Allow these offerings to provide voice for your faith and echo your prayers.
Thank you for your quiet participation, understanding, and cooperative efforts.
For those worshipping elsewhere, sing and speak boldly. Give voice for all of us!

Voluntary *Prelude and Fugue in A minor, BWV 543* J. S. Bach

Welcome, Invocation, and Our Lord's Prayer Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge

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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
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 *We Praise You, O God* KREMSER
In silent reflection

1. We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.
2. We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.
3. With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 90:1-12 David Cipolletti

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals." For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night. You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers. For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your countenance. For all our days pass away under your wrath; our years come to an end like a sigh. The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. Who considers the power of your anger? Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

The Word of the Lord; Thanks be to God.

**Please stand if you are able.*

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. “So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ “Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ “But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. ‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

The Gospel of our Lord; Praise be to you, O Christ.

Solo

The Heart Worships

Gustav Holst

Text by Alice M. Buckton

Silence in Heav’n
Silence on Earth
Silence within!

Thy hush, O Lord,
O’er all the world covers the din.
I do not fear to speak of thee in mortal kind
And yet to all thy namelessness I am not blind.
Only I need and kneel again
Thy touch to win;

Silence in Heav’n
Silence on Earth
Silence within!

Seth Roberts, baritone

Pastoral Prayer

Lisa Cipolletti

*Offertory Sentences and Doxology

David Cipolletti

In silent reflection

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Solo

O God of Love, Our Rest and Hope

Austin C. Lovelace

Text by Ernest Tremont Tittle

O God of Love who hast called us to thy eternal glory in Christ our Lord, we raise to thee our grateful praise. To see thee is to find meaning in life. To experience thy forgiveness is healing and peace. To meditate on thy purpose and power is enduring hope. To know and trust thee is to face life and death unafraid. We praise and bless thee for thy presence with us all our days. Thou dost encourage us in the morning with thy lovingkindness. Thou dost uphold us at noonday by the strength of thy Spirit. And when evening comes, Thou art our rest and hope. O God of love, Thou art our rest and hope.

Seth Roberts, baritone

Sermon

Find Us Faithful

Rev. Dr. Judith Bledsoe Bailey

Hymn

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

DARWALL'S 148TH

In silent reflection

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| 1. Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long! | <i>Refrain:</i> In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord! | 2. Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme, empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream! (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 3. Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide, as we in mission magnify the Crucified! (<i>Refrain</i>) | 4. Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song! For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long! (<i>Refrain</i>) | |

*Benediction

Rev. Dr. Judith Bledsoe Bailey

Voluntary

Praeludium (Op. post.)

Josef Rheinberger

*Please remain seated for the Voluntary and depart as you are guided by ushers,
from the rear to the front of the sanctuary.*

Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and memory of the parents and grandparents, Herman and Elizabeth Green, of Martha Lou and Patrick.

We welcome The Rev. Judith Bledsoe Bailey, Ph.D. as our guest preacher this morning. Dr. Bailey served as the Baptist Campus Minister at the University of Richmond, co-pastored Taylorsville Baptist Church with her husband Rev. Dr. David Bailey, and authored *Strength for the Journey: Feminist Theology and Baptist Women Pastors*. She is the mother to our own Lisa Bailey Cipolletti.

We give thanks to Lisa Cipolletti and David Cipolletti for their leadership as liturgists in worship this morning.

We give thanks to Seth Roberts for serving as our Soloist and Cantor this morning.

We are grateful for your continued generosity to God through our church ministry. You may give securely online at www.rrcb.org/give-online or by mailing a check. Thank you for your faithfulness. This QR code will take you to our giving page.



In-person worship reservations are available at rrcb.org/reservations. To watch Dr. Glaze's re-entry video, please visit rrcb.org/live.

Sun, Nov 15

Faith Walk Sunday School Class, 9:45 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
Life Sunday School Class, 9:45 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
New Horizons Sunday School Class, 10:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
Worship, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary and Online Broadcast
Church Hill Wellness Center Christmas Stores Drop Off, 12:00 p.m., North Parking Lot
Children/Youth/Family Game Afternoon, 3:00 p.m., Plaza
Youth Choir, 4:00 p.m., Plaza (in front of the Fellowship Hall)
Board of Administration, 7:00 p.m., Assembly Room and Zoom Meeting (Online)

Mon, Nov 16

Women's Bible Study: Joyful Hearts, 10:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)

Tues, Nov 17

WMU Connectors, 7:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)

Wed, Nov 18

Men's Group: The Huddle, 8:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)

Building and Property Council, 4:30 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
TFC Adults: Justice in Relationships, 7:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
In-person Choir Rehearsal, 8:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Thurs, Nov 19 **Chancel Choir Zoom Rehearsal**, 7:30 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)

Sun, Nov 22 **Faith Walk Sunday School Class**, 9:45 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
Life Sunday School Class, 9:45 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
New Horizons Sunday School Class, 10:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
Worship, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary and Online Broadcast
Church Hill Wellness Center Christmas Stores Drop Off, 12:00 p.m., North Parking Lot
Shepherd-Holland Sunday School Class, 2:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)

Thanksgiving Offering for Welborne UMC Community Food Pantry

The Thanksgiving Offering, collected during the month of November, supports the Community Food Pantry at Welborne United Methodist Church. You may make donations online at rrcb.org/give-online (select “Thanksgiving” for the fund) or mail a check to the church office with “Thanksgiving Offering” in the memo.

Pick Up Altar Flowers

Altar flowers are available for pick up and distribution on Sunday afternoons beginning at 1:30PM at the portico/preschool entrance. Pick up a bouquet of flowers to take to someone for a special occasion, in need of care, or to simply brighten their day. The flower team is also looking for donations of small or rose bowl vases. Vases can be dropped off at the portico/preschool entrance on Sunday afternoons.

Church Hill Wellness Center Christmas Stores

Donation Drop Off Times: Today, November 15 and Sunday, November 22, 12-2PM, North Parking Lot/Lower Commons Entrance; Sunday, November 29, 3-4PM, North Parking Lot (during Churchwide Advent Drive-Thru)

The Church Hill Wellness Center has assigned RRCB 25 children to sponsor. Each child will receive one large toy/gift, one small toy/gift, and one clothing option. The combined cost of toys should be around \$25. There are three drop off opportunities, including during the Churchwide Advent Drive-Thru (details below). To view the full list of gifts and to sign up, please visit rrcb.org/christmasstores. When signing up, please select both which gift(s) you’re planning to give and which date you’re planning to drop off.

TFC-Adults: Justice in Relationships with Rev. Dr. Sam Adams

Wednesday, November 18, 7:00PM, Zoom

Everything we do is spiritual. When we ask, “How is your spiritual life?” it creates a false dichotomy—like one part of our lives is spiritual and the rest is not. But how we value and treat people, the created world, possessions, and our time is all reflected by and informing our relationship with Christ. How does Jesus relate to people, the earth, and things as he walked through life? What does God consider as rich and healthy worship? The program will be led by Rev. Dr. Sam Adams, professor at Union Presbyterian Seminary (Richmond, VA).

Register for the third session to receive the Zoom link at rrcb.org/tfcadams. If you are unable to attend, the program will be available for viewing and/or listening at rrcb.org/tfc-archive.

Churchwide Advent Drive-Thru

Sunday, November 29, 3:00-4:00PM, North Parking Lot

Swing thru the North Parking Lot for intergenerational advent goodies, greet and see ministers, pick up supplies to make an Advent Wreath, and to bring gifts for the Church Hill Christmas Store. An entrance and exit will be marked off of Ridge Road. Please stay in your vehicle and follow the path marked. Sign up here to learn more and to let us know you are coming.

Sign-ups are not mandatory, but are helpful when planning: rrcb.org/drivethru. Advent Wreath kits are limited to 50 and will be prioritized to those signed up. We can’t wait to see you!