

# RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST

## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 14, 2021

*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.*

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Voluntaries

*Prelude and Fugue in F minor, BWV 534  
Prelude in F minor, BWV 857*

J. S. Bach

Dr. Robert Gallagher, organ

Welcome, Invocation, and Our Lord's Prayer

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

**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

*Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said*

GERMANY

*In silent reflection*

1. Take up your cross, the Savior said,  
if you would my disciple be;  
take up your cross with willing heart,  
and humbly follow after me.
2. Take up your cross; let not its weight  
fill your weak spirit with alarm;  
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up  
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
3. Take up your cross; heed not the shame,  
and let your foolish pride be still;  
the Lord for you accepted death  
upon a cross, on Calvary's hill.
4. Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,  
and calmly every danger brave:  
it guides you to abundant life  
and leads to victory o'er the grave.

Old Testament Lesson

Numbers 21:4-9

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the Lord sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

\*Gospel Lesson

John 3:14-21

"And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

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

Solo

*Pity Me, Father*

Anonymous

Attr. Alessandro Stradella

Pity me, Father, in all my sadness!  
Father, have pity,  
Grant me thy mercy, humbly I pray,  
Let not thine anger turn thee away,  
Sorrows o’ertake me,  
Do not forsake me;  
Hear my supplication,  
Lord, hear my cry;

Pity me, Father,  
Lord, hear my cry in my great sorrow,  
Grant my thy mercy, humbly I pray thee, humbly I pray.  
Sorrows o’ertake me,  
Do not forsake me;  
Father, hear me,  
Do not forsake me;  
Lord, hear my prayer.

Grant me, O Father, thine absolution;  
Let not thine anger bring retribution, sincerely I pray,  
Dear Father, I pray thee,  
Let not thine anger bring retribution, sincerely I pray, humbly I pray.

Christopher Ahart, tenor

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

\*Offertory Sentences and Doxology  
*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

*A Hymn to God the Father*

Pelham Humphrey

Wilt Thou forgive that sin where I begun,  
Which was my sin, though it were done before?  
Wilt Thou forgive that sin, through which I run,  
And do run still, though still I do deplore?  
When Thou hast done, Thou hast not done,  
For I have more.

Wilt Thou forgive that sin which I have won  
Others to sin, and made my sin their door?  
Wilt Thou forgive that sin which I did shun  
A year or two, but wallowed in a score?  
When Thou hast done, Thou hast not done,  
For I have more.

I have a sin of fear, that when I have spun  
My last thread, I shall perish on the shore;  
But swear by Thyself, that at my death Thy Son  
Shall shine as he shines now, and heretofore;  
And having done that, Thou hast done;  
I fear no more.

—John Donne

Christopher Ahart, tenor

Sermon

*For God So Loved*

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

*In silent reflection*

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| <p>1. What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,<br/>what wondrous love is this, O my soul!<br/>What wondrous love is this<br/>that caused the Lord of bliss<br/>to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,<br/>to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!</p> <p>3. To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,<br/>to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;<br/>to God and to the Lamb who is the great I am,<br/>while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;<br/>while millions join the theme, I will sing!</p> | <p>2. When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,<br/>when I was sinking down, sinking down,<br/>when I was sinking down<br/>beneath God's righteous frown,<br/>Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,<br/>Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!</p> <p>4. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;<br/>and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;<br/>and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,<br/>and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;<br/>and through eternity I'll sing on.</p> |
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\*Benediction

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

Voluntary

Improvisation on *Wondrous Love*

Robert Gallagher

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

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of our ministers, and their efforts and creativity to keep us connected as a church during this pandemic, by an anonymous giver.

Christian Sympathy is expressed to Jean Ellis upon the death of her sister, Nancy Whitlow, on February 26, 2021.

We are grateful for your continued generosity to God through our church ministry. You may give securely online at [rrcb.org/give-online](http://rrcb.org/give-online) or by mailing a check. Thank you for your faithfulness.

In-person worship reservations are available at [rrcb.org/reservations](http://rrcb.org/reservations). Reservations must be received by noon on Friday.

For information regarding upcoming events and activities, please visit [rrcb.org/connect](http://rrcb.org/connect), read the *e-Spire* on Tuesdays, and follow us on social media.

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| Sun, Mar 14   | <p><b>Shepherd-Holland Sunday School Class</b>, 2:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Youth Choir</b>, 3:00 p.m., Plaza<br/> <b>Re-Entry Task Force</b>, 4:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Chancel Bell Choir</b>, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary</p>   |
| Mon, Mar 15   | <p><b>Women's Bible Study: Joyful Hearts</b>, 10:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Endowment Board</b>, 7:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)</p>   |
| Tues, Mar 16  | <p><b>WMU Connectors</b>, 7:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)</p>  |
| Wed, Mar 17   | <p><b>Men's Group: The Huddle</b>, 8:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Building and Property Council</b>, 4:30 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Stephen Ministry</b>, 4:30 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)</p>  |
| Thurs, Mar 18 | <p><b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b>, 7:30 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)</p>   |
| Sun, Mar 21   | <p><b>Breakfast Chat with Mrs. Sandy</b>, 9:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Life Sunday School Class</b>, 9:30 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Faith Walk Sunday School Class</b>, 9:45 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>New Horizons Sunday School Class</b>, 10:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Youth Choir</b>, 2:15 p.m., Plaza<br/> <b>Cookies and Games for Children</b>, 3:00 p.m., Playground<br/> <b>Youth Group</b>, 3:00 p.m., Plaza<br/> <b>Board of Christian Education &amp; Spiritual Formation</b>, 4:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Chancel Bell Choir</b>, 5:00 p.m., Sanctuary<br/> <b>Community Dialogue and Lenten Reflection</b>, 6:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)<br/> <b>Board of Administration</b>, 7:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)</p> |

# Thank you for worshiping with us!

## At River Road Church, we are...

**A community of believers coming from many faith traditions** to worship and grow together in Christian fellowship, focusing on those aspects of faith on which we can agree rather than disagree as we journey together.

**Baptist in heritage**, espousing core Baptist truths as foundational to our faith journey: the centrality of Christ, the priesthood of all believers, the commitment to theological education, and the autonomy of the local church.

**Encouraging of intellectual freedom**—in pursuit of a thoughtful faith, seeking always to learn about God’s nature and ways in the world, supporting a free pulpit and welcoming intellectually challenging sermons and educational programs.

**Worshiping in reverence and beauty** a transcendent God, following the liturgical style and augmented by the performance of traditional sacred music.

**Serving God** in our church, our community and the world by investing our energy and resources in ways that reflect the character and likeness of Christ and follow his teachings.



RIVER ROAD CHURCH

BAPTIST

+ thoughtful faith +

8000 River Road  
Richmond, Virginia 23229  
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### PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Daniel E. Glaze, D.Min., *Pastor*

F. David Breckenridge, D.Min., *Minister of Pastoral Care*

Marnie L. Fisher-Ingram, M.Div., *Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families*

Robert P. Gallagher, D.M.A., *Minister of Music*

Daniel H. Ingram, M.Div., *Minister of Administration*

Anna Perry Miller, M.A.C.E., *Associate Pastor for Adult Discipleship*

Sandy K. Rooney, M.Ed., *Minister to Children and Their Families*

James H. Slatton, Th.D., *Pastor Emeritus* Michael J. Clingenpeel, Ph.D., *Pastor Emeritus*

E. Carl Freeman, Jr., Mus.B., *Minister of Music Emeritus*

Chester L. Phelps, Jr., M.A., *Minister of Youth Emeritus*