

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Second Sunday of Advent

The Worship of God begins with the Opening Voluntary.  
*As you enter, pause for a moment to become aware of God's presence.*

December 4, 2016 Eleven o'clock in the morning

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES Beth Rooney and Zach Bostic

VOLUNTARY *Second Benedictus* Alec Rowley  
"In quiet contemplation shall peace guide your ways."

INTROIT Johann Crüger  
Hosanna to the anointed King,  
To David's holy son!  
Help us, O Lord; descend and bring  
Salvation from the throne.  
*Isaac Watts*

\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 434 *Today We Are All Called to Be Disciples* KINGSFOLD

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Chester Phelps

Minister: In this season of prophecy, promise, and preparation,  
we come to be renewed and refreshed.

**Congregation: We come to be inspired by stories of a Messiah  
Who will change the world—and change us.**

Minister: We come to listen for words of hope, peace, joy, and love —  
for words of promise and challenge.

**Congregation: We come with open ears, open minds, and open hearts.  
We come to receive the blessings God has in store for us  
in this season of waiting.**

Minister: Come, let us worship our God—  
The One who brings all things to fulfillment!

**Congregation: We come to worship the God of peace!**

*~ Inspired by Isaiah 11, Psalm 72, Matthew 3*

\*INVOCATION AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10 (p.558) Tuckie Paxton

Minister: The Word of the Lord.  
**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

*\*Congregation standing*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Comma Club

*We light the candle of peace, knowing full well that peace is elusive. May we trust that  
even where there is war and discord, God is never absent from us, but is always gently  
leading us to new possibilities.*

ANTIPHON FOR ADVENT

David M. Cherwien

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight His paths;  
all nations shall see the salvation of God.

\*GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 3:1-12 (p.784)

Minister: The Gospel of our Lord.  
**Congregation: Praise be to You, O Christ.**

\*HYMN OF DEVOTION 3 *Comfort, Comfort You My People* PSALM 42

\*OFFERTORY SENTENCES Rev. Libby Grammer

ANTHEM AT OFFERTORY *The Last Words of David* Randall Thompson

He that ruleth over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God.  
And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth,  
even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out  
of the earth by clear shining after rain. Alleluia. Amen.  
*II Samuel 23: 3,4*

\*PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Hymn 592

**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.**

*Children in grades 1 - 2 may leave to continue worship in the Chapel.*

SERMON "Advent Peace" Dr. Daniel Glaze

\*HYMN OF COMMUNION 386 *O for a World* AZMON

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION Dr. Daniel Bagby

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

**We confess that we have worshiped the false idols of the world: wealth, worldly  
success, fame, power over others. We confess that we have desired these things  
more than You, O God, who came to us as a helpless, homeless child, born in a  
stable. We confess that we try to justify our ways over Your ways.**

**Forgive us, O God, for seeking the temples and sanctuaries of this world that will  
crumble and disappear. Forgive us, O God, for seeking the things that will trap us  
and ensnare us. Lead us into Your way of love, a love that frees us from the  
temporary restraints of the world, and leads to eternal life, justice, and peace.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

**We arise and shine, for God's Light is coming! And we are a grateful people.  
We arise and shine, for the Light of the World is in us! And we are thankful.  
We arise and shine, for we know we can be the light of change we wish to see in  
the world! And we are empowered with God's grace and mercy.  
We arise and shine, knowing that God has forgiven us, loves us, and restores us!  
We arise and shine, to share with all the Light of the World! Amen.**

SANCTUS *(sung by all)*

Hymn 568

THE BLESSING AND BREAKING OF THE BREAD

"This is My body which is for you."

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD

*Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming, Opus 10*

Hugo Distler

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming, From tender stem hath sprung. Of Jesse's lineage coming, As men of old have sung; It came, a flow'ret bright, Amid the cold of winter, When half spent was the night.	Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind, With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind; To show God's love aright, She bore to men a Savior, When half spent was the night.	This Flower, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air, Dispel with glorious splendor The darkness everywhere; True man, yet very God, From Sin and death now save us, And share our every load.
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THE BLESSING AND GIVING OF THE CUP

"This is the New Covenant sealed by My blood."

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Dr. Daniel Bagby

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN 412 *Eternal God Whose Power Upholds*

FOREST GREEN

\*BENEDICTION

Dr. Daniel Glaze

EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

VOLUNTARY *Grand Dialogue (from Suite on the Sixth Tone)*

Jacques Boyvin

**THE CHURCH STAFF**

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

Daniel G. Bagby, Ph.D., *Minister of Pastoral Care*

Kimberly C. Crowley, M.Div., *Interim Minister to Children*

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

Libby M. Grammer, M. Div., M.A., *Interim Minister of Christian Education and Spiritual Formation*

Chester L. Phelps, Jr., M.A., *Interim Minister of Youth and Visitation*

Billy Burford, *Intentional Interim Church Administrator*

Cassandra D. Ducca, *Communications Specialist* • Zelda Goode, *Cook / Housekeeper*

Wendy Graves, *Preschool Administrative Assistant* • Kevin Harris, *Building Support Team*

LeAnne K. Lane, *Office Manager* • Lyndsay McGreevy, *Preschool Director*

Terri McMahan, *Administrative Assistant* • Chuck Ursiny, *Building Services Coordinator*

Susan S. Young, *Administrative Assistant*

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

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

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST  
8000 RIVER ROAD • RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23229

**WELCOME TO RIVER ROAD CHURCH!** Our congregation is an open fellowship gladly receiving those who wish to share in its life and community by request for baptism, statement, or transfer from another church. If you wish to join the church, please indicate this to a staff member prior to the service so we may introduce you.

**TODAY IS THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**, the inaugural season of the Christian year. Advent is a time of spiritual preparation for the coming of Christ; thus, it is a season of joyous and solemn expectation. The liturgical color is purple, symbolic of a spirit of penitence and preparation.

**THE RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP** is our opportunity to welcome you to worship. During this time, please sign the register in the maroon binder as it is passed along the row. If you are our guest today, please include contact information.

**TO ENHANCE WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN**, children's bulletins and worship bags for all ages are in the Narthex (foyer at the back of the Sanctuary). These bags are intended to help children process what they are hearing and seeing as they worship with their families. Please return the bags so they can be used next week. Children in grades 1-2 may meet Rev. Kim Crowley at the front of the sanctuary on the lectern side after the Doxology to continue worship in the Chapel.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in memory of Dr. and Mrs. Vernon B. Richardson by their children.

**THE CHRISTMAS WREATHS** are given by Dr. and Mrs. Hilton R. Almond in honor of Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Glaze and their daughters, Ella and Ashley, as we welcome them to River Road Church.

**EACH SUNDAY MORNING** our worship is enriched as laity from our congregation read the Scripture lessons. During Advent, members of some of our ministries and small groups will read the texts and light the candles of the Advent wreath. Reading the text today is the newest group at RRCB, The Comma Club. This group of "Comma Baptist" senior adults is a fellowship group that meets monthly to share together, make friends, and even travel. All seniors are welcome to join in on this new group!

**THE RECEPTION AFTER WORSHIP** is held in the Fellowship Hall hosted by deacons Steve Knerr, James Burns, Glenda Palmer, Roy Terry, Brock Livick, and Will Thorne. Everyone is invited to attend.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to Pat and Don Powell on the death of Pat's brother William (Bill) Edwards in Athens, Georgia on November 24.

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to Judy Morris and family upon the death of Judy's beloved aunt Eloise Ridgeway who lived to 106 years old, and passed away peacefully at Lakewood Manor on November 23.

**THANK YOU FOR MAKING YOUR 2017 PLEDGE** ~ So far we have received 201 pledges making up \$988,827. Our numbers are currently ahead of where we were last year. Pledge cards can be found in the pew racks. Thank you for your generosity.

**THANKSGIVING OFFERING** ~ This year's offering will be designated to Oak Grove Elementary School to provide food for the students over the holidays. Envelopes can be found in the pew racks. You may also visit [www.rrcb.org/onlinegiving](http://www.rrcb.org/onlinegiving) to give online.

**CBF SEASON OF PRAYER FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS & CHRISTMAS OFFERING**  
This offering is the primary way CBF field personnel are funded, making your gifts an essential part of spreading the Gospel and meeting physical needs in the world. Envelopes can be found in the pew racks. You may also visit [www.rrcb.org/onlinegiving](http://www.rrcb.org/onlinegiving) to give online.

## COMING EVENTS

- Sunday, December 4      **Reception**, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
**Youth Handbell Choir**, 4:15 p.m., Bell Room  
**Youth Choir**, 5:00 p.m., Youth Choir Room  
**Youth Snack Supper**, 5:45 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
**Youth Activities**, 6:15 p.m., Youth Area  
**Board of Missions**, 7:00 p.m., Assembly Room
- Monday, December 5      **Deacons Dinner & Meeting**, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday, December 6      **Men's Fellowship Breakfast**, 7:00 a.m., Reception Room  
**Evening Bridge**, 7:30 p.m., LC #102
- Wednesday, December 7      **Men's Group: The Huddle**, 8:00 a.m., Reception Room  
**River Road Camerata**, 4:45 p.m., Choir Room  
**Wednesday Night Dinner**, 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall  
**Children's Choirs**, 6:00 p.m., Choir Room  
**Chancel Bell Choir**, 6:30 p.m., Bell Room  
**Wednesday Night Program**, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Thursday, December 8      **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**, 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
- Friday, December 9      **FLO Afternoon Tea**, 12:00 p.m., Jefferson Hotel
- Saturday, December 10      **Kitchen Workday**, 9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall Kitchen  
**Chancel Choir Dress Rehearsal**, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
- Sunday, December 11      **Family Handbell Choir**, 9:00 a.m., Bell Room  
**Inquirer's Class**, 9:00 a.m., Youth Area

### ~ Chancel Choir & Orchestra Christmas Concert ~

Part of our *E. Carl Freeman Concert Series*, the Chancel Choir and Orchestra will present Handel's *Messiah* Part I, Sunday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Reserve your [free ticket](#) through Eventbrite online at [www.rrcb.org/messiah](http://www.rrcb.org/messiah).

### ~ News in the Pews ~

#### Christmas Eve Services at 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

Following the lead of the pew cards, you are encouraged to pick up a copy of the *Connections*, our Sunday newsletter, entrance foyers of the Sanctuary or the Lower Commons, to find out more information about these events and more!

### Wednesday Night Dinner & Program ~ December 7 Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long with David Gulick

Who says you have to wait until Advent is over to sing Christmas carols? Come join David Gulick in the Sanctuary for some good old-fashioned caroling. Request your favorites!

**Dinner Menu:** Meatloaf, Mac & Cheese, Peas, Dinner Rolls, and Pumpkin Pie

**Dinner reservations are required each week.** Please make your reservation by tomorrow, Monday, **December 5** at 11:00 a.m. You may make your reservation by calling the church office or filling out the form online ([www.rrcb.org/wednesdays](http://www.rrcb.org/wednesdays)). Reservation cards are no longer available in the pew racks. Weekly Costs: Adults & Youth - \$7/each; Children - \$3/each; Family Max - \$20

# *Services of Advent and Christmastide 2016*

For more information about these events and services, please visit our website at  
[www.rrcb.org/advent](http://www.rrcb.org/advent).

## **ADVENT DEVOTIONS**

A limited number of books are available in the Upper Commons, Lower Commons, Narthex, and Sunday School classrooms.

*Behold! Cultivating Attentiveness in the Season of Advent* by Pamela C. Hawkins, published by the *UpperRoom*

## **CBF GLOBAL MISSIONS CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

December 4, 2016 - January 1, 2017  
Offering envelopes are in pew racks, or you may contribute online.

## **ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CHORAL CONCERT**

Sunday, December 11, 2016  
7:30 p.m., Sanctuary  
Chancel Choir with Orchestra  
Handel's *Messiah* Part 1  
Please note our new ticketing process through Eventbrite; Reserve your free tickets at [www.rrcb.org/messiah](http://www.rrcb.org/messiah)  
Childcare not provided

## **STARLIGHT SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & HOLY COMMUNION**

Wednesday, December 14, 2016  
6:30 p.m., Chapel  
Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall; Reservations required at [www.rrcb.org/wednesdays](http://www.rrcb.org/wednesdays)  
Childcare provided

## **YOUTH MYSTERY CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Saturday, December 17, 2016  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Offsite

## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Sunday, December 18, 2016  
9:45 a.m., Sunday School  
11:00 a.m., Worship in the Sanctuary  
Sermon by Daniel Glaze  
Childcare provided

## **CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE**

Saturday, December 24, 2016  
4:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
Please note the earlier start time.  
Missions Offering: Non-perishable food items wrapped in white paper  
Childcare not provided; children participate in the service

## **CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE & HOLY COMMUNION**

Saturday, December 24, 2016  
11:00 p.m., Sanctuary  
Meditation by Daniel Glaze  
Childcare not provided

## **CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP**

Sunday, December 25, 2016  
11:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Sermon by Daniel Glaze  
No Sunday School  
Childcare not provided

## **LABYRINTH WALK & PERSONAL MEDITATION**

Saturday, December 31, 2016  
12:00-6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

## **NEW YEAR'S DAY WORSHIP**

Sunday, January 1, 2017  
11:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Sermon by Daniel Glaze  
No Sunday School  
Childcare provided

## **EPIPHANY SERVICE**

Wednesday, January 4, 2017  
6:45 p.m., Chapel  
Dinner at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall; Reservations required at [www.rrcb.org/wednesdays](http://www.rrcb.org/wednesdays)  
Childcare provided

## **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

December 26 & December 27, 2016  
January 2 & January 3, 2017