

River Road Church, Baptist

VESPER SERVICE

August 12, 2014 ~ 7:00 p.m. ~ Chapel

"I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word in reality. This is why right temporarily defeated is stronger than evil triumphant."

from Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Acceptance Speech, on the occasion of the award of the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, December 10, 1964

VOLUNTARY *Adagio e dolce, BWV 527* J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND INVOCATION Dr. Michael Clingenpeel

*OPENING HYMN 357 *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

THE LESSON Ephesians 4:1-6, 14-16 Rev. Sheryl Johnson

CALL TO PRAYER Dr. Michael Clingenpeel

Minister: Our God—we, Your people, stand ready and open to receive the flame of Your Spirit. Give us the ability to speak Your truth so that others may hear.

Congregation: Come, Spirit of Truth, fill our hearts.

Minister: May that which was of stone be now transformed into life.

Congregation: Come, Spirit of Life, change our hearts.

Minister: May we who receive Your light dwell together in Your love.

Congregation: Come, Spirit of Love, soften our hearts.

Minister: Bestow Your compassion on those who suffer in mind, spirit, and body.

Congregation: Come, Spirit of Hope, heal our hearts.

Minister: Make us bold to bring light to the dark places, warmth to the cold places, and love to the empty places.

Congregation: Come, Spirit of Faith, strengthen our hearts.

Minister: Spirit of the Living God, fill our hearts, minds, and souls to overflowing.

Congregation: Come, Spirit of God, move in our hearts.

Minister: Our God—we, Your people, celebrate the mystery of Your never-ending love.

Congregation: Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SOLO *Peace Like a River* Traditional Spiritual, Arr. Ruth Elaine Schram
 Eleanor Roberts, soprano

MEDITATION “*Old Turtle and the Broken Truth*” Rev. Sheryl Johnson

*PARTING HYMN 538 *Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing*

*BENEDICTION Rev. Sheryl Johnson

VOLUNTARY *Fugue in G major, BuxWV 175* Dietrich Buxtehude

The Rev. Sheryl Johnson is currently serving as the Interim Minister of Christian Education and Spiritual Formation at RRCB. Additionally, she works as a chaplain for VCU Health Systems with a focus on organ donor families. As an RRCB member she has served on the Board of Christian Education, the History and Worship Committees, and has sung in the Chancel Choir. She earned her M.Div. and Th.M. degrees from Union-PSCE (now Union Presbyterian Seminary), and an M.S. in Patient Counseling from VCU. Sheryl and her husband, Eric, have been members at River Road since 1998.

THE CHURCH STAFF

Michael J. Clingenpeel, Ph.D., *Pastor* • Daniel G. Bagby, Ph.D., *Minister of Pastoral Care*
 Robert P. Gallagher, D.M.A., *Minister of Music*
 Sheryl A. M. Johnson, Th.M., *Interim Minister of Christian Education and Spiritual Formation*
 Michael P. Kellett, Jr., M. Div., *Minister with Children and Youth*

Sandra L. Bassett, *Pastor's Secretary* • Margaret S. Collins, *Preschool Director*
 Cassandra D. Ducca, *Communications Specialist* • Zelda Goode, *Cook / Housekeeper*
 Wendy Graves, *Preschool Administrative Assistant* • LeAnne K. Lane, *Financial Secretary*
 Raymond Street, *Sexton* • Chuck Ursiny, *Sexton* • Susan S. Young, *Administrative Assistant*

James H. Slatton, Th.D., *Pastor Emeritus* ~ E. Carl Freeman, Jr., Mus.B., *Minister of Music Emeritus*



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