

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
The Fifth Sunday in Lent ~ Youth Sunday
The Worship of God begins with the Opening Voluntary.
The congregation is asked to keep silence during this time for prayer and meditation.

March 22, 2015

Eleven o'clock in the morning

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

Jack West and Michael Whitty

VOLUNTARY

Sonatina in C Major, op. 55, no. 1

Friedrich Kuhlau

I. Allegro

Meditation

Dennis Alexander

Abigail McAllister, piano

Celtic Prayer

Holden Seward, piano

Catherine Rollin

INTROIT

Plainsong

God is love, and where true love is, God Himself is there.
Here in Christ we gather, love of Christ our calling.
Christ, our love, is with us, gladness be His greeting.
Let us all revere and love Him, God eternal.
Let each love Christ in sisters and in brothers all.
God is love, and where true love is, God Himself is there.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 281 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Cwm Rhonda

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Meg Rooney

Leader: You have loved us for who we are.

Congregation: We praise You, O God.

Leader: You have created us in your image.

Congregation: We praise You O God.

Leader: You know us inside and out.

Congregation: We praise You, O God

Leader: You love us unconditionally, not because of anything we have done
but because we are Your beloved children.

Congregation: We praise You, O God.


*INVOCATION AND OUR LORD'S PRAYER

Emma Phelps

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

I praise you Oh Lord,
For I am Fearfully
& Wonderfully
MADE. Psalm 139:14



OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 139.13-16

Jessica Thorne

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

ORISON

Jesus, Remember Me
After the choir has sung this simple prayer through once,
the congregation is invited to sing two repetitions.

Hymn 599

*GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 3.13-17

Claire Early

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

ANTHEM

Think on These Things

Mark Patterson

Whatever is pure, whatever is true, whatever is noble and just and good;
Think on these things, live by these things, rejoice together in these things
And the God of peace will be with you.
All that's pure, all that's true, all that's noble and just and good;
Think on these things, live by these things, remember together in these things
And the God of peace will be with you.
When the cares of life confound you, when the storms of doubt sweep in,
Turn to God with all things in prayer,
And a peace beyond all knowing will guard you and guide you. (Based on Phillipians 4:4-9)

Youth Choir ~ Rev. Paul Honaker, piano

CALL TO PRAYER

Kaitlyn Depew

Leader: O patient and understanding God, You have loved us since our very first breath,
and You will continue to love us until our very last.
**Congregation: This unconditional love that You offer to us, Your children,
falls upon us in abundance.**
Leader: Forgive us when we don't understand how You could love us just the way we are,
intricately constructed, wonderfully made in Your image.
Congregation: Help us, dear God, to love one another in this way.
**All: Help us to remember that we are Your sons and daughters, Your beloved,
with whom You are well pleased. Amen.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

Beth Rooney

*HYMN OF DEVOTION 80 *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*

Lonesome Valley

All children are invited to the front during the last verse of the hymn.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Meredith Ezzelle
Elizabeth Thorne

*OFFERTORY SENTENCES

Georgia Smart

ANTHEM AT OFFERTORY

Song of Joy

Arnold B. Sherman

Youth Bell Choir
Rev. Paul Honaker, director

*PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The Doxology

**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.**

SERMON

Michael Whitty
Lindsey Stevens
Michael Kellett

TIME OF REFLECTION

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 371 *Lift High the Cross*

Crucifer

*BENEDICTION

Taylor Bostic

Go Ye Now in Peace

Joyce Elaine Eilers

Go ye now in peace, and know that the love of God will guide you.
Feel His presence here beside you showing you the way.
In your time of trouble, when hurt and despair are there to grieve you,
Know that the Lord will never leave you. He will bring you courage.
Know that the God who sent His Son to die that you might live
Will never leave you lost and alone in His beloved world.
Go ye now in peace. Go ye now in peace.

Conducted by Zach Bostic

EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

VOLUNTARY

Sonatina in C Major, op. 55, no. 1
II. Rondo

Friedrich Kuhlau

Abigail McAllister

**Congregation standing*

As you depart, there will be youth in several locations, holding bowls of water. You are invited to dip your fingers into the bowl as a reminder of the waters of baptism and that we are God's beloved.

Youth (and children) are often seen solely as the future of the church. This implies that they aren't really a part of the present church. They usually have their own building, which is separate from the rest of the church, often because they are too noisy, rambunctious, and scary. When youth do participate in worship on Youth Sunday, people often want to applaud them for their performance. The thought for many is that this is a break from our regular worship.

This morning, may we see our youth as full participants in the present church. This morning, may we see our youth not as performers on a stage wanting approval, but as persons who will help lead us in worship. This morning, may we worship God together, as we do each Sunday.

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, you may do so during a Sunday morning service. Prior to the service, please indicate to a staff member your desire to join so that we may introduce you.

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 enrich the worship of God, show that we care for and prepare for children, and that their presence in worship matters. Please return the bags so they can be used next week. Children in grades 1 and 2 may leave the Sanctuary during the Hymn of Devotion. They will be met in the Narthex and taken to the Chapel to continue their worship with our Minister with Children and Youth.

THE RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP is River Road Church's opportunity to welcome guests to the worship service. During this time, everyone is requested to sign the register in the maroon binder as it is passed along the row. If you are our guest today, please do us the favor of including a phone number, e-mail or address so we may welcome you personally.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of Brenda Holland, the love of his life for fifty years, by Henry Holland.

THE RECEPTION after worship today is held in the Fellowship Hall hosted by deacons Stuart Williams, Jr., Whit Baldwin, Adam Jante, Betsy Lowery, Julia Nixon, and Amber Ryan. Everyone is invited to attend.

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: We have had such a great response to our call for a new church directory that we have added additional photography dates, April 9-11. Sign up for your appointment online at www.rrcb.org/directory or contact the church office at 804-288-1131. This is your last chance to be included!

LENTEN DEVOTIONS: River Road Church members and ministers have written reflections on passages of scripture which are shared on our website. This is your invitation to take a few minutes each day to read and reflect on a passage of scripture. To read daily devotions or sign up for email delivery: www.rrcb.org/devotions.

SOFTBALL SEASON begins in mid-April and runs through July, with games played on Tuesday evenings. If you have questions or are interested in joining the team, please contact Chris Wilkinson at wilky17@verizon.net.

STANDING ROCK 2015 TRIP: August 1-8 - A team from River Road Church will visit Standing Rock Indian Reservation in Cannon Ball, North Dakota in August. We are in need of 8-10 volunteers for the following areas: women's ministry; medical ministry; light construction, electrical, repairs, painting; landscaping; and photography and blogging. If you are interested in going on the trip, please contact Laura Lee Chandler (lauraleechandler@gmail.com). The WMUV will be hold a required training session on Saturday, March 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for all new volunteers. More information can be found on our website at www.rrcb.org/standingrock.

CROSSOVER CHALLENGE: Saturday, April 11 - This is a very fun event with several different races to match whatever your fitness level is! There is a 15K run, a 5K run/ walk, a one-mile walk, and a one-mile kids run. Strollers were allowed for walkers in the past as long as they are respectful of the more competitive participants. The race takes place in Northside and meanders through the historic Bellevue/Ginter Park area. Registration fees and information are available online at www.rrcb.org/crossover

COMING EVENTS:

- Sunday, March 22 **Way of the Child**, 5:00 p.m., Chapel Hall
Nominating Committee, 5:00 p.m., Assembly Room
- Monday, March 23 **Joyful Hearts**, 9:15 a.m., LC 102
Endowment Board, 6:00 p.m., UC 228
- Wednesday, March 25 **Dinner**, 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Children's Choirs, 6:00 p.m., Choir Room
Youth Small Group, 6:00 p.m., Youth Area
Chancel Bell Choir, 6:30 p.m., Bell Room
Wednesday Night Program, 6:30 p.m., Assembly Room
- Thursday, March 26 **Job Support Group**, 10:00 a.m., LC 102
Yoga, 5:45 p.m., Assembly Room
Book Lovers, 7:30 p.m., LC 102
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Choir Room
- Friday, March 27 **Watercolor 101 Exhibit Set Up**, Lower Commons
- Saturday, March 28 **Standing Rock New Volunteer Training**, 5:00 p.m., Offsite

FaithLink: Connecting Christian Faith with Contemporary Issues ~ LC 104

FaithLink Topic March 29: Palm Sunday ~ Palm Sunday celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. How did the people who witnessed his entry understand what they saw and heard? How do we understand this event today, and how does remembering it enhance our faith?

~ Menu for Adults & Children on March 25 ~

Adults: Lasagna, Oven Roasted Vegetables, Salad Bar,
Garlic Breadsticks, and Ice Cream

Children: Pizza, Applesauce, Salad Bar,
Garlic Breadsticks, and Ice Cream

Please make your reservation online, use the reservation card in the pew rack, call the church office, 804-288-1131, or e-mail susanyoung@rrcb.org.

We must submit our food order in advance, therefore, the deadline for reservations is 11:00 a.m. on Monday, March 23.

~ Program ~ Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus

Five sessions (February 25 - March 25)

facilitated by Rev. Sheryl Johnson and Rev. Libby Grammer