

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Celebration Sunday
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

September 8, 2019

Eleven o'clock in the morning

MEDITATION

“God is the kind of a God who is willing to offer a second chance of life (or a third, or a thousandth!) to those who have already rejected him and chosen death. There is no more powerful proclamation of God’s grace than the message to a broken and sinful world that God has loved us and has offered us life.”

—D. Bratcher

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES Julia Shelton and David Cipolletti

VOLUNTARY *Cornet Voluntary in A major, Op. 7, No. 1* John Stanley
Intermezzo Malcolm Archer

INTROIT Harold W. Friedell

Day by day,
Dear Lord, of Thee three things I pray:
To see Thee more clearly,
Love Thee more dearly,
Follow Thee more nearly,
Day by day.

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 464 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Marnie Fisher-Ingram

Lord God, you know me through and through;
you know my sitting down, and my getting up.
You sense what I am thinking from far away;
you understand my journeying and my resting.
In fact, you are familiar with the way I do everything;
even before I speak, you know what's on my mind.
You are in my past and in my future,
you surround me with your love and your reassuring hand is upon me.
This wonderful knowledge is beyond my understanding;
it surpasses everything, and is beyond my grasp.

—from Psalm 139:1-6

*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

**Please stand if you are able*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (p. 163) Shawn Ryan

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GLORIA PATRI HYMN 579

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Philemon 1:3-7, 25 (p. 970)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Christ, the Glory* F. Lallouette, Arr. Richard Proulx

Christ, the glory of the holy angels, thou who made us and loveth us. Send us thy counsel, guide all to thy throne. The heavens declare the glory of the Lord, and forever doth the earth sing his praises.

—Rabanus Maurus

CALL TO PRAYER Rev. Anna Perry Miller

Holy God, let our hearts not be far from you.

**We know that you are always present to us. You stand ready to listen
when we open our mouths and hearts to pray.**

We desire to honor you, not simply with our prayers, but also with our lives.

**Let us remember that you call us to be doers of the word, and not
merely hearers.**

May our prayers be practiced with faithfulness and our sincerity proven by the ways in which we love one another.

**May we continue to grow in grace as we learn how to serve you by
serving your children.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

PROMOTION RECOGNITION AND PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

Rev. Marnie Fisher-Ingram

Sandy Rooney

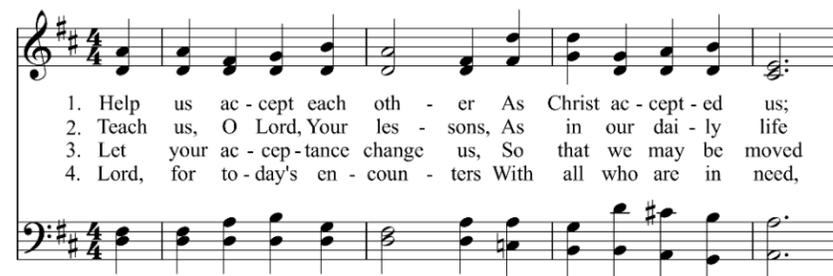
Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

BLESSING OF EDUCATORS AND LEARNERS (*see insert*)

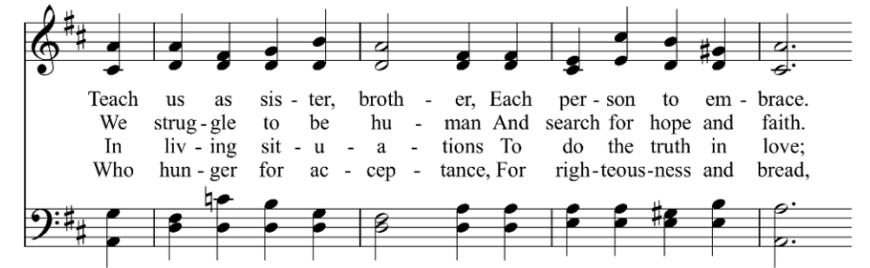
Rev. Marnie Fisher-Ingram

*HYMN OF DEVOTION *Help Us Accept Each Other* LANCASHIRE

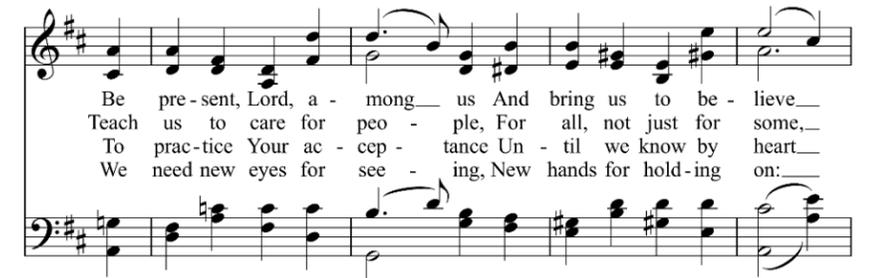
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1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er As Christ ac - cept - ed us;
2. Teach us, O Lord, Your les - sons, As in our dai - ly life
3. Let your ac - cep - tance change us, So that we may be moved
4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters With all who are in need,



Teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, Each per - son to em - brace.
We strug - gle to be hu - man And search for hope and faith.
In liv - ing sit - u - a - tions To do the truth in love;
Who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, For righ - teous - ness and bread,



Be pre - sent, Lord, a - mong us And bring us to be - lieve
Teach us to care for peo - ple, For all, not just for some,
To prac - tice Your ac - cep - tance Un - til we know by heart
We need new eyes for see - ing, New hands for hold - ing on:



We are our - selves ac - cept - ed And meant to love and live.
To love them as we find them Or as they may be - come.
The ta - ble of for - give - ness And laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
Re - new us with Your Spi - rit; Lord, free us, make us one!

*OFFERTORY SENTENCES Sandy Rooney

ANTHEM AT OFFERTORY *O Send Out Thy Light and Thy Truth* Christian I. Latrobe

O send out Thy Light and Thy truth: let them lead me; let them bring me unto Thy holy hill, and to Thy tabernacles. Then will I go unto the altar of my God, unto God, my exceeding joy!

—Psalm 43:3-4

Michelle Harman-Gulick, soprano

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS Doxology, 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 1-3 may meet Mrs. Sandy Rooney
at the front of the Sanctuary, on the pulpit side, to continue worship in the Chapel.*

SERMON *Fear Less...and Love More* Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE

*If you desire to become a member of River Road Church, you are invited
to come forward to the chancel steps at this time, and our pastor will meet you.*

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 343 *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* BEECHER

*BENEDICTION

EXTINGUISHING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

VOLUNTARY *Trumpet Tune in E flat* David N. Johnson

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 desire to become a member, you are invited to come forward during the *Time of Reflection and Response*, or speak with a minister at anytime.

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS! We hope you feel especially welcome among us. During the *Ritual of Friendship* portion of our service, you will hear about upcoming opportunities and ministries as well as expressions of concern. In these moments, please locate and sign the friendship register in the maroon guestbook, passing it along your row. You are asked to offer some contact information so that we might further welcome you. Take notice of those who sign in around you, that you might greet one another following the service.

THIS IS THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST in the Christian year. Having celebrated the birthday of the church through the giving of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, we enter the Season after Pentecost for 24 weeks, to celebrate the existence of the church and recall her mission in the world. The liturgical color for the season is green, symbolic of the church's growth and mission.

TO ENHANCE WORSHIP FOR CHILDREN, age-appropriate children's bulletins and worship bags are in the narthex (foyer at the back of the Sanctuary).

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in honor of all grandparents on this Grandparents' Day and especially our grandparents, John and Wyatt Heisler, and David and Linda Hendon by Jay and Adeline Heisler.

THE PEDESTAL FLOWERS are given to the glory of God and in loving honor of Barbara Kinsey from Ellis and Nancy Cunningham and Carol Kinsey.

THE RECEPTION AFTER WORSHIP is held in the Fellowship Hall. It is hosted by deacons Susan Gilsdorf, Linda Honaker, Nancy Lowrance, and Bill Thurston. Everyone is invited to attend, especially our guests in worship today.

2019-2020 ACOLYTES—This morning, the acolytes are sitting together to mark the beginning of a new year. They look forward to assisting with the worship services at our church. A listing of our 2019-2020 Acolytes is found in the insert.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS—Two Wednesday dishwashers are needed beginning in October. Dishwashers volunteer once per month and are typically done by 7:00 p.m. Contact Betty Damon at badamon25@gmail.com if you are interested. One more Wednesday night lock up volunteer is needed to lock up once each month. Lockup takes about 20 minutes following the Wednesday Night TFC programs. Contact Daniel Ingram at danielingram@rrcb.org if you are interested.

Celebration Sunday, Today, September 8

As we begin to look ahead at where God is leading this gathered community of faith called River Road, we will celebrate the past summer as well as the beginning of a new season, expressing our gratitude for all that makes us the people of God in this time and place. Return to church this evening for a church-wide picnic. The deacons are providing fried chicken and the rest of us are providing sides and desserts.

Sunday Evening	If your last name begins with...
• 5:00-5:15: Gather for potluck/picnic	• A-J: bring a dessert
• 5:15-6:15: Mealtime	• K-S: bring a salad
• 6:15-7:00: Summer Presentations	• T-Z: bring a starchy side

Together As One (1 Cor. 12:25-27)
Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Baptist Missions
River Road Church Goal: \$3,000

Job Skills for Women, a Christian women's job corps site in the Roanoke Valley, is giving hope to women who were once homeless, jobless, and churchless. Supported by the Alma Hunt Offering of Virginia Baptists, this ministry of several churches in the region is empowered and lives are being positively changed. Pray for the *Job Skills for Women* program participants, and give to the Alma Hunt Offering. Specially marked envelopes are in the pew racks.

- Sun, September 8 **Reception**, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Bland Mission Trip Meeting, 12:15 p.m., UC 228
Nominating Committee, 12:15 p.m., LC 102
Stewardship Committee, 3:30 p.m., UC 230
Adult Committee BCESF, 3:30 p.m., Anna's Office
Board of Christian Education, 4:00 p.m., Parlor
Celebration Sunday Picnic & Presentations, 5:00 p.m., Plaza
Board of Missions, 7:00 p.m., Assembly Room
- Mon, September 9 **Arts Committee**, 4:00 p.m., Parlor
Board of Deacons Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Assembly Room
- Tues, September 10 **Men's Fellowship Breakfast**, 7:00 a.m., Reception Room
The Comma Club, 12:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Evening Bridge, 7:30 p.m., LC 102
- Wed, September 11 **Men's Group: The Huddle**, 8:00 a.m., Reception Room
River Road Camerata, 4:30 p.m., Main Rehearsal Room
Wednesday Night Dinner, 5:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall
TFC-Kids: Pre-K to 5th Grades, 5:45 p.m., Chapel Hall
TFC-Youth, 6:00 p.m., Youth Area
Children's Choirs, 6:15 p.m., Rehearsal Rooms
TFC-Adults, 6:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Finance Committee, 7:15 p.m., Parlor
- Thurs, September 12 **FIXERS**, 8:00 a.m., Reception Room
Yoga, 5:45 p.m., Assembly Room
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Main Rehearsal Room
- Fri, September 13 **FLO Luncheon**, 11:30 a.m., Lola's Farmhouse Bistro
Middle School Cookout, 6:00 p.m., Home of the Fisher-Ingrams
- Sat, September 14 **Kitchen Work Day**, 9:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall Kitchen

Thoughtful Faith Community — Wednesday, September 11, 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Dinner, 5:15-6:15 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Menu: Sandwich & Salad Supper: pimento cheese biscuits, ham and swiss finger sandwiches, portobello pesto sliders, garden pasta salad, Greek kale salad, fresh fruit medley, cherry cordial cookies | **Kids Entrée:** Build-Your-Own Hoagie

Please make your dinner reservations by noon on Monday at rrcb.org/dinner or by calling the church office. Weekly Costs: Adults & Youth – \$9/each; Children – \$5/each; Family Max – \$25

River Road Camerata, 4:30-5:15 p.m., Main Rehearsal Room
TFC-Kids, 5:45-6:15 p.m., Chapel Hall: Games & Snacks
TFC-Youth, 6:00-7:00 p.m., Youth Area: Games & Dessert
Cherub Choir, 6:15-6:45 p.m., UC 232: preschool & kindergarten
Carol Choir, 6:15-7:00 p.m., Youth Rehearsal Room: 1st and 2nd grades
Crusader Choir, 6:15-7:00 p.m., Main Rehearsal Room: 3rd-5th grades
TFC-Adults, 6:15-7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall:

A Time of Remembering 9/11 with Dr. Jim Slatton

Where were you on September 11, 2001? It is a day so many remember in great detail with deep sadness. Hard to believe, is the fact that high school students today were not alive then. The Sunday following this horrific event, River Road Church was filled to the brim, with standing room only the following Sunday. Dr. Slatton had the arduous task of offering a word from the Lord; of acknowledging the reality of evil and the compassion of Christ, holding out hope for a future in a world forever changed. Dr. Slatton will recall that Sunday and offer highlights from his message. A copy of his sermon can be found on our website when you make your dinner reservation or by request. Come and share together a meaningful remembrance of an important event in all of our lives, that continues to shape our world today.



RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST
8000 River Road • Richmond, Virginia 23229
804.288.1131 • www.rrcb.org

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*

BLESSING OF EDUCATORS AND LEARNERS

LITANY OF BLESSING

Rev. Marnie Fisher-Ingram

As summer comes to an end and the school year begins, changes are happening. At church, our children and youth advance to new Sunday School classes, and our first graders begin attending worship in the sanctuary. Teachers welcome new class members and prepare for a year of learning in the classroom. New excitement and energy surround us.

Rabbi Jesus, our dear teacher, we offer thanks for all of our teachers at church. We ask that you would bless them and use them in sharing your love, scriptures, and lessons.

Schools are also filled with new energy. Opportunities for learning, maturing, and building friendships abound.

For school educators and administrators, cooks and counselors, secretaries and sextons, we pray that they would show loving-kindness, using their gifts and energies to help students learn in a secure and nurturing environment.

Each new year comes with both joy and nervousness, new work and new friends, different classrooms and schedules. Our students gather new school supplies, parents prepare for routine changes, and teachers create order in their spaces.

Thank you, God, for the gifts of learning and growing. Grow our teachers and class members into greater knowledge, new understanding, and a more intentional walk with you, as the one who saves and forms us. In our schools, we ask you, O Christ, to prepare and strengthen teachers, offer them wisdom and tools needed to do their best work. Use them to enlighten, build up, and encourage others. Jesus our teacher, we pray for our students to have all they need so they can be good learners: homes filled with peace, good rest, full stomachs, encouragement, a sense of security, and support.

At River Road Church, we look forward to gifts offered through teachers as we come together each Sunday morning and evening, on Wednesday nights, and at many other opportunities for learning and growing. May we have a desire to learn that opens our hearts and minds to growing in Christ.

We ask your blessings, Christ Jesus, on every school worker and leader, on our students, on schools, and on our church and each learning group that meets. May this year be one that brings you joy as we all, your children, develop as you have created us to do. Amen.

*We celebrate with and give God thanks
for these students being promoted today:*

First Graders:

Owen Fehrs
Jay Heisler
Colton Hiser
Camden Koskinen
Lynda Oakey
Luke Scherer
Liam Winton-Stahle

Third Graders:

Addie Gray
Tatum Gray
Lyle Hare
Alex Knerr
Evan Knerr
Kate Kral
Langdon Sexton
John Straw
Charlie Williamson

Sixth Graders:

Alex Blanchard
Catie Burkett
Justin Davis
Ellie Dixon
Elisabeth Dixon
Grant Gilliam
Ashley Glaze
James Gray
Mary Alice Halloran
Mollie Ingram
Abby Lesher
Eli Macturk
Henry Oakey
Riley Savedge
Kenton Sumner
Paul Sundberg

Ninth Graders:

Drew Gilliam
Frank Halloran
Braden Lesher
Paige Newcomb
Eleanor Roberts
Jack Ryan
Zachary Stevens
Laura Jane Straw
Eliza Sundberg

**Acolytes for the
2019-20 year:**

Matt Rooney, *Co-Captain*
Abigail McAllister, *Co-Captain*
Ben Blanchard
Parker Bradley
David Cipolletti
Wilson Gilliam
Ella Glaze
Marty Halloran
John Hubbard
Grace Johnson
Alexander Macturk
Maggie Beth Miller
Ella Ryan
Holden Seward
Julia Shelton
Elizabeth Thorne
Elizabeth Wilkinson