

RIVER ROAD CHURCH, BAPTIST

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

*As we gather together for worship, please pause for a moment to become aware of God's presence.
Quiet your mind, listen to the music, and prepare to worship God.*

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Frank Halloran and LJ Straw, Acolytes

Voluntaries

*Adagio (from Organ Symphony No. 2)
Air*

Charles-Marie Widor
Gerre Hancock

Dr. Robert Gallagher, organ

*Processional Hymn 416

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

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| 1. Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever,
and our confidence alone. | 2. To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your loving-kindness;
hear your people as we pray,
and your fullest benediction
shed within these walls today. |
| 3. Here bestow on all your servants
what they seek from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever
with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign. | 4. Laud and honor to the Father,
laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory
while unending ages run! |

Welcome and Call to Worship

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

Come into this sacred space and breathe.

We gather, taking a deep breath, centering our focus on our God.

Let go of the world that tells you to compete endlessly.

We are letting go of all that traps and confines, all that limits our freedom in Christ.

Like the disciples who argued who was greatest among them, we release our focus on earthly status, the rules of humanity.

We seek release from our need to be the greatest or gain status, pausing to breathe in the ways of Christ.

The Lord God, with delight, formed people from dust and blew life's breath into their nostrils.

With the breath of life in our lungs and our bodies alive with agency and purpose, we are here.

Let us release all that holds us back from living as one people.

As we are animated by the breath of God, may we be filled with vitality, compassion, and purpose.

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.

** Please stand, if you are able.*

Anthem

Be Strong and of Good Courage

Text: 1 Chronicles 28:20

Music: Thomas Matthews

Be strong and of good courage, fear not, nor be dismayed: for the Lord God will be with thee: be strong!
He will not fail thee nor forsake thee, until thou hast finished all the work for the service of the house of the Lord.

New Testament Lesson

James 3:13-4:3

Judy Morris

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.

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.**

*Gospel Lesson

Mark 9:33-37

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

Anthem

I Was Glad

Text: Psalm 122

Music: David Hurd

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." Now our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem is built as a city that is at unity with itself; to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the Lord. For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you." Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers. For my brethren and companion's sake, I pray for your prosperity. Because of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek to do you good.

Commissioning of the Bland County Mission Team

Rev. Anna Perry Miller

Julia Nixon, Wanda Pleasants (Julia's sister), Sallie Sparks, Steve and Betsy Lowery, Scott Leake, Tom Gilsdorf, Tom Kirkup, Bill Rusher, John Olson (St. Luke's Lutheran Church), and Tommy Jackson.

Litany of Commissioning

Minister: God has commissioned every Christian to acts of service in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Today we set apart these friends who have responded to this call and are dedicating themselves now to fulfill this divine commission in Bland County.

Mission Team: *We commit ourselves to this service in response to God's call on our lives.*

Minister: I encourage you, River Road church, to pray for each member of this team and for the persons who will receive their service.

Congregation: We join together in supporting you as you obey the commission of Jesus.

Mission Team: We acknowledge that we can do nothing without the strength of God, and we pledge ourselves to follow God's will and commands as we embark on this journey.

Congregation: May the grace, peace, and wisdom of the Lord Jesus Christ go with you as you serve.

Mission Team: Use us, O God, in your service.

All: Amen.

Prayer of Commissioning and Blessing

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

*Hymn of Devotion 421

The Church of Christ in Every Age

WAREHAM

1. The church of Christ in every age,
beset by change but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead.
2. Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die.
3. Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity.
4. For Christ alone, whose blood was shed,
can cure the fever in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread
and feed the starving multitude.
5. We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord:
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread Christ's liberating word.

Recognition and Appreciation of Dr. Robert Gallagher on his Tenth Anniversary as Minister of Music

*Offertory Sentences and Doxology

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.**

Sermon

God-given Wisdom

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

Time of Reflection and Response

*Take a moment to consider how the Spirit is leading you to respond to worship and the Word proclaimed this day.
If you desire to follow Christ as a disciple, or 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 371

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

1. Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God. (Refrain)
2. All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died. (Refrain)
3. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally. (Refrain)
4. So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory. (Refrain)

*Benediction

Rev. Dr. Daniel Glaze

Extinguishing of the Altar Candles

Voluntary

Final (from Organ Symphony No. 2)

Widor

Thank you for worshipping 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.

Worshipping 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 +

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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*

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of her daughter, Laura Lee Chandler, by Hilda Hankins.

The pedestal flowers are given to the glory of God by the Chancel Choir in honor of the tenth anniversary of Dr. Robert Gallagher as our Minister of Music.

We extend Christian sympathy to Matt and Leslie Straw upon the death of his mother, Elizabeth Straw, on September 14, and to Laura Jane Straw and John Straw upon the death of their grandmother.

Sitting together today are our 2021-22 Acolytes. These youth volunteers participate in worship leadership each Sunday. We are grateful for their willingness. Ben Blanchard, Parker Bradley, Drew Giliam, Frank Halloran, Marty Halloran, Braden Leshner, Alexander Macturk, Maggie Beth Miller, Paige Newcomb, Jack Ryan, LJ Straw, Zachary Stevens, Eliza Sundberg, and Elizabeth Wilkinson.

Dr. Robert Gallagher celebrates his tenth anniversary as a member of our church's pastoral staff. In August of 2011, recognizing Bob's giftedness in music and ministry, along with his vast experience in churches and cathedrals of all Christian backgrounds, we called him to lead the incredible music ministry of River Road Church. Today we give thanks to God and celebrate the ministry of Bob and Louise Gallagher.

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

Altar flowers will be available for pick up after worship. For those attending in-person worship, bouquets will be ready for pick up at 12:30PM in the sacristy. Any remaining arrangements will be outside at the Lower Commons entrance. Please pick up a bouquet to take to someone and brighten their day.

Wednesday Night Family Supper, Fellowship, and Mission Opportunity—*Wednesday, September 22, 6:00-7:30 p.m., Plaza*

Supper, 6:00-6:50 p.m.

Menu: Maple bacon chicken OR Parmesan-stuffed zucchini, beer-braised cabbage, roasted rosemary potatoes

Kids Entrée: Chicken tenders and fries

Dinner reservations are required by noon Tuesday, September 21. Please make your reservation and select your dinner entrée by filling out the form at rrcb.org/supper or by calling the church office.

Costs: \$9/adults and youth (6th grade and up), \$5 children (5th grade and younger), \$25/household max

Mission Project: 7:00-7:30 p.m.: Pack Hygiene Kits for Afghan Refugees

This evening we will put together as many hygiene kits as we are able. Children and youth and their families are encouraged to participate. If you need childcare for children 4 and under, please contact sandyrooney@rrcb.org by noon Tuesday.

E. Carl Freeman Concert Series: Organ Recital with Christopher Martin—*Sunday, September 26 at 3:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.* Music by George Baker, Christian Friedrich Ruppe, Naji Hakim, Firmin Swinnen, Johann Sebastian Bach, and John Knowles Paine. Free tickets available at rrcb.org/eventbrite. Masks required.

Church-wide Picnic Fellowship & Local Hike: The North Bank Trail in James River Park—*Sunday, September 26, 12:00 p.m.* Those wishing to get back for the organ recital should be able to do so, as this is estimated to be an hour and fifteen-minute walk.

Alma Hunt Offering: You Will Be My Witnesses—*Kenya Medical Missions.* In March 2020, Dr. Lynne Stockman led the first mission trip of a three-year partnership to Mully Children's Family (MCF) in Kenya to provide medical care to children in need and the surrounding community. The team provided care to over 2,200 patients. Dental, gynecologic, eye, wound, physical therapy, and general medical care was provided along with prescription medications. And since music is an important element in Kenyan culture, a small team also helped lead worship and teach guitar lessons.

Charles Mulli dreams of providing MCF and the surrounding communities with a hospital in the future. While we hope and pray for this dream to become a reality, the team looks forward to returning in 2022 to watch God at work and do our part to care for God's kingdom here on Earth. Pray for the second team as they prepare to serve MCF.

The annual offering for Virginia missions was named for Alma Hunt (1909–2008), a native Virginian who was known worldwide for her missions service and her unwavering dedication to the cause of Christ. The offering provides funding for all Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia (WMUV) missions and ministries and makes possible other Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV) special ministries, outreach projects, and initiatives not funded through regular streams of giving. You may give to the offering by mailing a check to the church office or online at rrcb.org/give-online. River Road's goal is to collect \$7,500.

Sunday School Classes are meeting. To find the details of when and where your class is meeting, please contact your class leader or teacher. If you are interested in joining a Sunday School class, please contact a member of our pastoral staff, Rev. Anna Perry Miller (adults), Rev. Marnie Fisher-Ingram (youth), or Mrs. Sandy Rooney (children).

- Sun, Sep 19 **Lloyd Jackson Memorial Bland Mission Trip Departs (returns September 24)**
Worship, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary and *rrcb.org/live*
Hygiene Kit Drop Off, 12:30, Lower Commons
Children's Choirs, 3:45 p.m., Location TBD
Children's Activity: Missions and More, 4:15 p.m., Playground
River Road Camerata, 4:30 p.m., Main Rehearsal Room
Youth Choir, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Youth Fall Kick Off, 5:45 p.m., Plaza
Re-Entry Task Force, 4:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
Board of Administration, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall (Zoom option available)
- Mon, Sep 20 **Women's Bible Study: Joyful Hearts**, 9:30 a.m., LC 102 (Zoom option available)
Stephen Ministry, 4:30 p.m., LC 102 (Zoom option available)
Yoga, 5:00 p.m., Assembly Room
Endowment Board, 7:00 p.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
- Tues, Sep 21 **WMU Connectors**, 10:00 a.m., Reception Room
- Wed, Sep 22 **Men's Group: The Huddle**, 8:00 a.m., Plaza
Wednesday Night Supper, 6:00 p.m., Plaza
Hygiene Kit Packing, 7:00 p.m., Plaza
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Thu, Sep 23 **FIXERS**, 8:30 a.m., Plaza
- Sat, Sep 25 **Youth Open Gym**, 6:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Sun, Sep 26 **Breakfast Chat with Mrs. Sandy**, 9:00 a.m., Zoom Meeting (Online)
Worship, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary and *rrcb.org/live*
WOW Event: Churchwide Hike, 12:00 p.m., North Bank Trail (James River Park)
Concert Series: Organ Recital—Christopher Martin, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary
Children's Activity: Missions and More, 4:15 p.m., Playground
River Road Camerata, 4:30 p.m., Main Rehearsal Room
Youth Choir, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
Youth Snack Supper and Youth Group, 5:45 p.m., Plaza