



Welcome to Richmond's First Baptist Church

2709 Monument Avenue Richmond, VA 23220 | 804-355-8637 | fbcrichmond.org

January 7, 2024 | 11 a.m.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Preparation For Worship

*Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.*

—Reginald Heber, “Epiphany”

The Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Invocation

Allison Collier

Organ Prelude, “We Three Kings of Orient Are”

arr. Fred Bock

Call to Worship (from Psalm 72)

Allison Collier

Leader: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

People: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

Leader: May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute,
may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

People: May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.

Leader: For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those
who have no helper.

People: He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.

Hymn No. 158, “Jesus Shall Reign”

DUKE STREET

Old Testament Lesson, Isaiah 60:1-6, (Pew Bible OT page 844)

Robert Thompson

Call to Prayer

“What Can I Give Him?”
Adult Choir

Mitchell

Pastoral Prayer

Robert Thompson

Hymn No. 151, “We Three Kings”

KINGS OF ORIENT

Sharing the Faith

Erich Bridges

Offertory

“We Are Marching in the Light of God”
Ruth Szucs and Amanda Lott, handbell duet

arr. Ellen M. Coman

Doxology

OLD 100TH

Children are invited to exit the sanctuary for Children’s Worship. Details on next page.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Dedication of Gifts

Amanda Lott

The Gospel, Matthew 2:1-12, (Pew Bible NT page 2)

Amanda Lott

Anthem

“The Jesus Gift”
Adult Choir

Gilbert M. Martin

Shall I gather emeralds, shall I bring him gold?
Shall I shower diamonds, white-hard, bright-cold?
Shall I spangle jewels like stars above?
Give him laughter, bring peace-filled laughter,
Offer him warm laughter and love.

Simplest of gifts, gentlest of hearts;
Kindness he’ll use as he leads.
So, give him these gifts, hand him your hearts,
Honor his birth and you’ll need no

Emeralds nor rubies, silver nor gold;
Neither bright diamonds, white-hard, bright-cold.
Spangle not rich jewels like stars above;
You’ll have laughter, sweet peace-filled laughter,
Simple warm laughter and love.

Sermon

Celebrity Sightings
They Saw the Child

Jim Somerville

Celebration of Communion

“Fairest Lord Jesus”
Cheryl Van Ornam, organ

arr. James Woodman

Hymn No. 150, “As with Gladness Men of Old”

DIX

The Life of the Community

Jim Somerville

Charge and Benediction

Jim Somerville

Congregational Response

"The Lord's Prayer"

Albert Hay Malotte

Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Postlude, *"How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"*

Andreas Armsdorff



The worship services at Richmond's First Baptist Church are planned around the weekly readings from The Revised Common Lectionary. This biblically based approach to worship can be strengthened and enhanced by the awareness and preparation of our church family as we ready ourselves to meet God and each other in worship each week.
Lectionary Readings for Sunday, January 14, 2024: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, (11-20); Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

The flowers today are given to the glory of God in memory of
Deacon and Mrs. Percy Colin Abbott by Lee Boisseau;
Mr. and Mrs. William P. and Vivian B. Lewis, Jr. by Stephen and Beverley L. Beer;
Tom Pearson by the Pearson family.

The 11 a.m. worship service is streamed on Sundays at fbcrichmond.online.church
and on YouTube at fbcrichmond.org/youtube.
This week's Sunday worship will be broadcast in central Virginia on TV8 on a one-week delayed basis.

Wireless personal receivers are available for those who need assistance hearing in the Sanctuary. If your hearing aid is equipped with a T-switch, please activate it to utilize our hearing loop.

We gladly welcome families with children to worship today.
Worship clipboards can be found at all sanctuary entry doors. During the Doxology children in grades 1-3 are invited to gather at the Children's Worship sign at the upper and lower piano-side doors.
After Children's Worship in Suite 220, children will return to their pew during the final hymn.
If you have any questions please feel free to ask an Usher or Greeter for help. We are glad you are here!

Ministry Leadership Staff

Dr. James G. Somerville, Senior Pastor

The Ministry of Christian Community

Rev. G. Lynn Turner, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Robert E. Thompson, Minister of Pastoral Care
Becky Payne, Pastoral Care Associate

The Ministry of Christian Formation

Dr. Allison Collier, Associate Pastor
Amanda Lott, Minister to Children & Families
Rev. Chris Wondree, Minister to Students & Families
Michael Lacy, Student Ministry Assistant
Alex Hamp, Preschool Administrator

The Ministry of Christian Worship

Dr. Philip L. Mitchell, Associate Pastor
Ruth Szucs, Music Ministry Associate
Eunice Kim, Pianist
Cheryl Van Ornam, Organist

The Ministry of Christian Invitation

Rev. Matthew Hensley, Associate Pastor
Lee Byerly, Recreation Director

The Ministry of Christian Compassion

Rev. Steve R. Blanchard, Associate Pastor
Emma Tilley, Compassion Ministry Associate

The Ministry of Communication

Allen Cumbia, Director of Communication Technology
Leigh Farmer, Communication Coordinator

The Ministry of Support

Donna Earley, Director of Stewardship & Development
Kim Boys, Interim Business Manager

Deaf Mission at Richmond

Rev. Dirk Hill, Pastor

• **When You Give, You Make an Impact!**

When you partner with Richmond's First Baptist Church financially, you help love and serve our neighbors here in Richmond and around the world. Use the QR code to give now, or give online at fbcrichmond.org/give.



• **Hope After Loss, Grief Counseling Group | TODAY | 3:30-5 p.m. | Library** | Dr. Roberta Damon leads a grief group for anyone who is walking through the journey of loss.

• **Winter Bible Study | What's in a word? Many times, it depends on how you use it! | Jan. 10, 17, 24 | 6-7:15 p.m. | Flamming Hall** | Steve Allsbrook will explore some biblical words and phrases that he thinks have more than one meaning when he leads our Winter Bible Study on three Wednesday evenings in January.

• **Depression Peer Support Group | Jan. 10 | 6 p.m. | Suite 213** | Facilitated by Lori Bonds. This group will listen, observe, validate, and encourage. If you are interested in taking part, you can register on the FBCnow! app or use the QR code. Limited to 10 people.



• **College or Seminary Scholarships | Jan. 14 | 12:15 p.m. | McDaniel Room** | Interested in finding money to fund a college or seminary education? Sue Atkins will hold a short informational meeting about undergraduate college and seminary scholarships.

• **Lunch and Learn: How do you speak for yourself when you can't? | Jan. 28 | 12:15-1:45 p.m. | Flamming Hall | Lunch: \$8** | If you suddenly got sick or were in an accident and could not speak for yourself, the people taking care of you would want to know how to make decisions for you. Sharing your wishes with the people who matter (like your doctor or family and friends) is called advance care planning (ACP). Expert Ken Faulkner will walk you through the following: documenting how you want medical decisions made, your comfort if you are very sick, what to do if you can't live at home anymore, and paying for your future healthcare. You will enjoy a light lunch of soup and sandwiches. Register using the FBCnow! app.

• **Sunday Night Movie for FBCKids! | Jan. 14 | 5:30-8 p.m. | Flamming Hall** | Wear your PJs and get ready for some fun. Join us for pizza, popcorn, and a showing of *The Lorax*.

• **Sunday Nights at FBC | Resumes Jan. 14 | 5-6 p.m. program, 6-6:30 p.m. snack/ supper** | While the children *Choose Their Own Adventure* every week, youth have the chance to participate in Worship Arts with the goal of participating in a concert on May 19. Adults will dive into *Dinner, Dream, and Do* – a time that combines Bible study, serving others, and connecting with each other.

• **Annual Deacon Ordination Service | Jan. 21 | 3 p.m. | Sanctuary** | We will ordain 6 new deacons and welcome 18 returning to active service for three-year terms.

• **Winter Women's Book Club | Jan. 25 | 7-8:30 p.m. | Adams Room** | Steve Blanchard will be our facilitator. The book is Steve Blanchard's new book, *An Eye For An Eye*. Contact Lori Humrich to buy a book at 804-358-5458 x126 or humrich@fbcrichmond.org. Cost: \$10

• **To reserve a Sunday flower memorial or honorarium**, contact Becky Payne at 804-358-5458 x154 or flowers@fbcrichmond.org. The acknowledgment will be listed in the worship bulletin on the date you designate. The cost is \$30.

• **Fasting For Lent | Jan. 31 & Feb. 7 | 6:15-7:15 p.m. | Suite 280H** | Join Allison Collier in this two-part deep dive. Participants will be given practical suggestions for how to incorporate fasting into their lives during Lent 2024...and it doesn't all involve food!

• **DNow | Feb. 16-18** | Deuteronomy 6:4-6, known as the Shema, is a prayer for Israel to hear what the Lord is asking people who follow to do. To love the Lord with all your heart, mind, and soul. Jesus even refers to this as the greatest commandment and attaches it to a second, to love your neighbor as yourself. We'll take the weekend to learn about why the Shema has been important to people developing in their faith for millennia, PLUS, we'll spend time serving our community, enjoying good food and fellowship, and having a good 'ole time. Registration is open on FBCnow! app. Cost: \$75; registration deadline Feb. 4.