



# northside church

OF RICHMOND

*December 30, 2012*

## **Meditations**

The difference between the Christian hope of resurrection and the mythological hope is that the former sends a man back to his life on earth in a wholly new way which is even more sharply defined than it is in the Old Testament. The Christian, unlike the devotees of the redemption myths, has no last line of escape available from earthly tasks and difficulties into the eternal, but, like Christ himself ('My God, why hast thou forsaken me?'), he must drink the earthly cup to the dregs, and only in his doing so is the crucified and risen Lord with him, and he crucified and risen with Christ. This world must not be prematurely written off; in this the Old and New Testaments are at one. Redemption myths arise from human boundary-experiences, but Christ takes hold of a man at the centre of his life.

- Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Letters and Papers from Prison*, p 336

*Readings to help you engage with God and worship, as Jesus said, "in spirit and in truth."*

*When you hear the first song begin, please come take a seat and continue preparing for worship by praying, reading the meditation quotes above, or singing along.*

# We gather in the presence of God

## *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

Words: Edmund Sears  
Music: Richard Storrs Willis  
Public domain

CCLI #: 11107331

## Song of Gathering

It came upon a midnight clear  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold.  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men  
From heaven's all gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
To hear the angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife,  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the angel strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong.  
And man, at war with man, hears not,  
The love-song which they bring,  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing.

O ye, beneath life's crushing load  
Whose forms are bending low,  
Who toil along the climbing way  
With painful steps and slow.  
Look now! For glad and golden hours  
Come swiftly on the wing;  
O rest beside the weary road  
And hear the angels sing.

*God is present with us in  
worship. Declaring this  
together turns our hearts  
and minds toward Him.*

**Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12**

*Please stand if able.*

## Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: *The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice;  
let the many coastlands be glad!*

**People:** *Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;  
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.*

Leader: *The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,  
before the Lord of all the earth.*

**People:** *The heavens proclaim his righteousness,  
and all the peoples see his glory.*

Leader: *Light is sown for the righteous,  
and joy for the upright in heart.*

**People:** *Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,  
and give thanks to his holy name!*

## Song of Praise

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all ye nations rise,  
join the triumph of the skies,  
With th'angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
"Hark!" the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see:  
hail, the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
"Hark!" the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King."

Come, Desire of nations, come,  
fix in us Thy humble home;  
Rise, the woman's conquering seed,  
bruise in us the serpent's head;  
Adam's likeness now efface:  
Stamp Thine image in its place.  
Second Adam from above,  
reinstate us in Thy love.  
"Hark!" the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heav'nly Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild, He lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die.  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.  
"Hark!" the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King."

## Scripture Reading

*Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him - what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD."*

*Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.'" And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. And the LORD said to Moses, "I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## ***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***

*Words: Charles Wesley,  
George Whitefield, Felix  
Mendelssohn  
Music: Felix Mendelssohn,  
William H. Cummings  
Public domain*

***Exodus 16:4-12***

*A time to be honest with  
God about our need for  
forgiveness.*

*Please read together.*

**1 Peter 1:3**

### ***Mighty To Save***

*Words and music: Reuben  
Morgan, Ben Fielding  
© 2006 Hillsong Publishing*

*Hebrews 2:10, Ezekiel 38:20*

# **We confess our sin and receive grace**

## **Confession of Sin**

Almighty God, though You guide and protect us as our Shepherd, we flee from You.  
Though You rule heaven and earth as King, we give our all to our tiny kingdom.  
Though You comfort us as our Shepherd, we console ourselves with our sins.  
Though Your cross has made peace, we foolishly war against You and one another.  
Though You declare “New creation!” we just prefer the old.  
Heavenly Father, have mercy upon us.  
Lord Jesus Christ, deliver us from our sins.  
Holy Spirit, renew us after the image of our Creator. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*

## **Song of Renewal**

Everyone needs compassion,  
love that’s never failing.  
Let mercy fall on me.  
Everyone needs forgiveness,  
the kindness of a Savior,  
The hope of nations.

Savior, He can move the mountains,  
My God is mighty to save,  
He is mighty to save!  
Forever, Author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave,  
Jesus conquered the grave!

So take me as You find me,  
all my fears and failures.  
Fill my life again.  
I give my life to follow,  
everything I believe in.  
Now I surrender.

*chorus*

Shine your light and let the whole world see.  
We’re singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus.  
Shine your light and let the whole world see.  
We’re singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus.

*chorus*

# We respond to the grace received

*Being set right with God enables us to participate in his work.*

## Passing of the Peace

*The peace God made with us is extended to those around us.*

## Community Life

New Member Vows - Kelly Hancock and Kellie Lorish

## Offering

*We see giving as a part of worship. If you feel the same way we invite you to participate.*

## Song of Preparation

Through the love of God our Savior,  
all will be well.  
Free and changeless is His favor,  
all is well.  
Precious is the blood that healed us,  
Perfect is the grace that sealed us,  
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us,  
All must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation,  
all will be well.  
Ours is such a full salvation,  
all is well.  
Happy still in God confiding,  
Fruitful if in Christ abiding,  
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding  
All must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow;  
all will be well.  
Faith can sing through days of sorrow,  
all is well.  
On our Father's love relying,  
Jesus every need supplying,  
Yes in living or in dying,  
All must be well.

On our Father's love relying,  
Jesus every need supplying,  
Yes in living or in dying,  
All must be well.

### **All Must Be Well**

*Words by Mary Bowley-Peters  
alt by Matthew S. Smith*

*Music by Matthew S. Smith.  
©2007 Detuned Radio Music*

*Our mind, body, and spirit  
are nourished with food  
that does not perish.*

***Philippians 2:14-18***

***Isaiah 40:8***

*Today's sermon is given by  
John Bourgeois, pastoral  
intern at City Church of  
Richmond.*

*We encourage you to use  
this space to take notes or  
write questions.*

# God feeds us with His Word

## Sermon Text

*14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. 17 Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.*

**Leader:** *The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.*

**People: Praise be to God!**

## Sermon

# Invitation to the Lord's Supper

## Words of Institution

*The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

Leader: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

## The Lord's Supper

When you are ready, please come to one of the communion stations and circle it with others in a group of about 6. Step forward and take a cup and a piece of bread, and a communion distributor will pour wine or grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are located in the wooden boxes. If you would like, a communion distributor will pray for your children.

There is a person at the back of the fellowship hall ready to pray with and for you, if desired.

## Song of Communion

What child is this, who, laid to rest  
on Mary's lap, is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,  
the cross be born for me, for you;  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come peasant king to own Him,  
The King of Kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
the virgin sings her lullaby:  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
the Babe, the Son of Mary!

*Parents who would like for their nursery-aged children to be prayed for during communion meal should pick them up at this time.*

**1 Corinthians 11:23b-26**

*Communion at Northside is a patient, relaxed time. As others take communion please feel free to pray, sing along, or talk quietly with your neighbor.*

### **What Child Is This?**

*Words: William Chatterton Dix  
Music: traditional English folk song  
Public domain*

# God sends us out refreshed

## Victory In Jesus

Words and music: Eugene  
Monroe Bartlett  
Public domain

## Song of Rejoicing

I heard an old, old story,  
how a Savior came from glory,  
How He gave His life on Calvary  
to save a wretch like me;  
I heard about His groaning,  
of His precious blood's atoning,  
Then I repented of my sins  
and won the victory.

O victory in Jesus,  
my Savior, forever!  
He sought me and bought me  
with His redeeming blood;  
He loved me ere I knew Him,  
and all my love is due Him,  
He plunged me to victory  
beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about His healing,  
of His cleansing pow'r revealing.  
How He made the lame to walk again  
and caused the blind to see;  
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus,  
come and heal my broken spirit,"  
And somehow Jesus came and brought  
to me the victory.

*chorus*

I heard about a mansion  
He has built for me in glory.  
And I heard about the streets of gold  
beyond the crystal sea;  
About the angels singing,  
and the old redemption story,  
And some sweet day I'll sing to Him  
the song of victory.

*chorus*

## Benediction

### About

Northside Church of Richmond is a mission church of the Presbyterian Church in America ([www.pcanet.org](http://www.pcanet.org)), planted in October 2011

### Worship Service

Each Sunday at 4pm in the fellowship hall of Battery Park Christian Church, located on the corner of Brook Rd and Bellevue Ave.

Visitors are always welcome!

### Contact

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