



northside church

OF RICHMOND

December 27, 2015

Meditation

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

- John 1:1-5, 14

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

*When you hear the first
song begin, please come take
a seat.*

God is present with us in worship, and we ask Him to turn our hearts and minds toward Him.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley,
George Whitefield, Felix
Mendelssohn

Music: Felix Mendelssohn,
William H. Cummings
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Luke 2

Luke 2:10-15

Please stand if able.

We gather in the presence of God

Song of Gathering

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."

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."

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: *And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold,
I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.
For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

People: ***And this will be a sign for you:
you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."***

Leader: *And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host
praising God and saying,*

People: ***"Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"***

Leader: *When the angels went away from them into heaven,
the shepherds said to one another,*

People: ***"Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened,
which the Lord has made known to us."***

Song of Praise

O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold Him,
born the King of angels;

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

chorus

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God,
glory in the highest;

chorus

True God of true God,
Light from Light Eternal,
Lo, He shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father,
begotten, not created;

Scripture Reading

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

*"Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel"*

(which means, God with us). When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

O Come All Ye Faithful

*Words: John Francis Wade
Music: John Francis Wade
(probable)
Public domain*

Matthew 1:18-25

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

Please read together.

Galatians 4:4-5

What Child Is This?

*Words: William Chatterton
Dix*

*Music: traditional English
folk song*

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We confess our sin and receive grace

Confession of Sin

Holy God, You have prepared Your salvation in the presence of all peoples,
yet we are lukewarm about Your Son's coming.

We confess that we have not followed the light of Your Word,
and have not been consoled by Your presence.

Too often we have sought comforts of our own design,
and have refused His peace on earth.

Forgive our unbelief, and renew us by Your Holy Spirit that we might eagerly worship You.
Help us once again find the coming and work of our Savior to be our greatest joy.
Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law,
to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.*

Song of Renewal

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!

We respond to the grace received

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

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

Prayers of the People

The world: Travis Johnson, continuing battle with cancer

The Northside: Race and the Church, first event Jan 30th

Our church: December finance goal of \$30,000 in internal giving

Offering

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

Song of Preparation

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray.

O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father,
a blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name.

chorus

"Fear not," then said the angel,
"Let nothing you affright,
This day is born a Savior,
of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him
from Satan's power and might."

chorus

Now to the Lord sing praises,
all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
all other doth efface.

chorus

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

*Author unknown
Public domain*

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

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon Text

Luke 2:1-14

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 And all went to be registered, each to his own town. 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, 5 to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. 6 And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. 10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

*14 "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"*

Isaiah 40:8

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

People: Praise be to God!

*Today's sermon is given by
Rev. Clint Dowda, pastor of
Grace Community Presbyte-
rian Church and member of
the commission of Northside
Church.*

Sermon

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

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

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

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.

1 Corinthians 11:23b-26

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

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

The Lord's Supper

Gluten-free, nut-free wafers are located in the wooden boxes. If you would like, a communion distributor will pray for your children. At the back of the fellowship hall is someone ready to pray with and for you.

As others take communion please feel free to pray, sing along, or talk quietly with your neighbor.

Song of Communion

Bread of heaven, sent down from glory,
Many things you were on Earth:
A Holy King, a carpenter.
You are the living Word.

Awesome Ruler, gentle Redeemer,
God with us, the Living Truth,
And what a friend we have in You.
You are the living Word.

Jesus, Jesus - that's what we call You,
Manger born, put on a tree,
You died to save humanity.
You are the living Word!

You Are the Living Word

*Words and music: Fred Hammond, Noel Hall
© 2000 Bridge Building Music, Zomba Songs*

*John 1:1, 6:35
Matthew 21:5*

*We go forth to love and
serve God and neighbor.*

God sends us out refreshed

Joy To the World

Words: Isaac Watts

Music: Antioch, arranged by

Lowell Mason, 1836

Public domain

Song of Rejoicing

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

Benediction

About

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

Worship Service

Sunday at 4pm in the fellowship hall of Battery Park Christian Church @ the corner of Brook and Bellevue. Visitors are always welcome!

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