



northside church

OF RICHMOND

August 12th, 2012

Meditations

"A counterfeit god is anything so central and essential to your life that, should you lose it, your life would feel hardly worth living. An idol has such a controlling position on your heart that you can spend most of your passion and energy, your emotional and financial resources, on it without a second thought. It can be family and children, or career and making money, or achievement and critical acclaim, or saving "face" and social standing. It can be a romantic relationship, peer approval, competence and skill, secure and comfortable circumstances, your beauty or your brains, a great political or social cause, your morality and virtue, or even success in the Christian ministry. When your meaning in life is to fix someone else's life, we may call it 'co-dependency' but it is really idolatry." - Tim Keller, *Counterfeit Gods*

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.

For the Beauty of the Earth

*Words: Foliott S. Pierpoint
Music: Conrad Kocher
Public domain*

CCLI #: 11107331

A recognition of the presence of God among us, which influences the posture of our hearts.

1 Samuel 2:2-4,8

Please stand if able.

Song of Gathering

For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth,
Over and around us lies.

Lord of all to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour,
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light.

chorus

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,

Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild.

chorus

For the church, that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering upon every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love.

chorus

For Thyself, best Gift Divine.
To the world so freely given,
For that great, great love of Thine,
Peace on earth and joy in Heaven.

chorus

We gather in the presence of God

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: *There is none holy like the LORD:
for there is none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.*

People: ***Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;
for the LORD is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.***

Leader: *The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble bind on strength.*

People: ***He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.***

Leader: *For the pillars of the earth are the LORD's,
and on them he has set the world.*

Song of Praise

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled.

Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you,
and cause you to stand
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call you to go,
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;
For I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
And sanctify to you your deepest distress.

When through fiery trials
your pathways shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
The flame shall not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume, and your gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;
That soul, though all hell
should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

That soul, though all hell
should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake.

How Firm a Foundation

*Words: John Rippon
Music: Early American
melody
Public domain*

Scripture Reading

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

1 John 4:1-6

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

Please read together.

1 Peter 2:24

***God of My Life, To Thee
I Call***

*Words: William Cowper
Music: Clint Wells, Brian T.
Murphy and Benj Pocta
© 2007 Red Mountain
Music*

*Here's another way to phrase
the last 2 lines of the chorus:
When you put your faith
in Jesus he becomes your
powerful advocate, and you
can be confident of your
spiritual safety and profit in
any circumstance.*

We confess our sin and receive grace

Confession of Sin

Almighty and most merciful Father, we have wandered from You like lost sheep.

We have elevated our desires above Your will.

We have broken Your holy laws.

Again and again, we have refused to listen to Your Spirit.

O Lord, have mercy upon us, and restore those who confess their faults.

Teach us to listen and obey.

Show us that life and health are only found in You.

Again and again, give us grace and strength to be Your disciples.

According to Your promises declared in Christ Jesus, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
By his wounds you have been healed.*

Song of Renewal

God of my life, to Thee I call,

Afflicted at Thy feet I fall.

When the great water floods prevail,

Leave not my trembling heart to fail.

Poor though I am, despised, forgot,

Yet God, my God, forgets me not.

And he is safe and must succeed,

For whom the Lord is sure to plead.

Friend of the friendless and the faint,
Where should I lodge my deep complaint?
Where but with Thee, whose open door,
Invites the helpless and the poor!

chorus

That were a grief I could not bear,
Didst Thou not hear and answer prayer.
But a prayer-hearing, -answering God,
Supports me under every load.

chorus (x2)

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

Prayers of the People

The world: Hope International, a Christian microfinance organization

The Northside: Young Lives, a ministry to teenage mothers

Our church: Preparation for Northside Groups, which relaunch in September

Offering

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

Song of Preparation

You are the God who loves,

You are the God who listens,

I cast my cares at Your feet.

You are the God who hears,

You are the God who answers,

You know just what I need.

verse

chorus (x2)

Nothing is impossible for You.

Heaven and earth are at Your command.

Nothing is impossible for You.

You are the great I AM.

repeat

Abba, Father,

You are near to all who call upon Your name.

Savior, Healer,

You are near to all who call upon Your name.

chorus (x2)

All Who Call

Words and music:

Josh Davis

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Romans 10:12-13

Luke 1:37

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

Matthew 7:15-20

Isaiah 40:8

*Today's sermon is given by
pastor Matt Lorish.*

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

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon Text

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits."

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

I have a Maker,
He formed my heart.
Before even time began,
My life was in His hands.

I have a Maker,
He formed my heart.
Before even time began,
My life was in His hands.

He knows my name,
He knows my every thought.
He sees each tear that falls,
and He hears me when I call.

I have a Father,
He calls me His own.
He'll never leave me,
No matter where I go.

chorus

Parents who would like for their nursery-aged children to be present and 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.

He Knows My Name

*Words, music:
Tommy Walker
© 1996 Doulos Publishing*

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

God sends us out refreshed

The Sands of Time Are Sinking

*Words: Anne Cousins
(based on Samuel Ruther-
ford's letters)
Traditional folk tune (arr.
Philip Palmertree)
©2001 Philip Palmertree
Music.*

Song of Rejoicing

The sands of time are sinking,
the dawn of heaven breaks,
The summer morn I've sighed for,
the fair sweet morn awakes.

Dark had been the midnight
but dayspring is at hand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
in Emmanuel's land.

O Christ, He is the Fountain
the deep sweet well of love.
The streams on earth I've tasted
more deep I'll drink above.

There to an ocean fullness
His mercy doth expand,
And glory, glory dwelleth
in Emmanuel's land.

The bride eyes not her garment
but her dear Bridegroom's face.
I will not gaze at glory
but on my King of grace.

Not at the crown He giveth
but on His pierced hand.
The Lamb is all the glory
of Emmanuel's land.

Oh! I am my Beloved's
and my Beloved is mine!
He brings a poor vile sinner
into His house of wine.

I stand upon His merit,
I know no other stand,
Not e'en where glory dwelleth
in Emmanuel's land.

(repeat)

*At the end of the service,
please pick up your children
from the nursery.*

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

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

Northside Church of Richmond
P.O. Box 26175 / Richmond, VA 23260
www.northsidechurchva.org / 804.516.3322

Staff

Matt Lorish - pastor

matt@northsidechurchva.org

Joel Passmore - pastoral intern, worship director

joel@northsidechurchva.org

Will Wright - intern, admin assistant

will@northsidechurchva.org