

northside church of RICHMOND

July 6, 2014

Meditation

Instinctively, we are either confident in ourselves or despairing in ourselves. In both cases, we are paralyzed, not moving toward God. Like a parent whose toddler is about to wander off, Jesus is yelling, "My Father has a big heart. He loves the details of your life. Tell him what you need and he will do it for you." Jesus wants us to tap into the generous heart of his Father. He wants us to lose all confidence in ourselves because "apart from [Jesus] you can do nothing"; he wants us to have complete confidence in him because "whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit" (John 15:5).

- Paul Miller, A Praying Life

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.

Gather Them In

Words and music: Peter La Grand © 2008

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Zechariah 9:9

CCLI #: 11107331

We gather in the presence of God

Song of Gathering

We wait for You to testify, To hold the kingdoms to account. Your righteous justice shall not fail, All those who trust in Your name.

You will gather them in, You will bring, bring them home. King of all Kings, Lord of all Lords.

You will gather them in, You will bring, bring them home. King of all Kings, Lord of all Lords. Sing out, sing out, you daughters of Zion, And shout aloud, O Israel. Be glad, rejoice with all your heart, He has removed your punishment.

He will gather us in, He will bring, bring us home. King of all Kings, Lord of all Lords.

He will gather us in, He will bring, bring us home. King of all Kings, Lord of all Lords.

repeat

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!

People: Bless the LORD, O you his angels, you mighty ones who do his word, obeying the voice of his word!

Leader: Bless the LORD, all his hosts, his ministers, who do his will!

People: Bless the LORD, all his works, in all places of his dominion. Bless the LORD, 0 my soul!

Psalm 103:1, 20-22

Please stand if able.

Song of Praise

A voice says "Cry out: All men are like grass, And their time of glory soon shall pass. But the word of God, it will never die. Surely it will stand For eternity!"

Every ditch and valley shall be raised up, Every hill and mountain be made low, Every rugged place will be made flat, Everybody shall see the glory of the LORD. You who bring good news, raise your voice and shout, Do not be afraid to speak the name of God. The hard days are gone, the debt has been paid, And the time has come to walk the righteous way.

chorus (x2)

Everybody shall see the glory of the LORD.

Every Ditch, Every Valley

Words and music: Peter La Grand ©2008

Isaiah 40

Scripture Reading

Pray then like this: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Matthew 6:9-13

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

Please read together.

We confess our sin and receive grace

Confession of Sin

Lord, You alone are full of grace and truth, but we have not kept watch for You. We have sought our own glory above Yours. We have not waited to find Your will for us. We have not noticed the needs of others around us. We have not acknowledged Your beauty and the love that You have shown us.

Forgive us for our sins against You.

Heavenly Father, help us to yield to the wisdom of Your ways;

Lord Jesus, lead us to live in light of Your coming;

Holy Spirit, give us faith to see that You are truly among us; Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

1 Peter 2:24

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

Depth of Mercy

Words: Charles Wesley Music: Jeff Koonce, Clint Wells, Brian T. Murphy © 2003 Red Mountain Music Depth of mercy! Can there be mercy still reserved for me? Can my God His wrath forbear, me, the chief of sinners, spare? I have long withstood His grace, long provoked Him to His face, Would not hearken to His calls, grieved Him by a thousand falls.

I have spilt His precious blood, trampled on the Son of God, Filled with pangs unspeakable, I, who yet am not in hell! I my Master have denied, I afresh have crucified, And profaned His hallowed Name, put Him to an open shame. Jesus speaks, and pleads His blood! He disarms the wrath of God; Now my Father's mercies move, justice lingers into love. There for me the Savior stands, shows His wounds and spreads His hands. God is love! I know, I feel; Jesus weeps and loves me still.

Pity from Thine eye let fall, by a look my soul recall; Now the stone to flesh convert, cast a look, and break my heart. Now incline me to repent, let me now my sins lament, Now my foul revolt deplore, weep, believe, and sin no more.

We respond to the grace received

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

New Member Vows - Dan, Sara, Zach, Noah, Mia, and Hannah Kennedy

Offering

On the first Sunday of each month Northside collects an offering for the mercy fund using a tan basket in addition to the weekly general fund offering in the multi-colored basket. The mercy fund is used for financial assistance to those in need from our church and the Northside.

Song of Preparation

Jesus cast a look on me, Give me sweet simplicity; Make me poor and keep me low, Seeking only Thee to know.

All that feeds my busy pride, Cast it evermore aside; Bid my will to Thine submit, Lay me humbly at Thy feet.

Make me like a little child, Of my strength and wisdom spoiled; Seeing only in Thy light, Walking only in Thy might. Leaning on Thy loving breast, Where a weary soul can rest; Feeling well the peace of God, Flowing from His precious blood.

In this posture let me live, And hosannas daily give; In this temper let me die, And hosannas ever cry! We see giving as a part of worship. If you feel the same way we invite you to participate.

Jesus, Cast a Look On Me

Words: John Berridge Music: Matthew Perryman Jones © MPJ Music

Being set right with God enables us to participate in his work. Our mind, body, and spirit are nourished with food that does not perish.

Matthew 21:18-22

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon Text

18 In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. 19 And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, "May no fruit ever come from you again!" And the fig tree withered at once.

20 When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, "How did the fig tree wither at once?" 21 And Jesus answered them, "Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, 'Be taken up and thrown into the sea,' it will happen. 22 And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith."

23 And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" 24 Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. 25 The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' 26 But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." 27 So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

Leader: *The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.* **People: Praise be to God!**

Sermon

Isaiah 40:8

by Andy Wood, pastor of Reformed University Fellowship at Virginia Tech.

Today's sermon is given

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

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

Gluten-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.

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 prayed for during communion should pick them up at this time.

1 Corinthians 11:23b-26

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

He Knows My Name

Words and music: Tommy Walker © 1996 Doulos Publishing

We go forth to love and serve God and neighbor.

Jesus Shall Reign

Words: Isaac Watts

Music: John Hatton

Public domain

God sends us out refreshed

Songs of Rejoicing

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run; His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And praises throng to crown His head; His Name like sweet perfume shall rise With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song; And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His Name. Blessings abound wherever He reigns; The prisoner leaps to lose his chains; The weary find eternal rest, And all the sons of want are blessed.

Let every creature rise and bring Peculiar honors to our King; Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen!

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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