



# northside church

OF RICHMOND

**October 7, 2012**

## **Meditation**

"First, God. God is the subject of life. God is foundational for living. If we don't have a sense of the primacy of God, we will never get it right, get life right, get our lives right. Not God at the margins; not God as an option; not God on the weekends. God at center and circumference; God first and last; God, God, God."

- Eugene Peterson

*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.*

## ***O Love That Will Not Let Me Go***

*Words: George Matheson  
Music: Christopher Miner  
© 1997 Christopher Miner  
Music*

CCLI #: 11107331

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

### ***Revelation 5:11-13***

*Please stand if able.*

## **Song of Gathering**

O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give Thee back the life I owe,  
That in Thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way,  
I yield my flick'ring torch to Thee.  
My heart restores its borrowed ray,  
That in Thy sunshine's blaze its day,  
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to Thee.  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
And feel the promise is not vain,  
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from Thee.  
I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
And from the ground there blossoms red,  
Life that shall endless be.

O Love that will not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in Thee;  
I give Thee back the life I owe,  
That in Thine ocean depths its flow  
May richer, fuller be.

## **We gather in the presence of God**

### **Welcome and Call to Worship**

Leader: *Then I looked, and I heard around the throne  
and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels,  
numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,  
saying with a loud voice,*

**People: *"Worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might  
and honor and glory and blessing!"***

Leader: *And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth  
and under the earth and in the sea,  
and all that is in them, saying,*

**People: *"To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb  
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"***

## Song of Praise

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,  
Early in the morning  
our song shall rise to Thee.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,  
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy, all the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns  
around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim  
falling down before Thee,  
Who wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy, though the darkness hide Thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man,  
Thy glory may not see.  
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,  
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,  
All thy works shall praise Thy name  
in earth, and sky, and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy,  
merciful and mighty,  
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity.

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

Words: Reginald Heber  
Music: John B. Dykes  
Public domain

## Scripture Reading

*So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.*

*As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. She followed Paul and us, crying out, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.*

*But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. And when they had brought them to the magistrates, they said, "These men are Jews, and they are disturbing our city. They advocate customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks.*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Acts 16:11-24**

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

*Please read together.*

*Titus 3:4-5*

*By Thy Mercy*

*Words: James Cummins  
Music: Greg Thompson  
©2004 Greg Thompson*

# We confess our sin and receive grace

## Confession of Sin

Heavenly Father, loving King, all of our sins are laid bare before Your eyes:

We often promote ourselves, and overlook people around us.

We nurse anger and envy in secret, while wearing a cheery facade.

We tether our joy to our circumstances, rather than to the gospel.

We repent of our fruitless wanderings, and ask that You cover us in Jesus Christ.

Let us hear Your voice saying: "Awake and rise!

His blood is your peace, His death is your life,

His Spirit is your power."

Convince us that a life lived in Your service is perfect freedom. Amen.

## Silent Confession

## Assurance of Pardon

*But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us,  
not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy.*

## Song of Renewal

Jesus, Lord of life and glory,  
bend from heaven Thy gracious ear.  
While our waiting souls adore Thee,  
friend of helpless sinners, hear.

From the depth of nature's blindness,  
from the hardening power of sin,  
From all malice and unkindness,  
from the pride that lurks within.

By Thy mercy, O deliver us,  
good Lord, good Lord.

By Thy mercy, O deliver us,  
good Lord, good Lord.

When temptation sorely presses,  
in the day of Satan's power,  
In our times of deep distresses,  
in each dark and trying hour.

When the world around is smiling,  
in the time of wealth and ease,  
Earthly joys our hearts beguiling,  
in the day of health and peace.

*chorus*

In the weary hours of sickness,  
in the times of grief and pain,  
When we feel our mortal weakness,  
when all human help is vain,

In the solemn hour of dying,  
in the awful judgment day,  
May our souls, on Thee relying,  
find Thee still our rock and stay.

*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

### Prayers of the People

The world: World Harvest Team in Bundibugyo, Uganda

The Northside: Youth Life Foundation, tutoring ministry in Highland Park

Our church: Urban Fellows Program, preview weekend taking place now

## Offering

Today we are collecting an offering for the mercy fund in 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.

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

## Song of Preparation

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.

*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)*

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!

### **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.*

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

***Philippians 1:12-18a***

***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

*12 I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, 13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. 14 And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.*

*15 Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. 16 The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.*

**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.

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

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 and music:  
Tommy Walker  
© 1996 Doulos Publishing*

We go forth to love and  
serve God and neighbor.

# God sends us out refreshed

## The Doxology

Words: Thomas Ken  
Music: Louis Bourgeois  
Public domain

## Songs of Rejoicing

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.

## How Great Thou Art

Words and music:  
Stuart K. Hine  
© 1949 & 1953

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,  
Consider all the works Thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul,  
my Savior, God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul,  
my Savior, God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

And when I think that God, his Son, not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in –  
That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
He bled and died, to take away my sin.

*chorus*

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation,  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart.  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim,  
“My God, how great Thou art!”

*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

Northside Church of Richmond  
P.O. Box 26175 / Richmond, VA 23260  
[www.northsidechurchrva.org](http://www.northsidechurchrva.org) / 804.516.3322

### Staff

Matt Lorish - pastor

[matt@northsidechurchrva.org](mailto:matt@northsidechurchrva.org)

Joel Passmore - pastoral intern, worship director

[joel@northsidechurchrva.org](mailto:joel@northsidechurchrva.org)

Will Wright - intern, admin assistant

[will@northsidechurchrva.org](mailto:will@northsidechurchrva.org)