



northside church

OF RICHMOND

May 25, 2014

Meditation

Forgiveness is a sort of divine absurdity. It is irrational, as the world reasons things, and unwise. But “has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?” It is a miracle maker, because it causes things to be that, logically, empirically, have no right to be. Forgiveness is a holy, complete, unqualified giving...

- Walter Wangerin, Jr.

*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.

**Every Ditch,
Every Valley**

Words and music:
Peter La Grand
©2008

Isaiah 40

CCLI #: 11107331

Psalm 103:1, 20-22

Please stand if able.

We gather in the presence of God

Song of Gathering

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.

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, O my soul!***

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

*The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
As a father shows compassion to his children,
so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 103:8-13

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

Please read together.

Romans 5:6, 8

Search Me

*Words: and music:
Kirk Ward
© 2005 Kirk Ward Music*

We confess our sin and receive grace

Confession of Sin

God and Father, You have called us to be Your followers and have made us one family.
Yet we have not lived as one, and have not loved You with our whole person.
Ambition has driven us, and we have chosen not to care for others when it is inconvenient.
Pride has gripped us, and we have promoted ourselves rather than worship You.
Fear has reigned in us, and we have tried to control You and manipulate others.

O Lord, forgive us for our many sins through the sacrifice of Christ.
Subdue everything in us that is contrary to Your purposes.
By Your Spirit, make us a community that is eager to do Your will and to walk in Your ways.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*At just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.
God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

Song of Renewal

Search me, and know my heart
Test me, and know my thoughts.
See into me: is there any sin?
And Lord, lead me in the everlasting way.

Search me, and know my heart
Test me, and know my thoughts.
See into me: is there any sin?
And Lord, lead me in the everlasting way.

Search me, and know my heart
Test me, and know my thoughts.
See into me: is there any sin?
And Lord, lead me in the everlasting way.

Jesus, Your love has made me righteous,
For by your wounds I am healed.
Jesus, Your death has paid the ransom,
Your resurrection gives me life.

Where there is fear, make me courageous,
Where there is doubt, give me faith.
Where there is pride, Lord make me humble.
Where there is silence, give me praise.

chorus

We respond to the grace received

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

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

New Member Vows - Stephen Tagert

Offering

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

Song of Preparation

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise!
Triumph o'er the shades of night.

Dayspring from on high, be near.
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Were it ever without Thee.
Joyless is the day's return,
Till Thy mercy's beams I see,

Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine!
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!
Fill me, radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief.

More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.
repeat

Dayspring from on high, be near.
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dayspring

*Words: Charles Wesley
Music: Alex Mejias
© 2007 High Street Publishing*

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

God feeds us with His Word

Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon Text

21 Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" 22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

23 "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. 24 When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. 26 So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' 27 And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. 28 But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' 29 So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' 30 He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. 31 When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. 32 Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. 33 And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' 34 And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. 35 So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

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 Shawn Slate, Pastor of
Reformed University
Fellowship at UVA.*

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.

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

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

1 Corinthians 11:23b-26

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.

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

Song of Communion

Let us break bread together on our knees,

Let us break bread together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees

with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees,

Let us praise God together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees

with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees,

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

When I fall on my knees

with my face to the rising sun,

O Lord, have mercy on me.

O Lord, have mercy on me.

Break Bread

*Anonymous African-American spiritual
Contemporary arrangement
by Josh Garrels
Public domain*

*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.

But For You Who Fear My Name

*Words and music: Leonard
E. Smith Jr.
© 1975 L.E. Smith Jr., New
Jerusalem Music*

But for you who fear My Name,
The Son of righteousness will rise
With healing in His wings.

And you shall go forth again,
And skip about like calves
Coming from their stalls at last.

You shall be My very own,
On the day that I
Cause you to be My special home.

I shall spare you as a man
Has compassion on his son
Who does the best he can.

Malachi 4:2; 3:17

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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