



# northside church

## OF RICHMOND

***December 9, 2012***

### **Meditations**

Sin comes when we take a perfectly natural desire or longing or ambition and try desperately to fulfill it without God. Not only is it sin, it is a perverse distortion of the image of the Creator in us. All these good things, and all our security, are rightly found only and completely in Him.

- Augustine, *Confessions*

*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.*

# We gather in the presence of God

## ***Thou Poor, Afflicted, Tempted Soul***

*Words: John Berridge  
Music: Brian T. Murphy &  
Ashley Spurling  
© 2006 Red Mountain  
Music*

CCLI #: 11107331

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

## ***Psalm 93***

*Please stand if able.*

## **Song of Gathering**

Thou poor, afflicted, tempted soul,  
With fears, and doubts, and tempests tossed.  
What if the billows rise and roll,  
And dash thy ship, it is not lost.

The winds and waves and fiends may roar,  
But Christ will bring thee safe on shore.  
The winds and waves and fiends may roar,  
But Christ will bring thee safe on shore.

What ails those eyes bedewed with tears?  
Those laboring sighs that heave thy breast?  
Those oft repeated, broken prayers?  
Dost thou not long for Jesus' rest?

And can the Lord pass heedless by,  
And see a mourning sinner die?  
And can the Lord pass heedless by,  
And see a sad and mourning sinner die?

The winds and waves and fiends may roar,  
But Christ will bring thee safe on shore.  
The winds and waves and fiends may roar,  
But Christ will bring thee safe on shore.

## **Welcome and Call to Worship**

**Leader:** *The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty;  
the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.*

**People:** ***Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.  
Your throne is established from of old;  
you are from everlasting.***

**Leader:** *The floods have lifted up, O LORD,  
the floods have lifted up their voice;  
the floods lift up their roaring.*

**People:** ***Mightier than the thunders of many waters,  
mightier than the waves of the sea,  
the LORD on high is mighty!  
Your decrees are very trustworthy;  
holiness befits your house,  
O LORD, forevermore.***

## 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*

## Advent Reading

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.  
You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil.  
For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder,  
the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.  
For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult  
and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.  
For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

*Isaiah 9:2-6*

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

*Please read together.*

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

### ***Depth of Mercy***

*Words: Charles Wesley  
Music: Jeff Koonce, Clint  
Wells, Brian T. Murphy  
© 2003 Red Mountain  
Music*

# **We confess our sin and receive grace**

## **Confession of Sin**

Generous God, You sent us the Spirit of courage, but we act out of fear.  
You sent us the Spirit of truth, but we often trust lies instead.  
You sent us the Spirit of healing, but we cannot let go of our hurts.  
Now our hearts are suspicious, our minds are confused, and our faith is timid.

Hear our confession, and come near to us with mercy.  
We hold out to You all our particular burdens of guilt and sin.  
Help us rest in Your forgiveness, and rejoice in Your power to change sinners.  
Teach us to love You with our whole being, and to walk in Your ways. Amen.

## **Silent Confession**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.  
The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

## **Song of Renewal**

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

*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

New Member Vows - Steven and Shannon Williams

Baptism - Shannon Williams

## Offering

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

## Song of Preparation

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.

*chorus*

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
and death's dark shadows put to flight.

*chorus*

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
in one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
and be Thyself our King of Peace.

*chorus (x2)*

### ***O Come O Come Emmanuel***

*Composed of several anonymous antiphons written in the 12th century, set to VENI EMMANUEL, a 15th century processional, and arranged by Thomas Helmore in the 19th century*

*Public domain*

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

***Philippians 2:6-7***

***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

*6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.*

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

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.  
When other helpers, fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head, in early youth did smile;  
And, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,  
Thou hast not left me, oft as I left Thee,  
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence, every passing hour.  
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless,  
Ills have no weight, tears lose their bitterness.  
Where is thy sting death? Where grave thy victory?  
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold up Thy cross, before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks,  
and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

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

### **Abide With Me**

*Words: Henry Lyte, alt by Justin Smith*

*Music: Justin Smith  
© 2007 Justin Smith Music*

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

### ***Days of Elijah***

*Words and music:  
Robin Mark  
© 1996 Daybreak Music*

*This song has plenty of rich  
imagery from Scripture.  
For Moses and Elijah in  
connection with the day of  
the Lord and Jesus see  
Malachi 4:4-6, Matthew  
11:13-14, and Matthew  
17:1-13.  
For Jesus coming with the  
trumpet call see 1 Thessalo-  
nians 4:16.  
For the year of Jubilee, see  
Leviticus 25:10-12.  
For the dry bones coming  
alive see Ezekiel 37:1-14.  
For the harvest and fields  
see Matthew 9:37-38 and  
John 4:35-36.*

# God sends us out refreshed

## **Song of Rejoicing**

These are the days of Elijah,  
declaring the word of the Lord.  
And these are the days of Your servant Moses,  
righteousness being restored.

And though these are days of great trials,  
of famine and darkness and sword,  
Still we are the voice in the desert crying,  
“Prepare ye the way of the Lord!”

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds,  
Shining like the sun at the trumpet call!  
Lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee  
And out of Zion's hill salvation comes.

And these are the days of Ezekiel,  
the dry bones becoming as flesh.  
And these are the days of Your servant, David,  
rebuilding a temple of praise.

And these are the days of the harvest,  
the fields are as white in Your world,  
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard,  
declaring the word of the Lord.

*chorus*

There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah  
There's no God like Jehovah  
*repeat*

*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**

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### **Staff**

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