

June 24, 2018

God wants us to come to him empty-handed, weary, and heavy-laden.

Instinctively we want to get rid of our helplessness before we come to God.

- Paul Miller

God gathers us together for worship

Worship in Song

"Jesus Everlasting King"

Words: Isaac Watts, alt. Matthew Smith | Music: Matthew Smith © 2003 detuned radio music

Psalm 5:1-2, 4, 7, 11-12

Call to Worship

Leader: Give ear to my words, O LORD; consider my groaning.

Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray. For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you.

People: But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house.

I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.

Leader: Let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy,

and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.

People: For you bless the righteous, O LORD;

you cover him with favor as with a shield.

Worship in Song

"Our God"

Words and music: C. Tomlin, J. Reeves, J. Myrin, M. Redman © 2010 Atlas Mountain Songs, etc. This is a time to be honest with God about our sin and ask Him for forgiveness through Jesus.

Confession and Assurance

O God, You never turn away from a broken and repentant heart, so I confess my sin to You:

Success feeds my pride; need grows my envy.

I resist authorities in my life; I use my power to serve myself.

I want to love and trust You fully,

but many times fear overtakes me, and I run away.

Father, forgive my sins; cleanse me and refresh me with Your grace.
I praise You for redemption through Christ and new life through the Spirit.
Please lead me in Your light, strengthen my faith, and make me more like Jesus. Amen.

- silent confession -

Romans 5:1

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Worship in Song

"How Deep the Father's Love For Us"

Having been reconciled with God through Christ, we can share peace with one another and participate in His work.

Words and music: Stuart Townend

© 1995 Thankyou Music

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

New member vows: Robin Phillips

Scripture Reading

Luke 15:11-32

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God!**

Words: Joseph Hart Music: Hiram Ring © Pageant Music

Offering, Worship in Song

"Come Holy Spirit, Come"

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon Genesis 43

Now the famine was severe in the land. 2 And when they had eaten the grain that they had brought from Egypt, their father said to them, "Go again, buy us a little food." 3 But Judah said to him, "The man solemnly warned us, saying, 'You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.' 4 If you will send our brother with us, we will go down and buy you food. 5 But if you will not send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us, 'You shall not see my face, unless your brother is with you." 6 Israel said, "Why did you treat me so badly as to tell the man that you had another brother?" 7 They replied, "The man questioned us carefully about ourselves and our kindred, saying, 'Is your father still alive? Do you have another brother?' What we told him was in answer to these questions. Could we in any way know that he would say, 'Bring your brother down'?" 8 And Judah said to Israel his father, "Send the boy with me, and we will arise and go, that we may live and not die, both we and you and also our little ones. 9 I will be a pledge of his safety. From my hand you shall require him. If I do not bring him back to you and set him before you, then let me bear the blame forever. 10 If we had not delayed, we would now have returned twice."

11 Then their father Israel said to them, "If it must be so, then do this: take some of the choice fruits of the land in your bags, and carry a present down to the man, a little balm and a little honey, gum, myrrh, pistachio nuts, and almonds. 12 Take double the money with you. Carry back with you the money that was returned in the mouth of your sacks. Perhaps it was an oversight. 13 Take also your brother, and arise, go again to the man. 14 May God Almighty grant you mercy before the man, and may he send back your other brother and Benjamin. And as for me, if I am bereaved of my children, I am bereaved."

15 So the men took this present, and they took double the money with them, and Benjamin. They arose and went down to Egypt and stood before Joseph.

16 When Joseph saw Benjamin with them, he said to the steward of his house, "Bring the men into the house, and slaughter an animal and make ready, for the men are to dine with me at noon." 17 The man did as Joseph told him and brought the men to Joseph's house. 18 And the men were afraid because they were brought to Joseph's house, and they said, "It is because of the money, which was replaced in our sacks the first time, that we are brought in, so that he may assault us and fall upon us to make us servants and seize our donkeys." 19 So they went up to the steward of Joseph's house and spoke with him at the door of the house, 20 and said, "Oh, my lord, we came down the first time to buy food. 21 And when we came to the lodging place we opened our sacks, and there was each man's money in the mouth of his sack, our money in full weight. So we have brought it again with us, 22 and we have brought other money down with us to buy food. We do not know who put our money in our sacks." 23 He replied, "Peace to you, do not be afraid. Your God and the God of your father has put treasure in your sacks for you. I received your money." Then he brought Simeon out to them. 24 And when the man had brought the men into Joseph's house and given them water, and they had washed their feet, and when he had given their donkeys fodder, 25 they prepared the present for Joseph's coming at noon, for they heard that they should eat bread there.

26 When Joseph came home, they brought into the house to him the present that they had with them and bowed down to him to the ground. 27 And he inquired about their welfare and said, "Is your father well, the old man of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?" 28 They said, "Your servant our father is well; he is still alive." And they bowed their heads and prostrated themselves. 29 And he lifted up his eyes and saw his brother Benjamin, his mother's son, and said, "Is this your youngest brother, of whom you spoke to me? God be gracious to you, my son!" 30 Then Joseph hurried out, for his compassion grew warm for his brother, and he sought a place to weep. And he entered his chamber and wept there. 31 Then he washed his face and came out. And controlling himself he said, "Serve the food." 32 They served him by himself, and them by themselves, and the Egyptians who ate with him by themselves, because the Egyptians could not eat with the Hebrews, for that is an abomination to the Egyptians. 33 And they sat before him, the firstborn according to his birthright and the youngest according to his youth. And the men looked at one another in amazement. 34 Portions were taken to them from Joseph's table, but Benjamin's portion was five times as much as any of theirs. And they drank and were merry with him.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

People: Praise be to God!

Isaiah 40:8

Today's sermon is given by Senior Pastor Matt Lorish.

1 Corinthians 11:23b-26

Gluten and nut-free wafers can be found in the wooden boxes.

At the front right of the room stands a person ready to pray with and for you.

Words: Isaac Watts, Kirk Ward; Music: Kirk Ward © 2005 Kirk Ward Music

Words: Megan Pettipoole, David Potter | Music: Luke and Megan Pettipoole ©2015

The Lord's Supper

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.

Worship in Song

"Jesus My Great High Priest"

"Swallowed Up Death"

Benediction

About

Northside Church of Richmond is a church of the James River Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America (www.pcanet.org), planted in Oct 2011.

Worship Service

Held every Sunday at 4pm in the fellowship hall of Battery Park Christian Church, on the corner of Brook and Bellevue. Visitors are always welcome!

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