



# northside church

## OF RICHMOND

***December 2, 2012***

### **Meditations**

A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic - on the level with a man who says he is a poached egg - or he would be the devil of hell. You must take your choice. Either this was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us.

- C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

*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

## **10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)**

Words and music:  
Matt Redman, Jonas Myrin  
© 2011 Thankyou Music

*Psalm 103:1-5*

CCLI #: 11107331

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

## **Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15**

*Please stand if able.*

## **Song of Gathering**

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,  
It's time to sing Your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul,  
Worship His Holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul.  
I'll worship Your Holy name!

You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger.  
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

*chorus*

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near and my time has come.  
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending,  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

*chorus*

## **Welcome and Call to Worship**

**Leader:** *It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,  
to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.*

**People:** *For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.*

**Leader:** *The righteous flourish like the palm tree  
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.  
They are planted in the house of the LORD;  
they flourish in the courts of our God.*

**People:** *They still bear fruit in old age;  
they are ever full of sap and green,  
to declare that the LORD is upright;  
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.*

## 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*

## Advent Reading

*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.*

....

*(John bore witness about him, and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.'") For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace.*

....

*And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

***John 1:5-9, 15-16, 19-21***

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

*Please read together.*

***Daniel 9:9, 18***

***Mighty To Save***

*Words and music: Reuben  
Morgan, Ben Fielding  
© 2006 Hillsong Publishing*

*Hebrews 2:10, Ezekiel 38:20*

# We confess our sin and receive grace

## Confession of Sin

Almighty God, together we confess that our attitudes and actions often do not reflect You.  
We strive for recognition and acclaim from others, growing bitter if we do not get it.  
We are preoccupied with our own concerns, ignoring others except when it serves our purposes.  
And our worship of You recedes when circumstances turn difficult.

Together we repent from our sins and turn to you alone for forgiveness.  
Jesus, teach us that we only achieve greatness by giving our lives away.  
Spirit, renew our heart and will, and conform us to the likeness of Christ,  
Father, be glorified in our lives. Amen.

## Silent Confession

## Assurance of Pardon

*The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against Him . . .  
We do not make requests of You because we are righteous, but because of Your great mercy.*

## Song of Renewal

Everyone needs compassion,  
love that's never failing.  
Let mercy fall on me.  
Everyone needs forgiveness,  
the kindness of a Savior,  
The hope of nations.

Savior, He can move the mountains,  
My God is mighty to save,  
He is mighty to save!  
Forever, Author of salvation  
He rose and conquered the grave,  
Jesus conquered the grave!

So take me as You find me,  
all my fears and failures.  
Fill my life again.  
I give my life to follow,  
everything I believe in.  
Now I surrender.

*chorus*

Shine your light and let the whole world see.  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus.  
Shine your light and let the whole world see.  
We're singing for the glory of the risen King, Jesus.

*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: Christ School - Bundibugyo, Uganda

The Northside: Young Men's Academy - outreach to middle school boys

Our church: New Members Seminar - Jan 4th-6th

## 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 to provide 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

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

Come to earth to taste our sadness,  
He whose glories knew no end;  
by His life He brings us gladness,  
our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number,  
born within a cattle stall;  
this the everlasting wonder,  
Christ was born the Lord of all.

Joy to those who long to see Thee,  
Dayspring from on high, appear;  
come, Thou promised Rod of Jesse,  
of Thy birth we long to hear!  
O'er the hills the angels singing news,  
glad tidings of a birth;  
"Go to Him, your praises bringing;  
Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Born Thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone,  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to Thy glorious throne.

### ***Come Thou Long Expected Jesus***

*Words: Charles Wesley  
Music: Rowland Pritchard  
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

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost, but now I'm found,  
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
And grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear,  
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come,  
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
And grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me.  
His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be,  
As long as life endures.

Yea, when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
And mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil,  
A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
Bright shining as the sun.  
We've no less days to sing God's praise,  
Than when we'd first begun.

*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.*

## Amazing Grace

*Words by John Newton  
and John Rees (v.6)  
Traditional American tune  
Public domain*

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

### ***On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand***

*Words: Samuel Stennet  
Music: Christopher Miner  
© 1997 Christopher Miner  
Music*

*In this song the Christian  
journey is compared to  
the Israelites' anticipated  
entrance to the promised  
land of Canaan on the other  
side of the Jordan River. The  
Israelites had endured many  
hardships while waiting for  
God to fulfill his promises of  
land and rest.*

*Similarly, though we face  
difficulties and tests of faith  
in this life, in Christ we can  
look forward in faith to the  
time when God's promises  
will come to fruition.*

# God sends us out refreshed

## **Song of Rejoicing**

On Jordan's stormy banks I stand,  
and cast a wishful eye,  
To Canaan's fair and happy land,  
where my possessions lie.

All o'er those wide extended plains,  
shines one eternal day.  
There God, the Son forever reigns,  
and scatters night away.

I am bound, (I am bound)  
I am bound, (I am bound)  
I am bound for the promised land.  
I am bound, (I am bound)  
I am bound, (I am bound)  
I am bound for the promised land.

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath,  
can reach that healthful shore,  
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death,  
are felt and feared no more.

*chorus*

When shall I reach that happy place,  
and be forever blest?  
When shall I see my Father's face,  
and in His bosom rest?

*chorus (x2)*

## **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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