



# northside church

OF RICHMOND

*September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2012*

## **Meditations**

"The only way to survive in prison is to abandon all expectations in this world and live for the next."

- Alexander Solzhenitsyn

*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.*

## ***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 95:1-6**

*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.

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

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

Leader: *Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*

**People:** *Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!*

Leader: *For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.*

**People:** *In his hand are the depths of the earth;  
the heights of the mountains are his also.*

Leader: *The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands formed the dry land.*

**People:** *Oh come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!*

## Song of Praise

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.

**Every Ditch, Every Valley**

Words and music:  
Peter La Grand  
©2008

Isaiah 40

## Scripture Reading

*But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he went on his way, he approached Damascus, and suddenly a light from heaven shone around him. And falling to the ground he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?" And he said, "Who are you, Lord?" And he said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But rise and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." The men who were traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. Saul rose from the ground, and although his eyes were opened, he saw nothing. So they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. And for three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.*

*Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." And the Lord said to him, "Rise and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul, for behold, he is praying, and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints at Jerusalem. And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on your name." But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of mine to carry my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel.*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**Acts 9:1-15**

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

*Please read together.*

*2 Corinthians 5:21*

*In Christ Alone*

*Words and music:  
Keith Getty & Stuart Townend  
© 2002 Thankyou Music*

# We confess our sin and receive grace

## Confession of Sin

Generous God, You sent us the Spirit of courage, but we have been afraid.  
You sent us the Spirit of truth, but we cling to our illusions.  
You sent us the Spirit of healing, but we cannot let go of our hurts.  
Now our hearts are full of suspicion, our minds are confused, our faith is timid.

Hear our confession, and come near to us again.  
We hold out to You all our particular burdens of guilt and sin.  
Help us rest in Your forgiveness of sin, 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

*For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin,  
so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

## Song of Renewal

In Christ alone my hope is found,  
He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This Cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
'Til on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied.  
For every sin on Him was laid,  
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave He rose again.  
And as He stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,  
For I am His and He is mine,  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
This is the power of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No power of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand.  
'Til He returns or calls me home,  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

# 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: Young Lives, a ministry to teenage mothers

Our church: Northside Groups, which relaunch this week

## Offering

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

## Song of Preparation

We love our God,  
He always hears us when we cry,  
His peace is so complete,  
His love is so divine.

We love our God,  
we'll live and die to see His fame,  
There's nothing greater than  
the glory of His Name.

Sing a song (sing a song)  
of praise unto the Lord,  
Sing a song (sing a song)  
of praise unto the Lord,  
Sing a song (sing a song)  
of praise unto the Lord,  
He will hold us in His love forevermore.

*chorus*

We love our God,  
we long to see His Kingdom come,  
And on that day then  
every nation, tribe, and tongue will . . .

*chorus (x2)*

He will hold us in His love forevermore.

### *We Love Our God*

*Words and music: Ross King  
© 1996 Ross King*

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

***Philippians 1:1***

***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

*1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,  
To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:*

**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

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,  
just to take Him at His Word;  
Just to rest upon His promise,  
just to know, "Thus saith the Lord!"

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!  
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er  
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!  
O for grace to trust Him more!

O how sweet to trust in Jesus,  
Just to trust His cleansing blood;  
And in simple faith to plunge me  
'Neath the healing, cleansing flood!

*chorus*

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,  
Just from sin and self to cease;  
Just from Jesus simply taking  
Life and rest, and joy and peace.

*chorus*

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee,  
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;  
And I know that You are with me,  
Will be with me to the end.

*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.*

**'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus**

*Words: Louisa Stead  
Music: William Kirkpatrick  
Public domain*

# God sends us out refreshed

## *Before I Knew*

*Words and music: Kirk Ward  
© 2002 Kirk Ward Music*

## Song of Rejoicing

Before I knew what freedom was,  
Jesus set me free.

With no control, a slave to sin,  
God was my enemy.

But then He broke my rusty chains  
to share eternity.

Before I knew what freedom was,  
Jesus set me free.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
Hallelujah, Jesus set me free!

Before I knew what loving was,  
He showed His love for me.  
He knew me in my mother's womb,  
He knew my sinful tendencies.

Adopted by His saving grace  
into His family.

Before I knew what loving was,  
He showed His love for me.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
Hallelujah, He showed His love for me!

Before I knew what living was,  
He gave His life for me.  
I was defeated in my sins,  
death had the victory.  
Then all my guilt was placed on Him,  
That day on Calvary.  
Before I knew what living was,  
He gave His life for me.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
Hallelujah, He gave His life for me!

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,  
Hallelujah, Jesus set me free!

## 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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