

December 30, 2018

Prayer is the helpless and needy child crying to the compassion of the Father's heart and the bounty and power of a Father's hand.

- E. M. Bounds

God gathers us together for worship

Worship in Song

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Words and music: John Francis Wade Public domain

Call to Worship

Leader: "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

for he has visited and redeemed his people

and has raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David,

as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

that we should be saved from our enemies

and from the hand of all who hate us;

to show the mercy promised to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant,

the oath that he swore to our father Abraham,

to grant us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,

might serve him without fear,

in holiness and righteousness before him all our days."

Luke 1:68-75

Zechariah the priest declares that God's promises of salvation and redemption were coming true in the birth of Jesus.

Worship in Song

"All Who Call"

Words and music: Josh Davis
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This is a time to be honest with God about our sin and ask Him for forgiveness through Jesus.

Confession and Assurance

God of holiness and compassion, we come to You in need of forgiveness.

Mary willingly became the mother of Jesus; forgive our disobedience.

Jesus was born in poverty in a manger; forgive our greed for earthy treasure.

The shepherds joyfully went to Bethlehem; forgive our self-interest and weak worship.

The wise men followed the prophecies and the star; forgive our reluctance to seek You.

Jesus Christ, Light of the world, drive out the darkness in our hearts!

Praise You for giving forgiveness and new life to all who repent and believe.

Give us grace to follow You and look for Your second coming. Amen.

- silent confession -

Galatians 4:4-5

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Words and music: Mike Guglielmucci © 2007 Planet Shakers Publishing

Worship in Song

"Healer"

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

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

Update and prayer: Winter Wednesdays

Scripture Reading

Matthew 8:1-3

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

Words and music: J. Smith,P. Baloche, A. Rozier | © 2016 Be Essential Songs, et al

Offering, Worship in Song

"Your Mercy"

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon

14 And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. 15 And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. 16 And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" 17 And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. 18 And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." 19 And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." 20 And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. 21 And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. 22 And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." 23 And Jesus said to him, "'If you can'! All things are possible for one who believes." 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" 25 And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." 26 And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. 28 And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" 29 And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

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

People: Praise be to God!

Mark 9:14-29

Isaiah 40:8

Today's sermon is given by Randy Nabors, Founder and Pastor Emeritus of New City Fellowship in Chattanooga, TN and Urban & Mercy Ministries Coordinator for Mission to North America for the PCA.

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 and music: Kari Jobe
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Words: Samuel Stennet; Music: Christopher Miner © 1997 Christopher Miner Music

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

"No Sweeter Name"

"On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand"

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!

Contact

P.O. Box 26175 / Richmond, VA 23260 www.northsidechurchrva.org / 804.516.3322

Staff

Matt Lorish - Senior Pastor matt@northsidechurchrva.org

Joel Passmore - Associate Pastor, Worship Director joel@northsidechurchrva.org

Nii Aryee - Director of Community Engagement nii@northsidechurchrva.org

Charity Smith - Ministry Staff charity@northsidechurchrva.org

Corinne Tucker - Ministry Staff, Administrative Assistant corinne@northsidechurchrva.org

Lexy George - Children's Ministry Coordinator lexygirl19@yahoo.com