

northside church

March 22, 2015

Meditation

The Old Testament did reveal that God had a purpose for the Gentiles. It promised, for example, that all the families of the earth would be blessed through Abraham's posterity. . . . But what neither the Old Testament nor Jesus revealed was the radical nature of God's plan, which was that the theocracy (the Jewish nation under God's rule) would be terminated, and replaced by a new international community, the church; that this church would be 'the body of Christ', organically united to him; and that Jews and Gentiles would be incorporated into Christ and his church on equal terms without any distinction. It was this complete union of Jews, Gentiles and Christ which was radically new, and which God revealed to Paul, overcoming his entrenched Jewish prejudice.

John Stott

Readings to help you prepare to worship, as Jesus said, "in spirit and in truth."

When you hear the first song begin, please come take a seat.

God is present with us in worship, and we ask Him to turn our hearts and minds toward Him.

Just a Little Talk With Iesus

Words and music: Rev. Cleavant Derricks Public domain

CCLI#: 11107331

We gather in the presence of God

Song of Gathering

I once was lost in sin, but Jesus took me in.

Then a little light from heaven healed my soul.

Well He bathed my heart in love, and He wrote my name above.

Just a little talk with Jesus makes it right.

We'll just have a little talk with Jesus, And we'll tell him all about out troubles. He will hear our faintest cry, He will answer by and by. When you feel a little prayerful yearning, You will know a little fire is burning. Just a little talk with Jesus makes it right. You may have doubts and fears,
And your eyes be filled with tears,
But Jesus is a friend who watches day and night.
He wrote my name above,
And he bathed my heart in love.
Just a little talk with Jesus makes it right.

chorus

Welcome and Call to Worship

Psalm 145:14-21

Leader: The LORD upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.

Please stand if able.

People: The eyes of all look to you,

and you give them their food in due season.

Leader: You open your hand;

you satisfy the desire of every living thing.

People: The LORD is righteous in all his ways

and kind in all his works.

Leader: The LORD is near to all who call on him,

to all who call on him in truth.

People: He fulfills the desire of those who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.

Leader: The LORD preserves all who love him,

but all the wicked he will destroy.

People: My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,

and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

Song of Praise

You are the God who loves, You are the God who listens, I cast my cares at Your feet. You are the God who hears, You are the God who answers, You know just what I need.

> Abba, Father, You are near to all who call upon Your name. Savior, Healer, You are near to all who call upon Your name.

You are the God who loves, You are the God who listens, I cast my cares at Your feet. You are the God who hears, You are the God who answers, You know just what I need.

chorus (x2)

Nothing is impossible for You. Heaven and earth are at Your command. Nothing is impossible for You. You are the great I AM.

repeat

chorus (x2)

Scripture Reading

"As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' And I answered, 'Who are you, Lord?' And he said to me, 'I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.' Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. And I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.' And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus.

"And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, came to me, and standing by me said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight.' And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. And he said, 'The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'

"When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance and saw him saying to me, Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.' And I said, 'Lord, they themselves know that in one synagogue after another I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being shed, I myself was standing by and approving and watching over the garments of those who killed him.' And he said to me, 'Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.""

Up to this word they listened to him. Then they raised their voices and said, "Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live." And as they were shouting and throwing off their cloaks and flinging dust into the air, the tribune ordered him to be brought into the barracks, saying that he should be examined by flogging, to find out why they were shouting against him like this.

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

All Who Call

Words and music: Josh Davis ©Proskuneo Ministries, Inc.

Psalm 145:18 Romans 10:12-13 Luke 1:37

Acts 22:6-24

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

Please read together.

We confess our sin and receive grace

Confession of Sin

O Lord our God, You know us better than we know ourselves, and nothing is hidden from You.

Though we call You our Lord, we act as if we are still in charge.

Though we call You our Treasure, we hoard and idolize our possessions.

Though we call You our Savior, we pretend like we can handle our own problems.

Give us true repentance, and forgive us all our sins.

Restore us and transform us by Your Spirit to live as we ought:

Loving You wholeheartedly, and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

For our sake and for Your glory. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

This is how God showed His love among us:

He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him.

Great God From Thee

1 Iohn 4:9

Words: John Newton Music: Justin Smith ©2007 Iustin Smith Music

Song of Renewal

Great God from Thee there's nought concealed, Thou seest my inward frame. To Thee I always stand revealed, exactly as I am.

Since I can hardly therefore bear, What in myself I see, How vile and dark must I appear, Most holy God to Thee?

But since my Savior stands between, In garments dyed in blood, 'Tis He instead of me is seen, When I approach to God.

Thus though a sinner, I am safe, He pleads before the throne, His life and death in my behalf, And calls my sins His own.

> What wondrous love, what mysteries, In this appointment shine: My breaches of the law are His, And His obedience mine!

Great God from Thee there's nought concealed, Thou seest my inward frame. To Thee I always stand revealed, exactly as I am.

What wondrous love, what mysteries, In this appointment shine: My breaches of the law are His, And His obedience mine!

We respond to the grace received

Being set right with God enables us to participate in his work.

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

Ministry Update - P.D. and Kelli Mayfield

Offering

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

Song of Preparation

Because of His great love, We are not overcome! Because of His great love, We are not overcome!

Flesh will fail, and bones will break; Thieves will steal, the earth will shake. Night will fall, the light will fade; The Lord will give and take away.

chorus

Put no trust in the earth, In the sod you stand upon. Flowers fade into dust; The Lord will make a place for us.

chorus

Have no fear for your life, Turn your cheek, turn your cheek. Bear the yoke of love and death, The Lord will give life and breath.

chorus (x2)

We Are Not Overcome

Words and music: Isaac Wardell, Robert Heiskell © 2011

Lamentations 3

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

God feeds us with His Word Sermon Text

Ephesians 3:1-6

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Isaiah 40:8

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

Today's sermon is given by Pastor Matt Lorish.

People: Praise be to God!

Sermon

this space to take notes or write questions.

We encourage you to use

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Parents who would like for their nursery-aged children to be prayed for during communion should pick them up at this time.

1 Corinthians 11:23b-26

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

Gluten-free wafers are located in the wooden boxes. If you would like, a communion distributor will pray for your children. At the back of the fellowship hall is someone ready to pray with and for you.

As others take communion please feel free to pray, sing along, or talk quietly with your neighbor.

Song of Communion

Bread of heaven, sent down from glory, Many things you were on Earth: A Holy King, a carpenter. You are the living Word.

repeat

Awesome Ruler, gentle Redeemer, God with us, the Living Truth, And what a friend we have in You. You are the living Word.

repeat

Jesus, Jesus - that's what we call You, Manger born, put on a tree, You died to save humanity. You are the living Word!

repeat

You Are the Living Word

Words and music: Fred Hammond, Noel Hall © 2000 Bridge Building Music, Zomba Songs

John 1:1, 6:35 Matthew 21:5 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 life is compared to when the Israelites looked forward to entering the promised land of Canaan on the other side of the Jordan River. They had endured many hardships while waiting for God to fulfill his promises of land and rest. Though we endure difficulties in this life, in Christ we look forward with hope to 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), planted in October 2011.

Worship Service

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

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