

NORTH SIDE



NEVER STOP EXPLORING

April 1st, 2012

Meditations

"The Apostle's Creed reminds us that he suffered, died, was buried, descended into hell, and on the third day rose again. The life with which we identify in baptism is, therefore, a life of suffering, death, hell and resurrection. It is within the context of struggle, not success, where we should primarily meet the God who comes to us as the Suffering Servant."

- David Benner, *Care of Souls*

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.

How Sweet the Name

Words: John Newton
Music: Alexander Reinagle
Arrangement: Bill Moore
© Bill Moore Music

CCLI #: 11107331

A recognition of the presence of God among us, which influences the posture of our hearts.

Isaiah 40:3-5,10-11

Please stand if able.

Song of Gathering

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrow, heals his wounds
And drives away his fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole,
And calms the troubled breast.
Tis manna to the hungry soul,
And to the weary rest.

Dear Name, the Rock on which I build
My Shield and Hiding Place,
My never-failing Treasury filled with
Boundless stores of grace.

Jesus, my Shepherd, Brother, Friend,
My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my Life, my Way, My End,
Accept the praise I bring.

We gather in the presence of God

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: *A voice cries:*
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

People: *Every valley shall be lifted up,*
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Leader: *And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,*
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

People: *Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,*
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

Leader: *He will tend his flock like a shepherd;*
he will gather the lambs in his arms;

People: *he will carry them in his bosom,*
and gently lead those that are with young.

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.

Scripture Reading

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs - heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Every Ditch, Every Valley

*Words and music:
Peter La Grand
©2008*

Romans 8:14-18

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

Please read together.

John 3:16

Depth of Mercy

*Words: Charles Wesley
Music: Jeff Koonce, Clint
Wells, Brian T. Murphy
© 2003 Red Mountain
Music*

We confess our sin and receive grace

Confession of Sin

Most merciful Father, we have sinned against and are guilty before You.

Forgive us for resentment, coldness, impatience, and tempers out of control;
for pining after beauty, comfort, status, and wealth other than what You have given us.
for hard-heartedness toward You and our neighbors;
for rebelling against Your Lordship, refusing Your care, and doubting Your love.

Now, Holy Father, kill our envy, remove our pride, melt our hearts.

Give us grace to be holy, kind, gentle, pure;
to labor for You and not for ourselves,
to be transformed into Your likeness, established in every good work and word,
to live wholly for Your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish
but have eternal life.*

Song of Renewal

Depth of mercy! Can there be
mercy still reserved for me?
Can my God His wrath forbear,
me, the chief of sinners, spare?
I have long withstood His grace,
long provoked Him to His face,
Would not hearken to His calls,
grieved Him by a thousand falls.

I have spilt His precious blood,
trampled on the Son of God,
Filled with pangs unspeakable,
I, who yet am not in hell!
I my Master have denied,
I afresh have crucified,
And profaned His hallowed Name,
put Him to an open shame.

Jesus speaks, and pleads His blood!
He disarms the wrath of God;
Now my Father's mercies move,
justice lingers into love.
There for me the Savior stands,
shows His wounds and spreads His hands.
God is love! I know, I feel;
Jesus weeps and loves me still.

Pity from Thine eye let fall,
by a look my soul recall;
Now the stone to flesh convert,
cast a look, and break my heart.
Now incline me to repent,
let me now my sins lament,
Now my foul revolt deplore,
weep, believe, and sin no more.

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

Work In Progress: Sam Vaughn

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 for 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

'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!"

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.

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!

chorus

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!

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

'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus

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

chorus

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

Matthew 5:10-12

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. Sermon
discussion is the primary
material of study in our
Northside Groups.*

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon Text

10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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.
You will circle the communion station with others in a group of about 6.
Gluten-free wafers are located in the wooden boxes; grape juice is available upon request.
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 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.

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.*

God sends us out refreshed

The Doxology

*Words: Thomas Ken
Music: Louis Bourgeois
Public domain*

Songs of Rejoicing

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

But For You Who Fear My Name

*Words: Leonard E. Smith
Jr., adapted from Malachi
4:2; 3:17
Music: Leonard E. Smith Jr.
© 1975 L.E. Smith Jr., New
Jerusalem Music*

But for you who fear My Name,
The Son of righteousness will rise
With healing in His wings.

And you shall go forth again,
And skip about like calves
Coming from their stalls at last.

You shall be My very own,
On the day that I
Cause you to be My special home.

I shall spare you as a man
Has compassion on his son
Who does the best he can.

*At the end of the service,
please pick up your children
from the nursery.*

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

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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