



northside church

OF RICHMOND

March 29, 2015

Meditation

My avoidance of grief meant that I avoided my life. The cost to “not feel” is very high. You lose your experience. Eventually, as you become more detached, you lose the ability to experience the bittersweet and then the sweet. You lose your life, trying to gain it.

When I was young, I somehow got Christianity backwards. I thought the resurrection meant that I don't have to face death. But the resurrection means that I can face death. I tried to make Christianity into a method to avoid pain. But Christianity is the opposite – a redemptive way to experience pain. Christianity is a way to die.

Christianity turns things upside down. Instead of full (and futile) flight from the reality of loss and death – we face it (and call it what it is) because we believe in the resurrection. Because of the resurrection, we can have the courage to tell the truth about loss and death. We grieve, not because we don't have hope, but because we do. - Roger Edwards

*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.

Jesus Everlasting King

Words: Isaac Watts
(alt. by Matthew Smith)
Music: Matthew Smith
© 2003 detuned radio music

Matthew 21:1-15

CCLI #: 11107331

Zechariah 9:9-10, 16-17

Please stand if able.

We gather in the presence of God

Song of Gathering

Jesus, everlasting King,
accept the tribute which we bring,
Accept the well-deserved renown
And wear our praises as Your crown.

O send Your Spirit to impart,
Rest and repentance to our hearts,
Like the dear hour when from above,
We first received Your pledge of love.

chorus

The gladness of redemption's day,
Our hearts would wish it long to stay,
Nor let our faith forsake its hold,
Nor comforts sink, or love grow cold.

chorus

May every time of worship see
Your grace revealed more rich and free,
Till we are raised to sing Your name
At the great supper of the Lamb.

chorus

O that the months would roll away,
And bring the coronation day.
The King of Grace shall fill the throne,
With all His Father's glories on.

chorus (x2)

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: *Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your King is coming to you;*

People: ***righteous and having salvation is He,
humble and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.***

Leader: *His rule shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.*

People: ***On that day the LORD their God will save them,
as the flock of His people;
for like the jewels of a crown they shall shine on His land.
For how great is His goodness, and how great His beauty!***

Song of Praise

All hail the power of Jesus' Name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal **diadem**,
and crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal **diadem**,
and crown Him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,
and crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him Who saves you by His grace,
and crown Him Lord of all!

Let ev'ry tribe and ev'ry tongue
to Him their hearts enthrall.
Lift high the universal song,
and crown Him Lord of all!
Lift high the universal song,
and crown Him Lord of all!

O that, with yonder sacred throng,
we at His feet may fall,
Join in the everlasting song,
and crown Him Lord of all!
Join in the everlasting song,
and crown Him Lord of all!

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

*Words: Edward Perronet,
John Rippon
Music: Oliver Holden
Public domain*

*A **diadem** is a crown worn
as a sign of royalty.*

Scripture Reading

When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and we greeted the brothers and stayed with them for one day. On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. He had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied. While we were staying for many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. And coming to us, he took Paul's belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, "Thus says the Holy Spirit, 'This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.'" When we heard this, we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, "What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." And since he would not be persuaded, we ceased and said, "Let the will of the Lord be done."

After these days we got ready and went up to Jerusalem. And some of the disciples from Caesarea went with us, bringing us to the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we should lodge.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Acts 21:7-16

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

Please read together.

John 3:16

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*Words: Robert Robinson
Music: Ashael Nettleton
Public domain*

“Ebenezer” means “stone of help.” It was the name of a monument to God’s faithfulness erected by Samuel, a judge of ancient Israel. See 1 Samuel 7:12.

A “fetter” is a chain or shackle placed on the feet.

We confess our sin and receive grace

Confession of Sin

Jesus, when You rode in Jerusalem on a donkey,
the adoring crowds waved palm branches and shouted “Hosanna!”
Then only a few days later they turned away and opposed You,
because You were not the type of King they had expected.

Under the conviction of Your Holy Spirit, we confess that we have acted like them -
ungrateful for Your blessings because they are not what we demand,
uncomfortable with Your authority in our lives and where that might lead us.

Forgive us our sins, and restore our communion with You.
By Your Holy Spirit, continue to renew us in Your image!
Help us boldly submit to Your rule and walk by faith,
producing the fruit of obedience and resting in Your provision and promises. 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

Come thou fount of ev’ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing Thy grace.
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount, I’m fixed upon it –
mount of God’s unchanging love.

Here I raise my **Ebenezer**,
hither by Thy help I’ve come;
And I hope by Thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand’ring from the fold of God.
He, to rescue me from danger,
interposed His precious blood.

O, to grace, how great a debtor,
daily I’m constrained to be.
Let that grace, now, like a **fetter**,
bind my wand’ring heart to Thee.

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it –
prone to leave the God I love.
Here’s my heart, Lord, take and seal it –
seal it for Thy courts above.

repeat

We respond to the grace received

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

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

Prayers of the People

The world: Tanisha Webster - serving with Serge in London

The Northside: Young Women's Academy - thankfulness for great launch

Our church: Mercy Response Team - getting started

Offering

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

Song of Preparation

Wisdom cries out in the street,
In the square she raises her voice.
At the center of town you can hear her speak,
Over all the other noise. She says:

"How long O simple ones?
How long will you ignore?
Wake up you walking dead,
Open your ears to the Lord!"

My child do not forget,
The path I show to you.
All other ways only lead to death,
Ways so easy to choose.

Trust in the Lord only,
With all your heart and mind.
Then you shall not stumble,
All that you seek you shall find.

"How long O simple ones?
How long will you ignore?
Wake up you walking dead,
Open your ears to the Lord!"

Wisdom cries out in the street,
In the square she raises her voice.

How Long?

*Words and music:
Peter La Grand
© 2008*

Proverbs 1-3

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

Ephesians 3:7-13

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

7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. 8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, 10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. 13 So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

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

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.

Song of Communion

I see the King of glory

Coming down the clouds with fire

The whole earth shakes, the whole earth shakes.

I see His love and mercy

Washing over all our sin

The people sing, the people sing.

Hosanna, Hosanna!

Hosanna in the highest!

Hosanna, Hosanna!

Hosanna in the highest!

I see a generation

Rising up to take their place

With selfless faith, with selfless faith.

I see a near revival

Stirring as we pray and seek

We're on our knees, we're on our knees.

chorus

Heal my heart and make it clean.

Open up my eyes to the things unseen.

Show me how to love like You have loved me.

Break my heart for what breaks Yours,

Everything I am for Your kingdom come.

As I walk from earth into eternity.

chorus (x2)

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

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

Hosanna

Words and music:

Brooke Ligertwood

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John 12:13

Mark 11:9-10

Matthew 21:9

We go forth to love and
serve God and neighbor.

God sends us out refreshed

Blessed Be Your Name

Words and music:
Matt and Beth Redman
© 2002 Thankyou Music

Job 1:21-22
Psalm 113:2-3
Daniel 2:20-23

Song of Rejoicing

Blessed be Your name
In the land that is plentiful,
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name.
Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord,
Still I will say,

Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your name!
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
Blessed be Your glorious name!

Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's all as it should be,
Blessed be Your name.
Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering,
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name.

Every blessing You pour out
I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord,
Still I will say,

chorus (x2)

You give and take away,
You give and take away,
My heart will choose to say
"Lord, blessed be Your name."

repeat

chorus

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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