



# northside church

OF RICHMOND

***October 6, 2013***

## **Meditations**

It is only when the rich are sick that they fully feel the impotence of wealth.

- Benjamin Franklin

*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. Declaring this together turns our hearts and minds toward Him.

### **Up On A Mountain**

Words, music: Vito Aiuto  
© New Jerusalem Music

CCLI #: 11107331

**Psalm 18:1-4, 6, 30-31**

*Please stand if able.*

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

## **Song of Gathering**

Up on a mountain our Lord is alone,  
Without a family, friends, or a home.  
He cries, "Oh, oh, oh, will you stay with me?"  
He cries, "Oh, oh, oh, will you wait with me?"

Up on a mountain our Lord is afraid,  
Carrying all the mistakes we have made.  
And He knew it's a long way down.  
Do you know it's a long way down?

Up in the heavens our Lord prays for you,  
He sends His Spirit to carry us through.  
So it's true that you're not alone.  
Do you know he came all the way down?

So it's true that you're not alone.  
Do you know he came all the way down?

## **Welcome and Call to Worship**

Leader: *I love you, O LORD, my strength.  
The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,  
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,  
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.*

**People:** *I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,  
and I am saved from my enemies.*

Leader: *In my distress I called upon the LORD;  
to my God I cried for help.*

**People:** *From his temple he heard my voice,  
and my cry to him reached his ears.*

Leader: *This God – his way is perfect;  
the word of the LORD proves true;  
he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.*

**People:** *For who is God, but the LORD?  
And who is a rock, except our God?*

## Song of Praise

From all that dwell below the skies  
Let the Creator's praise arise.  
Let the Redeemer's Name be sung,  
Through every land, by every tongue.

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord,  
And truth eternal is Thy Word.  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,  
Till suns shall rise and set no more.

In every land begin the song,  
To every land the strains belong.  
In cheerful sounds all voices raise,  
And fill the world with loudest praise.

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!  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

### *From All That Dwell Below the Skies*

*Words: Isaac Watts (v 1-2),  
Robert Spence (v 3), and  
Thomas Ken (v 4)  
Music: Alex Mejias  
© 2009 5PM Records.*

## Scripture Reading

*I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?*

*What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.*

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**1 Corinthians 3:2-9**

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

Please read together.

1 John 4:9

**Jesus! What a Friend for  
Sinners**

Words: Wilbur Chapman  
Music: Rowland Pritchard  
Public domain

# We confess our sin and receive grace

## Confession of Sin

Lord Jesus Christ, by Your steadfast love and atoning sacrifice,  
You took our place and proved Yourself to be the Friend of sinners.  
You were punished that we might be pardoned, and broken that we would be made whole.  
In Your resurrection You demonstrated Your power over death,  
and showed us our future - triumphant, redeemed, and blessed eternally.

While we await this, we have been faithless and anxious in heart.  
In our restlessness we have sought peace for our souls where there is none to be found.  
Apart from You, we find ourselves alone, tired, and worn. Forgive us, Savior!  
Renew our faith and restore to us the true rest You alone offer us. 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.*

## Song of Renewal

Jesus! What a friend for sinners!  
Jesus! Lover of my soul;  
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,  
He, my Savior, makes me whole.

Hallelujah! What a Savior!  
Hallelujah! What a friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! What a strength in weakness!  
Let me hide myself in Him.  
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,  
He, my strength, my victory wins.

Jesus! What a help in sorrow!  
While the billows over me roll,  
Even when my heart is breaking,  
He, my Comfort, helps my soul.

*chorus*

Jesus! I do now adore Him,  
more than all in Him I find.  
He hath granted me forgiveness,  
I am His, and He is mine.

*chorus*

*chorus*

# 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: Kevin and Katie Shaffer, church planting in London

The Northside: Young Men's Academy, Thursday night meetings with local middle school boys

Our church: Two Year Celebration Dinner, tonight at 7

*If you choose to pray aloud, please use a loud voice so that the congregation can hear and pray along with you.*

## 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

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,  
Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise!  
Triumph o'er the shades of night.

Dayspring from on high, be near.  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn  
Were it ever without Thee.  
Joyless is the day's return,  
Till Thy mercy's beams I see,

Till they inward light impart,  
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine!  
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!  
Fill me, radiance divine,  
Scatter all my unbelief.

More and more Thyself display,  
Shining to the perfect day.  
*repeat*

Dayspring from on high, be near.  
Daystar, in my heart appear.

### *Dayspring*

*Words: Charles Wesley*

*Music: Alex Mejias*

*© 2007 High Street Publishing*

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

# God feeds us with His Word

**Matthew 13:1-23**

## Sermon Text

*1 That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. 2 And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. 3 And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. 5 Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, 6 but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. 7 Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. 8 Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears, let him hear."*

*10 Then the disciples came and said to him, "Why do you speak to them in parables?" 11 And he answered them, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. 12 For to the one who has, more will be given, and he will have an abundance, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 13 This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. 14 Indeed, in their case the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled that says:*

*" "You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive."*

*15 For this people's heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.'*

*16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. 17 For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.*

*18 "Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."*

**Isaiah 40:8**

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

**People: Praise be to God!**

*Today's sermon is given by  
Pastor Matt Lorish.*

## Sermon

*We encourage you to use  
this space to take notes or  
write questions.*

# 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.*

## 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.**

**1 Corinthians 11:23b-26**

## 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

I have a Maker,  
He formed my heart.  
Before even time began,  
My life was in His hands.

He knows my name,  
He knows my every thought.  
He sees each tear that falls,  
and He hears me when I call.

I have a Maker,  
He formed my heart.  
Before even time began,  
My life was in His hands.

I have a Father,  
He calls me His own.  
He'll never leave me,  
No matter where I go.

*chorus*

### ***He Knows My Name***

*Words and music:  
Tommy Walker  
© 1996 Doulos Publishing*

We go forth to love and  
serve God and neighbor.

# God sends us out refreshed

## ***On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand***

Words: Samuel Stennet  
Music: Christopher Miner  
© 1997 Christopher Miner  
Music

*In this song the Christian journey is compared to the Israelites' anticipated entrance to 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. Similarly, though we face difficulties and tests of faith in this life, in Christ we can look forward to when God's promises will come to fruition.*

## **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](http://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!

### **Contact**

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