



northside church

OF RICHMOND

September 7, 2014

Meditation

Suffering is the frame, the context, where we learn to love. Sometimes it is a sucker punch - the phone call from the doctor or the note from the spouse - but most of the time it slips up on you, bit by bit, as it did Naomi and Ruth. Then comes the day when you realize that you hate your life, and you want out.

- Paul Miller, *A Loving Life*

*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.

**Every Ditch,
Every Valley**

Words and music:
Peter La Grand
©2008

Isaiah 40

CCLI #: 11107331

**Psalm 118:1, 14, 21-24,
28-29**

Please stand if able.

We gather in the presence of God

Song of Gathering

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.

Welcome and Call to Worship

Leader: *Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!*

**People: *The Lord is my strength and my song;
he has become my salvation.***

Leader: *I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.*

**People: *The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.***

Leader: *This is the Lord's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.*

**People: *This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.***

Leader: *You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.*

**People: *Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever!***

Song of Praise

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us, sing,
O praise him! Alleluia!

Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise him! Alleluia!

Thou rising moon, in praise, rejoice,
Ye lights of evening, find a voice,
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Let all things, their Creator, bless,
And worship him in humbleness,
O praise him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, three in one,
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

repeat

All Creatures of Our God and King

*Words: Francis of Assisi,
1225*

*Music: Peter von Brachel,
1623*

Public domain

Scripture Reading

When Joshua dismissed the people, the people of Israel went each to his inheritance to take possession of the land. And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work that the LORD had done for Israel. And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of 110 years. And they buried him within the boundaries of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, north of the mountain of Gaash. And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel.

And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the LORD and served the Baals. And they abandoned the LORD, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the LORD to anger.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Judges 2:6-12

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

Please read together.

Romans 5:1

Great God From Thee

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

We confess our sin and receive grace

Confession of Sin

A broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise,
So I confess that no matter what my condition, I am faced with my sin:
Am I successful? What a fuel for pride!
Am I in need? What an occasion for fear!
Am I gifted? See how I run after applause.
Am I weak? See how I despise what I do not have.
Am I in authority? I am prone to serve my own interests.
Am I lacking? I begrudge the blessing of God in the lives of others.
O Lord, forgive my sins, cleanse me, and renew me.
Humbly I ask You to lead me in Your light, and strengthen my faith,
For my sake and for Your glory. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

Prayers of the People

The world: Kevin and Katie Shaffer, transitioning back to Richmond

The Northside: Youth Life Foundation, mentors needed for new school year

Our church: Children going back to school

Offering

On the first Sunday of each month Northside collects an offering for the mercy fund using 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

Our mouths, they were filled, filled with laughter;

Our tongues, they were loosed, loosed with joy;

Restore us, O Lord! Restore us, O Lord!

Although we are weeping,
Lord help us keep sowing,
The seeds of Your Kingdom
for the day You will reap them!
Your sheaves we will carry,
Lord please do not tarry.
All those who sow weeping
will go out with songs of joy.

The nations will say, "He has done great things!"

The nations will sing songs of joy.

Restore us, O Lord! Restore us, O Lord!

chorus

Psalm 126

Words and music: unknown

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

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon Text

In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons. 2 The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. 3 But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4 These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years, 5 and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

6 Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the Lord had visited his people and given them food.

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

People: Praise be to God!

Ruth 1:1-6

Isaiah 40:8

*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

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

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

chorus

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.

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

Every Praise

*Words and music: Hezekiah
Walker, John David Bratton
© 2013 Li'l Eva Music*

Song of Rejoicing

Every praise is to our God,
Every word of worship with one accord!
Every praise, every praise is to our God!
Sing hallelujah to our God,
Glory hallelujah is due our God.
Every praise, every praise is to our God.

repeat

God my Savior!
God my Healer!
God my Deliverer!
Yes He is, yes He is!

repeat

Every praise is to our God,
Every word of worship with one accord!
Every praise, every praise...
is to our God!

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!

Contact

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

Staff

Matt Lorish - Pastor

matt@northsidechurchva.org

P.D. Mayfield - Assistant Pastor, Director of Urban Fellows

pd@northsidechurchva.org

Joel Passmore - Pastoral Intern, Worship Director

joel@northsidechurchva.org

Ashleigh Padgett - Administrative Assistant

ashleigh@northsidechurchva.org