



# renewing community

---

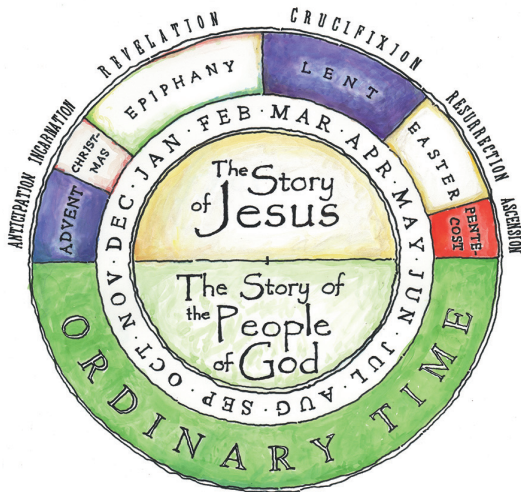
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2020

"You cannot have God for your Father  
unless you have the Church for your mother."

CYPRIAN OF CARTHAGE  
THIRD CENTURY

## SANCTUARY DECORATIONS

---



As followers of Jesus, we “tell time differently” with a calendar shaped by the story of God’s works of salvation and renewal. Not only do we mark the seasons of the Christian year through the readings and music in our worship service, we also use colors and textures to enrich our space and experience of worship.

In the season of Epiphany, we are focused on Jesus’ earthly life and mission to bring God’s kingdom to the whole world, reclaiming and renewing all things. Jesus’ life among the people of Israel reveals the complicated, beautiful nature of God, and in each aspect of Christ’s identity and calling we see glimpses of new life in Jesus.

Added to the white of Christmas (and Easter) are touches of many other colors, each one standing for one aspect of the kingdom of God revealed in Jesus: yellow and gold for the gifts of the Wise Men, signaling that Jesus came to claim people of every nation as his own; red and orange for the Holy Spirit that rested upon Christ to inaugurate his ministry; blue for the tassels of the rabbinical robe marking Jesus as our great teacher and High Priest; royal purple and pink for Jesus our King; green for new life and the role Jesus affirmed for ordinary people (the church) in the great mission of God; even black and brown to remind us of Jesus’ suffering and rejection. The many colors of Epiphany represent the whole, complex kingdom life that Christ brings into the world, and in this season we ask God to open our eyes to see him more and more in the multi-colored light of Jesus.

# GATHERING

---

*God gathers us all and calls us by his grace.*

**Prelude** "Prelude and Fugue in E Minor" Jeff Hummel  
(J. S. Bach)

## Welcome and Announcements

**Preparation for Worship** From Psalm 19:14

Leader: May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts  
be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer.

**People:** Amen.

## Silent Preparation for Worship

† **Call to Worship** From Psalm 118

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

**People:** His love endures forever.

Leader: Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.

**People:** The stone the builder rejected has become the capstone;  
the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

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

**People:** Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his love endures forever.

## Prayer of Adoration

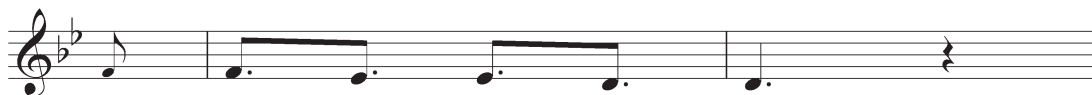
† **Songs of Praise** "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty" #538 in the Hymnal  
"Our Great God" Music on page 4

† *The cross indicates standing, as you are able.*

# OUR GREAT GOD



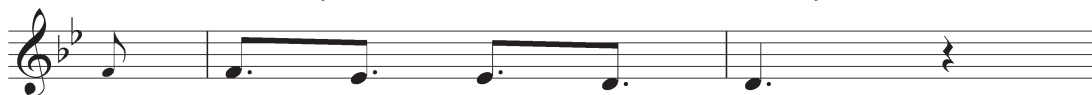
1. E - ter - nal God, un - chang - ing,  
 2. Lord, we are weak and frail,  
 3. Let ev' - ry crea - ture in the sea



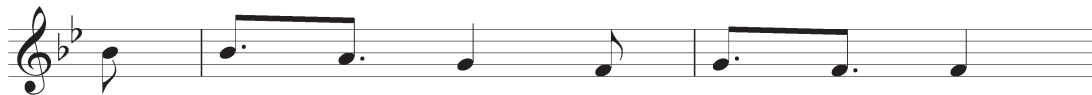
mys - te - rious and un - known;  
 --- help - less in the storm.  
 and ev' - ry fly - ing bird,



your bound - less love, un - fail - ing,  
 Sur - round us with your an - gels,  
 let ev' - ry moun - tain, ev' - ry field



--- grace and mer - cy shown.  
 --- hold us in your arms;  
 and val - ley of the earth;



Bright ser - a - phim in cease - less flight  
 our cold and ruth - less en - e - my,  
 let all the moons and all the stars



a - round your glo - ri - ous throne;  
 his pleas - ure is our harm.  
 in all the u - ni - verse

they raise their voices day and night  
 Rise up, O Lord, and he will flee  
 sing praises to the living God

in praise to you a lone.  
 be fore our sov reign God.  
 who rules them by his word.

CHORUS

Hal - le - lu - - jah! Glo - ry

be to our great God! Hal - le -

lu - - - jah! Glo - ry

be to our great God!

## CONFESSING

---

*God invites us to be honest with him about ourselves.*

### Prayer of Confession

Leader: God the Father of heaven,

**People: Have mercy on us.**

Leader: God the Son, Redeemer of the world,

**People: Have mercy on us.**

Leader: God the Holy Spirit,

**People: Have mercy on us.**

Leader: Holy Trinity, one God,

**People: Have mercy on us.**

Leader: From all evil, sin, and pride,

**People: Deliver us, O Holy Trinity.**

Leader: From all uncleanness, sloth, and love of riches,

**People: Deliver us, O Holy Trinity.**

Leader: From every thought, word and deed contrary to your will,

**People: Deliver us, O Holy Trinity.**

### Silent Confession

#### Words of Comfort

From Psalm 103:11–13

Leader: For as high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so great is his love for those who fear him.

**People: As far as the east is from the west,  
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.**

Leader: As a father has compassion on his children,  
so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## THANKSGIVING

---

---

### † Greeting of Peace

As a new spiritual family reconciled to one another through Christ, offer to one another a sign of peace: a handshake, a hug, or even just a smile. You could say something simple like "Peace be with you," or just simply, "Peace."

### Our Offerings

From 1 Chronicles 29:14

Leader: Lord, who are we that we are able to give so generously?

**People: For all things come from you  
and what we now offer is already yours.**

Please pray for our mission partner Rollin Grams as he seeks to prepare and equip current and future ministry leaders in Africa through theological education based at the Stellenbosch Theological Institute, South Africa.

### Video: Interview with the Metcalfs / Rivers

### † Glory Be to the Father

***Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.***

## PROCLAIMING

---

*God speaks to us through his word.*

### **Scripture Reading**

Ephesians 2:18–22

<sup>18</sup> For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

<sup>19</sup> Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, <sup>20</sup> built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. <sup>21</sup> In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup> And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

**Leader:** This is the word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God!**





## RESPONDING

---

*We respond to God's word.*

### **Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Everyone: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Holy and merciful God, our Father,  
you have made us in your image and for yourself.  
You have made this good world for us to tend and to enjoy.  
God, our Father,

**People: Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**

Leader: You sought your ancient people when they strayed from you.  
You freed them from the oppressor and brought them home.  
God, our Father,

**People: Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**

Leader: You have sent your Son to bring us home to you.  
By his Incarnation—

**People: You have found us.**

Leader: By his Death—

**People: You have forgiven us.**

Leader: By his Resurrection—

**People: You have freed us.**

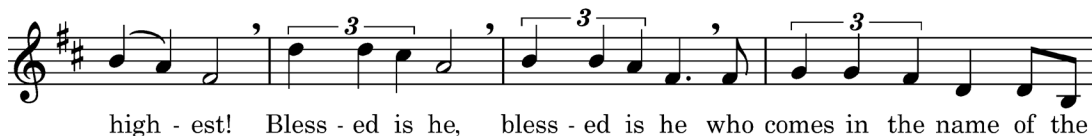
Leader: God, our Father,

**People: Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**

## RESPONDING

---

Leader: In union with Jesus Christ of Nazareth, our Great High Priest, and with all who worship you, both in heaven and on earth, we offer you our praise, singing:



Words: Sanctus; Music © 2017 Kim Taulbee

## RESPONDING

---

---

### Words of Institution

From 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

“The Lord Jesus, on the night 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, after supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.”

Leader: Holy and merciful God, our Father, send down your Holy Spirit on our bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ, and on your people, that we may be the body of Christ, reconciled to you and to each other by his blood. By your Holy Spirit make us—

**People: One with Christ,  
one with each other,  
and one in mission to all the world,**

Leader: Until Christ shall come in final victory  
and we feast together at his heavenly banquet. We cry,

**People: Maranatha! Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen!**

## RESPONDING

---

### **The Lord's Supper**

The Lord's Supper, or Communion, is one of the two sacraments we celebrate (the other is baptism). It is one of the most important things we do when we gather together, because the bread and juice are concrete signs of what Jesus has done for us on the cross. When we come forward to receive them, we believe that Jesus is actually present through the Holy Spirit, extending his grace and forgiveness to us.

We welcome anyone to the table who is willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. If you are not able to receive Communion, we invite you to use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers:

### **Prayer of Those Searching for Truth**

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth and the Life. Help me to be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Lead me into the light and life you promise. Amen.

### **Prayer of Belief**

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am more blind and sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete acceptance. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

– Adapted from prayers written by Rev. Scot Sherman, Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

## RESPONDING

---

### Communion Song

“The Welcome Table”  
(arr. Raney)

Choir

I’m gonna sit at the welcome table, O Lord,  
I’m gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days, hallelujah!  
I’m gonna sit at the welcome table,  
Gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.

I’m gonna feast on the bread of heaven, O Lord,  
I’m gonna feast on the bread of heaven one of these days, hallelujah!  
I’m gonna feast on the bread of heaven,  
Gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.

There’s a land that is fairer than day,  
And by faith we can see it afar.  
For the Father waits over the way to prepare us a dwelling place there,  
A dwelling place there.

In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.  
In the sweet by and by, we shall meet on that beautiful shore.

I’m gonna share my cup with Jesus, O Lord,  
I’m gonna share my cup with Jesus one of these days, hallelujah!  
I’m gonna share my cup with Jesus,  
I’m gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.  
We shall meet on that beautiful shore.

### Communion Song

“The Stone”

Worship Team

*The stone that builders rejected  
Has become the Cornerstone. Hallelujah!*

*Ascribe greatness, ascribe greatness,  
Ascribe greatness to the Rock so high.*

You are a sanctuary, a shelter and a shade from the heat of the day.  
You are a hiding place, a tower and a refuge from the storm and the rain.  
My rock and foundation, you have become my salvation.

## Prayer Needs

---

**For health:** Erika Gouverneur, Francis Steadman, Gretchen Gravely, Bradley Crawford, Randy Raggio, Elaine Turner, Cheryl Fluckiger, Terry Jones, Eileen Raynor, Brad Bishop, Noel and Stephanie Brooks, David Hacker, Julie Walden, Christie Geraty, Milton Jones

**For comfort for those who have lost loved ones:** Pam Smith (1/26); Holly Roper, Janet Dew (father, husband, Jay, 1/23); Janice Brockenbrough (father, 12/19); Phil Marriott (brother, 12/14) Frances Eichost (11/20); Janice Allen (father, 11/12; mother, 9/28); June Keller (husband, Joe, 11/11); Chip Buehler (brother, 11/7); Wendy Rogers (father, 11/5)

**For Metro Richmond:** We pray for the coming of God's realm in metropolitan Richmond: for a spirit of unity and cooperation among all people in all jurisdictions; to earnestly seek the common welfare of this metropolitan city; to express compassion and care for our natural environment.

### **Pray for the Renew campaign:**

- Pray that the Lord would help every person in our church family to be informed, inspired and engaged in this season together.
- Pray that God would grant us unity, clarity, and increasing love for one another.
- Pray that the Lord would stir up joyful generosity in our hearts.
- Pray that God would be glorified in the work and outcome of this campaign.

### **Join us for an evening of prayer for the Renew campaign**

We'll be gathering together on Tuesday, February 11, from 7:00–8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be praying together for our capital campaign and asking God to lead us, empower us, and transform us as we seek his will for our community.

### **Weaving Together**

We have the opportunity to physically weave our prayers together on twelve looms. We'll write prayers of gratitude, praise, and hope on a piece of provided fabric, and weave it through one of several looms that will be present throughout the church over the next few weeks. Stop by a loom as you see them, add your prayer, and help us display the stories of Third Church, woven together in joyful expectation of the work God will do.

## SENDING

---

---

† **Song of Commission**                      “Be Thou My Vision”                      #859 in the Hymnal

† **Commission and Benediction**                      From Ephesians 3:20–21

Leader:            Now to him who is able to do  
                         immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine,  
                         according to his power that is at work within us,

**People:            To him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus  
                         throughout all generations, for ever and ever!**

**Postlude**                      “Hymn to Joy”                      Jeff Hummel  
**(11:15 service only)**                      (Jason Payne)

## SERVICE NOTES

---

---

**Today’s flowers** are given in honor of our mission partner Rollin Grams.



# renew

A Capital Campaign for Third Church

## Renewing our home to renew our mission.

---

Since we came to Forest Avenue in 1956, we have been busy making, maturing and sending disciples. Third has always been marked by this movement of the Spirit—pursuing a deep faith that focuses outward to love and serve the world beyond our doors.

However, over the past decades, our facilities have aged. They are increasingly burdened by wear and tear, under pressure from years of use without significant updates. This home of ours struggles to meet the needs of today's community.

If we want our home to continue to be a place where we can gather together as one body in mission and purpose through Jesus Christ, then our home needs renewal.

---

We're excited to share with you our plan to renew our home in the coming weeks and how you can be a part of it. If you'd like to learn more, please come to one of our Vision Forums. These will provide an open opportunity to hear about the capital campaign, hear from our campaign chairs, interact with the facility plans, and ask questions.

**Today! February 2**

11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.  
Room 213/215

**Sunday, February 9**

10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.  
Room 213/215

**Note:** Please come early to view our gallery of plans and renderings— these forums will start promptly!

We believe that this is not just a campaign of brick and mortar, but a season where we can partner with God in his vision for our community and trust deeply in his provision for us.

**For more info on the campaign, visit**

[renew.thirdrva.org](https://renew.thirdrva.org)

## NEWS & EVENTS

---

### **Officer Nominations Open!**

Each year, we ask our covenant partners to nominate individuals for the roles of Deacon, Elder, and Trustee. We look to our church family to identify and affirm the callings and giftings of our members. Join us this month by nominating individuals for these offices. More information can be found on our website ([thirdrva.org/nominate](http://thirdrva.org/nominate)) or in the handouts found around the church.

### **Jobs for Life: Spring semester begins February 17!**

We're kicking off our next semester of changing lives through this biblically-based jobs ministry. If you are unemployed, under-employed or unhappy in your employment, or if you would like to be a Champion for someone who is, or to help provide a meal for the class, please visit [thirdrva.org/jobsforlife](http://thirdrva.org/jobsforlife), or stop by our table in the Steeple Corridor this morning.

### **Young Adult Event: How to Steward a Budget Tuesday, February 18, 6:00–8:00 p.m., Church Office**

Does money make you anxious? Would you value practical budgeting advice? Third Church is a family, and families are excellent sources of wisdom. Designed for young professionals and couples, this event will discuss biblical principles of stewardship and provide an overview of budgets and mobile apps. Led by Craig Heah and Drew Cleveland. Dinner provided. Please RSVP to Drew Cleveland ([drewc@thirdrva.org](mailto:drewc@thirdrva.org)) by February 16.

### **Join us today for February Term: Becoming Eager Witnesses! 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall**

This week, our regular classes will take a break and we'll meet together at 10:00 a.m. for our February Term session in the Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker, Don Everts, will be unpacking the most important elements of his book *The Reluctant Witness*: what it means for our discipleship, and how we can become more eager witnesses.

## ***FAMILY & STUDENT MINISTRY***

---

**During 8:45 and 11:15 a.m. services:** Childcare is available for all children aged Kindergarten and younger. First grade and above attend worship with their parents.

Infants, toddlers, 2 year olds	First Floor
Young 3s–Kindergarten	Second Floor

**During the 10:00 service:** Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents or Sunday school:

Infants, toddlers, 2 year olds	First Floor
Young 3s–4th Grade	Second Floor
5th–6th Grade (Club56)	Basement
Middle and High School	Student Ministry Area (First Floor)

**Need help?** Look for volunteers wearing gold or blue name badges. They can help answer your questions, find where to take your kids, and guide you around our building.

---

### **Student Ministry: Sunday Night Gatherings**

Students in 7th–12th grade are welcome to join us on Sunday evenings in the Fellowship Hall from 7:00–8:30 p.m. Contact Rick ([rickh@thirdrva.org](mailto:rickh@thirdrva.org)) or Andrea ([andreaw@thirdrva.org](mailto:andreaw@thirdrva.org)) with any questions.

# WELCOME!

¡Bienvenido! 欢迎! مرحباً Добро пожаловать!

We're so glad you're here.

---

## 1. LEARN ABOUT THIRD

Visit our website ([thirdrva.org](http://thirdrva.org)), sign up for our ministry emails ([thirdrva.org/signup](http://thirdrva.org/signup)), and pick up a copy of Third Press, our monthly newsletter, from around the church.

---

## 2. JOIN US FOR COFFEE

Join us for our Welcome Coffee on Sunday, February 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor. You'll meet a few people and learn about Third's vision and beliefs, and how you can get involved.

---

## 3. FIND COMMUNITY

Our parish groups provide the opportunity for each person at Third to grow in our relationship with God, build authentic community, love our actual neighbors and bless our city. Find a group meeting near you at [thirdrva.org/parish-life](http://thirdrva.org/parish-life).