



WE BELIEVE

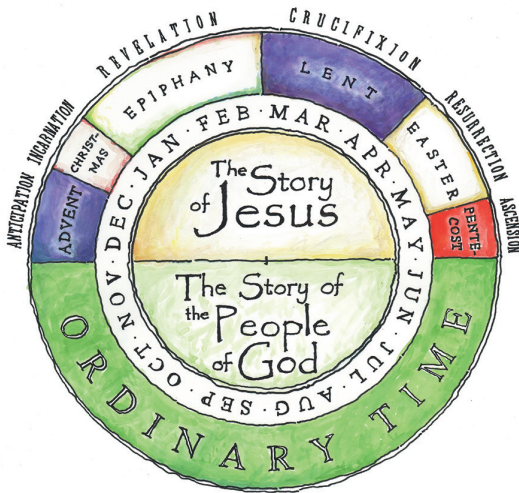
A SERIES ON THE APOSTLES' CREED

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT, MARCH 8, 2020

"All gendered God-language is metaphor. But 'Father' is the metaphor that Jesus used when he prayed: 'Abba, Father' and the language the Word of God gave us to speak to God. It's also stunning in its intimacy, and very good news...the intimacy between two persons of the Trinity, Father and Son, is now available to each person in Christ."

KATELYN BEATY

SANCTUARY DECORATIONS



During the season of Lent that begins on Ash Wednesday, we continue to remember that followers of Jesus “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.

Our banners of royal purple ribbons were introduced during Advent to reflect the way we can rejoice in the signs of new creation while acknowledging that many signs of hope still seem fractured, dim, and obscured by the

present world. Now, in a season focused on remembering Jesus’ suffering on our behalf—and for repentance and self-reflection of our own sins for which he died—we have added additional layers of gray and brown and gauze to represent Jesus’ rejection and submission to the pain of the world. Because we grieve together as one Body of Christ and not just as individuals, our banners also include strips of printed and painted cloth made together by men, women and children of our congregation (along with neighbors and visitors) as part of our Journey to the Cross meditation experience—a response with hands and hearts as well as minds to the sacrifice made by Jesus.

GATHERING

God gathers us all and calls us by his grace.

Prelude

"Fugue in C Major"
(Felix Mendelssohn)

Jeff Hummel

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship

Leader: Come to the Lord, who is rich in grace;
approach our God, who is full of mercy.

People: **We will praise God with all our heart
and glorify the name of the Most High forever.**

Silent Preparation for Worship

† Call to Worship

From Hebrews 12:2–3

Leader: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

People: **The author and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy set before him endured the cross,
scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Leader: Let us consider him who endured such opposition from sinful people,

People: **So that we will not grow weary and lose heart.**

Prayer of Adoration

† Song of Praise

"God Is Here"
"Jesus, I Come"

#246 in the Hymnal
Music on page 4

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

JESUS, I COME



1. Out of my bond - age sor - row and night,
2. Out of my shame - ful fail - ure and loss,
3. Out of un - rest and ar - ro - gant pride,
4. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,



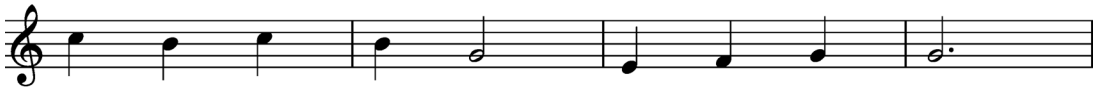
Je - sus, I come, Je - sus, I come;_____



in - to thy free - dom, glad - ness and light,
in - to the glo - rious gain of thy cross,
in - to thy bless - ed will to a - bide,
in - to the joy and light of thy home,



Je - sus, I come to thee._____



Out of my sick - ness in - to thy health,
 Out of earth's sor - rows in - to thy balm,
 Out of my - self to dwell in thy love,
 Out of the depths of ru - in un - told,



out of my want - ing and in - to thy wealth,
 out of life's storms and in - to thy calm,
 out of des - pair in - to rap - tures a - bove,
 in - to the peace of thy shel - ter - ing fold,



out of my sin and in - to thy self,
 out of dis - tress to ju - bi - lant psalm,
 up - ward for - ev - er on wings like a dove,
 ev - er thy glo - ri - ous face to be - hold,



Je - sus, I come to Thee.

CONFESSING

God invites us to be honest with him about ourselves.

Prayer of Confession

Everyone: **Almighty God,**
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify
your holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Silent Confession

Words of Comfort and Assurance

From 1 Timothy 1:15

Leader: "Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance:
Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners."

May Almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring you his pardon and peace,
now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

† 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."

THANKSGIVING

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 Church Hill Activities and Tutoring (CHAT), a Christian community development organization that seeks to build community as they tutor, provide life-skills and leadership training, and seek to transform the environment of the Church Hill area.

Offertory (8:45 and 11:15 services)

"This I Believe"

Worship Team

Our Father everlasting, the all-creating one, God Almighty.
Through your Holy Spirit, conceiving Christ the Son, Jesus our Savior.

*I believe in God our Father, I believe in Christ the Son,
I believe in the Holy Spirit, our God is three in one.
I believe in the resurrection, that we will rise again,
For I believe in the name of Jesus.*

Our Judge and our Defender, suffered and crucified. Forgiveness is in you.
Descended into darkness, you rose in glorious life, forever seated high.

*I believe in you. I believe you rose again.
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord.*

I believe in life eternal, I believe in the virgin birth,
I believe in the saints' communion, and in your holy Church.
I believe in the resurrection when Jesus comes again.
For I believe in the name of Jesus.

THANKSGIVING

Offertory
(10:00 service)

“God So Loved the World”
(Stainer)

Choir

God so loved the world, God so loved the world
That he gave his only begotten Son,
That whoso believeth, believeth in him should not perish,
Should not perish but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world,
God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world;
But that the world through him might be saved.

God so loved the world, God so loved the world
That he gave his only begotten Son,
That whoso believeth, believeth in him should not perish,
Should not perish but have everlasting life.

God so loved the world.

† **Doxology**

***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. Amen.***

PROCLAIMING

Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 9

Leader: What do you believe when you say:
I believe in God the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

**People: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who out of nothing created heaven and earth
and all that is in them,
and who still upholds and governs them
by his eternal counsel and providence,
is, for the sake of Christ his Son,
my God and my Father.
In him I trust so completely
as to have no doubt
that he will provide me
with all things necessary for body and soul,
and will also turn to my good
whatever adversity he sends me
in this life of sorrow.
He is able to do so as almighty God,
and willing also as a faithful Father.**

Scripture Reading

Galatians 4:4–7


⁴ But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
⁵ to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶ Because you are
his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father."
⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you
also an heir.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.


People: Thanks be to God!

RESPONDING

Prayers of the People



You hear us call, you hear us call, Ab - ba, Fa - ther.



You hear us call, you hear us call, Ab - ba, Fa - ther.



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy;



Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy.

Prayer Needs

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

For comfort for those who have lost loved ones: Bradley Crawford (mother, 3/3); Bethany Clarke (father, 2/23); Lyric Hassler (father, 2/23); Bob and Donna Wells (brother-in-law, 2/21); Joan Moore (daughter, Suzanne, 2/20); Alex Goulart (father, 2/9); Eileen Raynor (2/5); Pam Smith (1/26); Holly Roper, Janet Dew (father, husband, Jay, 1/23)

For Metro Richmond: We pray for health care in metropolitan Richmond: for all the sick and their caregivers, doctors, nurses, hospice workers, home healthcare workers, and all who minister to the health of others. For clinics, medical personnel, and all institutions that serve persons who are uninsured or underinsured.

SENDING

† **Song of Commission** “Great is Thy Faithfulness” #348 in the Hymnal

† **Commission and Benediction** From Romans 15:5–6

Leader: May the God who gives endurance and encouragement
give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Jesus Christ,

**People: So that with one heart and mouth we may
glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Postlude “All Glory Be to God on High” Jeff Hummel
(11:15 service only) (Michael Burkhardt)

NEWS & EVENTS

Newcomers Class – Starts Next Sunday, March 15

Our Newcomers Class provides an opportunity for you to learn about Third's vision for worship, discipleship, community, serving and outreach, and for us to get to know you. At the end of the class, you can choose to become a covenant partner of our church family. Class begins next Sunday morning (March 15) then will meet again the next weekend (Friday evening, March 20 and Saturday afternoon, March 21), and joining takes place on Sunday morning, March 29. Sign up: thirdrva.org/events.

Mental Health Education Group

Monday, March 16, 6:30 p.m., 500 Forest Ave, Upstairs Conference Room

This new group meets monthly to learn how we can love our neighbors and family members who have mental illness. They meet the third Monday of the month. All are welcome, so please come and join! Contact Mary Damon: merryoh@gmail.com.

New Sunday school classes starting next Sunday, March 15

Learn more and sign up: thirdrva.org/events

Financial Peace University

Room 215

We all need a plan for our money, and God wants us to have financial peace. This class will teach you to create a budget, pay off debt, spend and save wisely, and give generously—no matter where you are with your money.

The Mission of God's People

Room 213

This missions class will focus on studying Chris Wright's book, *The Mission of God's People*. We will discover God's big-picture plan to direct the purpose of God's people, the church, and explore questions such as: what does the Bible as a whole tell us about why the people of God exist, and what is it they are supposed to be and do in the world?

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) or Andrea (andreaw@thirdrva.org) with any questions.

SUNDAY ADULT DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Each Sunday, we offer a few different class opportunities for us to go deep on different topics, grow as disciples, and build community. All classes meet at 10:00 a.m.; locations listed below. For full class descriptions, visit: thirdrva.org/sunday-discipleship.

Good News Class

Room 101

Expository Bible teaching of the Gospel of Mark in the tradition of inductive Bible study. Our teachers ask the three classic questions of each text: (i) what does it say; (ii) what did it mean to them (the original audience); and (iii) what does it mean to us? This class is centered on understanding and applying God's word for his glory and our growth as his people.

Delta: Young Adult Community and Conversation

Room 217

Are you in your 20–30s or college age and looking for a place to connect with others and grow at Third? Join us for coffee, conversation and teaching on how to connect faith to daily life, work, relationships and culture.

Metamorphosis Class

Vault Room, 500 Forest Ave.

We are a diverse community seeking God's healing and wholeness for the brokenness in our lives and families through safe, authentic Christian relationships.

The Story of God. The Story of Us.

Fellowship Hall

There are no perfect marriages. There are only imperfect marriages through which God pours his perfect love and grace. This highly interactive class will provide a gospel-centered framework to help us experience the transformative power of God's grace in our marriages, and build communities where our marriages can flourish.

Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age

Room 213

Discover how spiritual conversations can be not something to dread, but a delight. This four-week class unpacks the three spiritual postures people tend to have toward the gospel and the six types of conversations that are most helpful for them based on their posture.

Questions about our Sunday school classes? Contact Derek Mondeau at derekm@thirdrva.org.

WELCOME!

¡Bienvenido! 欢迎! مرحباً Добро пожаловать!

We're so glad you're here.

1. CONNECT WITH US

If you're new with us, we'd love to get to know you. Fill out one of the Connect Cards in front of you and drop it in the offering plate, and we'll be in touch.

2. LEARN ABOUT THIRD

Feel free to stop by our welcome table in the hallway off the front of the Sanctuary to learn more about our community. For more information, visit our website at thirdrva.org.

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.