If you're not reading *The Loop*, you're not in the loop.
Pick up The Loop for this week's announcements and calendar. You'll find it at exits around the building. You can also read The Loop online at www.ThirdRVA.org.

Welcome, visitors!
We're glad you've chosen to worship at Third! Be sure to write your contact information (phone and/or email) on the pads that will be passed this morning so that we can get in touch with you to let you know more about life at Third. After the service, you will find information on Third in the Commons area under the display TVs. We look forward to meeting and getting to know you.

Morning Prayer

Health Needs
Lynn Pendleton, Gretchen Gravely, Betty and Joe Cox, Pam Rambo, Mary Howard, Elva White, Jared Armistead, Evelyn Jennings, Joe Keller, Mary Cox

Deaths
Marriott Jackson (husband, Sam, 4/12), Robin Davia (mother, 4/2), Tim Pearson (mother, 3/20), Gaynelle DePass (3/15), Cliff and Julia Sleeman (daughter-in-law, 3/5)

A Wiggle Room is available if you prefer to have your child with you but he or she is a little too active or noisy to be in the service. The service is streamed into Room 124 so you can hear the sermon while you nurse or play with your baby/toddler. Room 124 is located in the connecting hall across from the Toddler Room 105 leading to the Student Ministry area.

Are you going to be away any Sunday this month? You can now view our worship services (9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary) online at www.thirdrva.org/watch-live. Or, find the link on the Welcome/This Sunday page. You can view the services through UStream (our vendor) on any device: smartphone, tablet, laptop/desktop.

May 3, 2015
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hall

Preparation for Worship
"Those who love their dream of a Christian community more than the Christian community itself become destroyers of that Christian community even though their personal intentions may be ever so honest, earnest, and sacrificial."
Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship
From Exodus 19:4-6 and 1 Peter 2:9

Leader: The Lord has lifted us up on eagles' wings and brought us to himself.
People: Once we were not a people, but now we are God's people!
Leader: You are a chosen race, a kingdom of priests, a holy nation, a people of God's own possession.
People: Let us declare the praises of Him who called us out of darkness and into his wonderful light!

Opening Prayer
Songs of Praise

Confession
Adapted from Psalm 51, a Psalm of David

Leader: Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions.
People: Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. For we know our transgressions, and our sin is always before us.
Leader: Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.
People: Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us. Surely you desire truth in the inner parts; you teach us wisdom in the inmost place.
Leader: Cleanse us with hyssop, and we will be clean; wash us, and we will be whiter than snow.
People: Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice.

Silent Confession

Words of Comfort and Assurance — 1 Peter 2:10

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. In and through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Songs of Assurance

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Greeting of Peace

Introduction to Offering

Pray for new partner Bruce Dreisbach as he seeks to give believers practical steps to be active and prayerful in caring friendships with those who do not yet know Christ, living as witnesses to the good news of Jesus.

Offertory

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."

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading — 1 Peter 1:22-2:10 — (scripture parallel)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

Message — "A Community of Hope" — Corey Widmer

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Minister: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise!

Song of Commission

Benediction — Romans 16:25-26

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

Today's Bible Reading — 1 Peter 1:22-2:10

22 Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere
love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart. 23 For you have been born
again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word
of God. 24 For, "All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field;
the grass withers and the flowers fall, 25 but the word of the Lord endures forever." And
this is the word that was preached to you.

1 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of
every kind. 2 Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow
up in your salvation, 3 now that you have tasted that the Lord is good. 4 As you come to
him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—
5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy
priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 For
in Scripture it says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone,
and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame." 7 Now to you who believe,
this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe, "The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone," 8 and, "A stone that causes people to stumble and a rock
that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the message—which is also
what they were destined for. 9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy
nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you
out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 Once you were not a people, but now you are
the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Today's Service Leaders: Rick Hutton, Beth Nichols, Camille Foster, Chitra Swygard, Kim Taulbee, Lex Strickland