THIRD CHURCH SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021



CONNECT TO TODAY'S ONLINE WORSHIP GUIDE: THIRDRVA.ORG/THIS-SUNDAY

Here we post current prayer concerns of those with health needs and those in need of comfort, the full scriptural text for today's service, a link to give online, and important announcements about the life of our church.

GATHERING

"PRELUDE AND FUGUE IN G MINOR" (J. S. BACH)

"HOLY, HOLY, HOLY! LORD GOD ALMIGHTY"

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee; Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, Who wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee, Though the eye made blind by sin thy glory may not see, Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea; Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 47

- Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.
- » For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great King over all the earth.
- God has gone up with a shout,
 the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
- » Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

"FAMOUS ONE" LITANY

You are the Lord, the famous One, famous One;
 Great is your name in all the earth.
 The heavens declare you're glorious, glorious;
 Great is your fame beyond the earth.

From Psalm 95:3-5

 For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.
 In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.
 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

» (Sing refrain)

From Isaiah 45:8

 You heavens above, rain down my righteousness; let the clouds shower it down.
 Let the earth open wide, let salvation spring up,
 let righteousness flourish with it;
 I, the LORD, have created it.

» (Sing refrain)

From Colossians 1:15–17

- The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.
- » For in him all things were created:
- Things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.
- » He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
- » (Sing refrain twice)

"KING OF KINGS"

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope, without light, Till from heaven you came running.

There was mercy in your eyes.

To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.

Praise the Father, praise the Son, Praise the Spirit, Three in One. God of glory, majesty, Praise forever to the King of Kings.

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost, To redeem the whole creation

You did not despise the cross.

For even in your suffering, you saw to the other side.

Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake you died.

And the morning that you rose, all of heaven held its breath Till that stone was moved for good,

For the Lamb had conquered death.

And the dead rose from their tombs,

And the angels stood in awe,

For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.

And the Church of Christ was born,

Then the Spirit lit the flame.

Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint. By his blood and in his Name, in his freedom I am free, For the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me.

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

» Holy God, holy and mighty, holy immortal One, have mercy on us.

SILENT CONFESSION

The Lord is steadfast, merciful, and slow to anger. He extends his mercy to us and receives us as we are. Let's bring our confessions to the Lord silently.

WORDS OF COMFORT

In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, we are assured that there is no sin so terrible that God cannot forgive, no hurt so terrible that God cannot heal. God accepts, God forgives, and God sets free. Receive the forgiving love of God.

» Thanks be to God!

GREETING OF PEACE

As a new spiritual family reconciled to one another through Christ, pass the peace of Christ to one another as you're able.

THANKSGIVING

OUR OFFERINGS | FROM 1 CHRONICLES 29:14

- > Lord, who are we that we are able to give so generously?
- » For all things come from you and what we now offer is already yours.

Please be praying for our mission partner Forgotten No More, a ministry of Third Church aimed at captivating hearts and building community to respond to God's call to care for orphans, foster children, and their families.

VIDEO | "VIRGINIA KIDS BELONG"

Want to make a gift this morning? You can drop it in the basket in the Commons or give online at thirdrva.org/give.

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

SCRIPTURE READING | 2 CORINTHIANS 5:1-10

Read along in your Bible or the online guide for this Sunday at thirdrya.org/this-sunday.

SERMON | "SWALLOWED BY LIFE"

RESPONDING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

- God our Father, the world you created for good is ravaged by greed, consumption, and exploitation. Disease, hunger, and violence threaten to swallow the world in death. Rise up and hear the cries of those who suffer so that you may clothe them in the abundant life of your kingdom. We pray as your children,
- » Upheld, protected, gathered up.
- > Jesus our Savior, who gave the blind sight and raised the dead, we confess that we are weak but you are strong. Shepherd your church to confront the brokenness in ourselves and in our world with confidence in you.
- » O God of Jacob, be our strength.
- Holy Spirit, in your power we pray that you would strengthen the bonds between us. In a time marked by division, would you animate our love for one another. Stir in us present action that reflects a radical hope for our future at your heavenly banquet.
- » Bind us together, bring shalom.

- Gathering our prayers into one, we pray together as our Savior taught us, saying:
- » 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.

SENDING

"WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION"

We will feast in the house of Zion, We will sing with our hearts restored. "He has done great things," we will say together. "We will feast and weep no more."

We will not be burned by the fire. He is the Lord our God. We are not consumed by the flood— Upheld, protected, gathered up.

In the dark of night, before the dawn: My soul, be not afraid. For the promised morning, oh, how long? O God of Jacob, be my strength.

Every vow we've broken and betrayed. You are the faithful one. And from the garden to the grave, Bind us together, bring shalom.

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | FROM ISAIAH 25:8-9

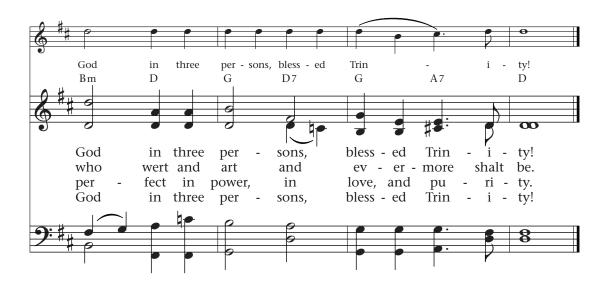
- The LORD God will swallow up death forever. He will wipe away tears from all faces. He will remove the reproach of his people from all the earth,
- » For the LORD has spoken.
- And it will be said on that day,
 "Behold, this is our God;
 we have waited for him, that he might save us.
- » This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

"LET THE WHOLE CREATION CRY" (MICHAEL BURKHARDT)

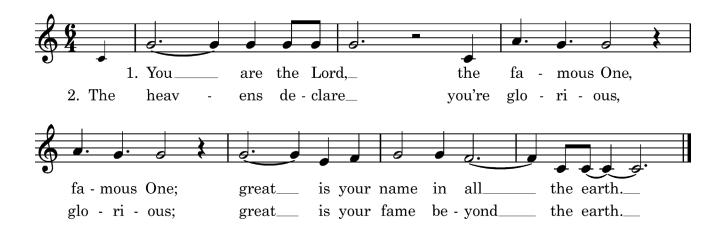
HOLY, HOLY! LORD GOD ALMIGHTY

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #538





FAMOUS ONE (REFRAIN)



KING OF KINGS

