

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

"PRAISE, MY SOUL, THE KING OF HEAVEN" (ROBERT HOBBY)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

- > Come, Creator Spirit, and move over us.
- » Come, Creator Spirit, and bring us new life. Amen.

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

"OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING"

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise, The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God, Assist me to proclaim, To spread through all the earth abroad The honors of your name.

Let saints on earth unite to sing;
God's praise on every tongue.
For all the servants of our King
In earth and heaven are one. We sing as one!

The name of Jesus charms our fears And bids our sorrows cease; 'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace. He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free; His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood availed for me.

Refrain

He speaks, and, listening to his voice, New life the dead receive; The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; The humble poor believe.

To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

Refrain

"COME BY HERE / HOLY SPIRIT"

Come by here, my Lord; come by here. Come by here, my Lord; come by here. O Lord, come by here.

Somebody's praying, Lord; come by here. Somebody's praying, Lord; come by here. O Lord, come by here.

We need your power, Lord; come by here. We need your power, Lord; come by here. O Lord, come by here.

Holy Spirit, you are welcome here. Come flood this place and fill the atmosphere. Your glory, God, is what our hearts long for. To be overcome by your presence, Lord.

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.

SONG OF ASSURANCE | "IN CHRIST ALONE"

In Christ alone my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song—
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, who took on flesh—
Fullness of God in helpless babe!—
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones he came to save.
'Til on the cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied.
For every sin on him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground his body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave he rose again!
And as he stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am his and he is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no human plan,
Can ever pluck me from his hand;
'Til he returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

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 InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, for Kip Hart at VCU and Rob Hodous at University of Richmond, as they seek to build a witnessing community of students and faculty who grow as followers of Jesus Christ, impacting the campus and the world.

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

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 5:11-21

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

SERMON | "THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

> Spirit of fire, who came as a rushing wind breathing life and hope into dead bones and cold hearts, we praise you for the comfort and guidance you have given the church throughout the ages. Holy Spirit, take our world's leaders and governments and bring renewal—that communication can be open; that relationships between hostile people and hostile nations will evaporate; that a hunger for justice addresses the hunger for food felt by so many.

» Sing together:

Make me a vessel of your peace. Where there is war, let fighting cease. All that divides us, come reconcile us. Make me a vessel of your peace.

Eternal God, as your Spirit came upon your church in Jerusalem, grant us your Spirit of grace and love, that our lives may more fully reflect your glory and that the world might believe. Take and transform our societies that broken people may find healing; that lonely people may find love; that bitter people may find peace; that fearful people may find hope.

» Sing together:

Make me a vessel of your love.
Where there is hatred, break it up.
All creeds and colors, bind us together.
Make me a vessel of your love.

Spirit of God, you are the breath and the fire with which the word of God is spoken, the wind on which the gospel is borne anywhere and to anyone in the world. Move in and through your church. Set it to the preaching of the gospel and the doing of your will.

» Sing together:

Make me a vessel of your hope.

Where dreams are dead, come wake them up.

A new horizon, I feel it rising.

Make me a vessel of your hope.

Pour me out, pour me out, pour me out, Wherever I am, wherever I go.

SENDING

"YOUR KINGDOM KNOWS NO END"

Your kingdom, unshakable. Your power, unstoppable. Your love is so beautiful. Your kingdom knows no end.

Oh, glory to God, glory to God in the highest! Oh, glory to God, glory to God in the highest! Your kingdom knows no end, hallelujah!

You're righteous and gracious. Your peace overtakes us. Your joy is contagious. Your kingdom knows no end.

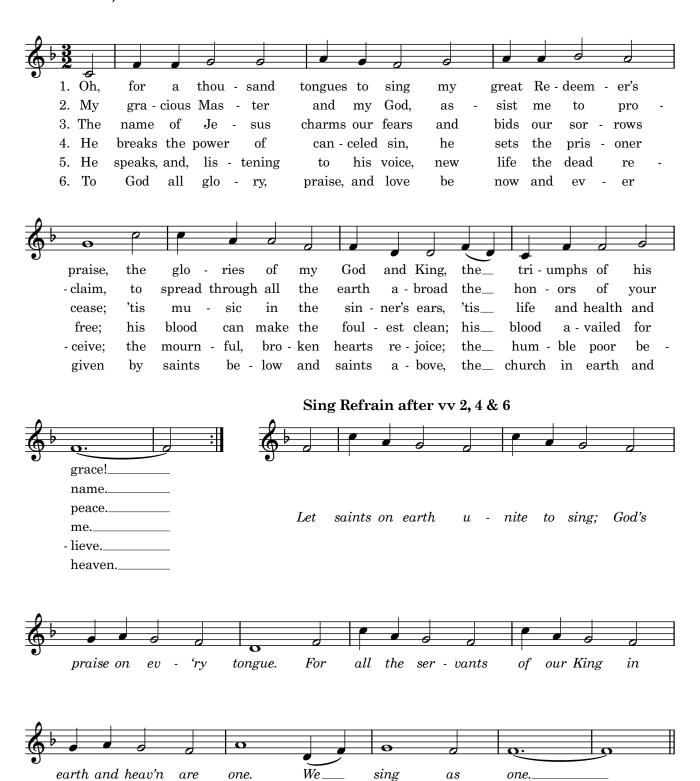
Yours is the kingdom, yours is the power, Yours is the glory, forever and ever.

COMMISSION | 2 CORINTHIANS 5:18-21 (THE MESSAGE)

- You are a new creation! All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him, and has now called us to settle our relationships with each other.
- » God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. We're Christ's representatives. God uses us to persuade men and women to drop their differences and enter into God's work of making things right between them.
- > We're speaking for Christ himself now:
- » Become friends with God; he's already a friend with you.

"RONDO" (JOHN BULL)

OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING



YOUR KINGDOM KNOWS NO END

