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

"GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY" (ROBERT HOBBY)

"GOD IS HERE"

God is here! As we, your people, Meet to offer praise and prayer, May we find in fuller measure What it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, All our varied skills and arts Wait the coming of your Spirit Into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us Of our lifelong need of grace; Here are table, font, and pulpit; Here the Word has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, Here in silence as in speech, Here in newness and renewal God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome In the Shepherd's flock and fold; Here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant Seek in worship to explore What it means in daily living To believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, In an age of change and doubt, Keep us faithful to the gospel; Help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's celebration, All we have to give, receive; We who cannot live without you, We adore you! We believe.

CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 118

- > Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;
- » His love endures forever.
- Open for me the gates of righteousness;
 I will enter and give thanks to the LORD.
- » The stone the builder rejected has become the capstone; the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.
- This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
- » Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

"ALMIGHTY GOD"

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open. Search and know our thoughts and anxious fears. Wash us in the fountain of your mercy. Come with your light; we cannot hide from you.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open. With gratitude we raise our song to you. Come and fill the praises of your people. In grace and truth, you make us new again.

Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah!

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open. We long for more than what this world provides. No shallow spring will ever satisfy us. Your river deep floods over everything.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open. You take away our sickness and our sin. Oh, Lamb of God, we gather at your table. In bread and wine you have supplied our needs.

"FATHER, LET YOUR KINGDOM COME"

Hallelu, hallelujah! Father, let your kingdom come. Hallelu, hallelujah! Father, let your kingdom come.

May the works of my hands bring you joy. May the works of my hands bring you joy. May the works of my hands bring you joy. May the works of my hands bring you joy.

May the words from my mouth speak your peace. May the words from my mouth speak your peace. May the words from my mouth speak your peace. May the words from my mouth speak your peace.

You make all things new. You make all things new In places we don't choose. You make all things new.

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

 » Jesus Lord, in your mercy, by your holy life that heals us, by your holy death that saves us, by your Holy Spirit with us, come to cleanse these sinners that we are. Set us free to obey you; make us clear to stand before you; then, for your mercy, we will praise you. Amen.

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 the Barnabas Center, a nonprofit, Christ-centered counseling, training and teaching ministry seeking to build a community of people who, having met God in the midst of their struggles, are learning to handle them in redemptive ways.

RENEW CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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

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 8:1-21

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

SERMON | "GENEROUS GRACE"

RESPONDING

THE APOSTLES' CREED

- > Christians, what do you believe?
- » I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell: the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- > Lift up your hearts!
- » We lift them up to the Lord.
- > Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- » It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- 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,
- » Hear the praise of grateful hearts.
- You sought your ancient people when they strayed from you. You freed them from the oppressor and brought them home. God, our Father,
- » Hear the praise of grateful hearts.
- You have sent your Son to bring us home to you.
 By his Incarnation-
- » You have found us.
- > By his Death-
- » You have forgiven us.
- By his Resurrection –
- » You have freed us.
- God, our Father,
- » Hear the praise of grateful hearts.

The Lord's Supper, or Communion, is one of the two sacraments we celebrate (the other is baptism). It's 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

- 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:
- » Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of pow'r and might,
 Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest!
 Blessed is he, blessed is he
 Who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

- 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—
- » One with Christ, one with each other, and one in mission to all the world,
- Until Christ shall come in final victory and we feast together at his heavenly banquet. We cry,
- » Maranatha! Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen!

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."

As we take the elements together, spend a few moments meditating on the mercy of God given to us in Jesus' death and resurrection. Praise and thank God for his gift of love that binds us together in unity through Jesus' sacrifice!

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.

SENDING

"GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING"

God, whose giving knows no ending, From your rich and endless store: Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, Costly cross, grave's shattered door; Gifted by you, we turn to you, Offering up ourselves in praise; Thankful songs shall rise forever, Gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing Toward the goals of Christ, your Son: All at peace in health and freedom, Races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, Lest we strive for self alone; Born with talents, make us servants Fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, Gain through powers your grace conferred; Ours to use for home and kindred, And to spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands in sharing, As we heed Christ's ageless call, Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, Serving you by loving all.

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | FROM 2 CORINTHIANS 8:7, 9

- For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sake he became poor, so that we through his poverty might become rich.
- Therefore, let us be transformed by God's generosity towards us, that we may excel also in the grace of giving.

"TRUMPET PROCESSIONAL IN G MAJOR" (DAVID LASKY)

GOD IS HERE

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #246



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FATHER, LET YOUR KINGDOM COME



GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #876



For an alternate arrangement see 802, 898

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