

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

"LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YOU MIGHTY GATES" (WILBUR HELD)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 62:5

- > For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait;
- » Truly our hope is in you.

CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 130:5-7

- I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning.
- » There is no darkness with you, O Lord.
- > O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plenteous redemption.
- » There is no darkness with you, O Lord.
- > Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- » There is no darkness with you, O Lord.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

"COME LIGHT OUR HEARTS"

For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait. For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait. Truly our hope is in you, truly our hope is in you.

O Lord of life, our only hope, Your radiance shines on all who look To you in the dark; Emmanuel, come, Come light our hearts.

O Joy above all other loves, In you we find more than enough. We come as we are; O heal and restore, Come light our hearts.

"LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENCE"

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand; Set your minds on things eternal, For with blessing in his hand Christ our Lord to earth descended, Came our homage to command.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, Once upon the earth he stood; Lord of lords we now perceive him In the body and the blood. He has given to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food. Rank on rank, the host of heaven Stream before him on the way, As the Light of Light, descending From the realms of endless day, Comes, the powers of hell to vanquish, Clears the gloom of hell away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph, Cherubim with sleepless eye Veil their faces to his presence, As with ceaseless voice they cry: "Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- O light most blessed, fill the inmost heart of all the faithful.
 Without your grace, there is nothing in us, nothing that is not harmful.
- Cleanse what is sordid, flood what is arid, heal what is hurt, flex what is rigid, fire what is frigid, correct what goes astray.

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 | FROM ISAIAH 40:1-2

- > Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
- » Our sins are pardoned. The penalty is paid.
- In Christ, God's salvation is at hand, and righteousness has come.
- » 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 Needle's Eye Ministries and founder Buddy Childress as they seek to build connections between business professionals and matters of faith and to encourage men and women to impact our community with Christ's values, ethics and love.

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 | REVELATION 19:1-9; 21:2,9-11; 22:17

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

SERMON | "WAITING FOR LOVE"

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.
- 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.

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

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

"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 REVELATION 22

- Behold! Jesus is coming soon to judge the earth with righteousness and truth.
- He is the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.
- > The Spirit and the bride say, "Come."
- And let the one who hears say,
 "Come," and let the one who is thirsty come;
- > Let the one who desires take the water of life without price.
- » Jesus is coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

"LET ALL TOGETHER PRAISE OUR GOD" (PAUL MANZ)

LET ALL MORTAL FLESH KEEP SILENT

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #821



Words: Liturgy of St. James; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1864, P.D. Music (PICARDY 8.7.8.7.8.7): French 17th c.