

“Do you love me?”

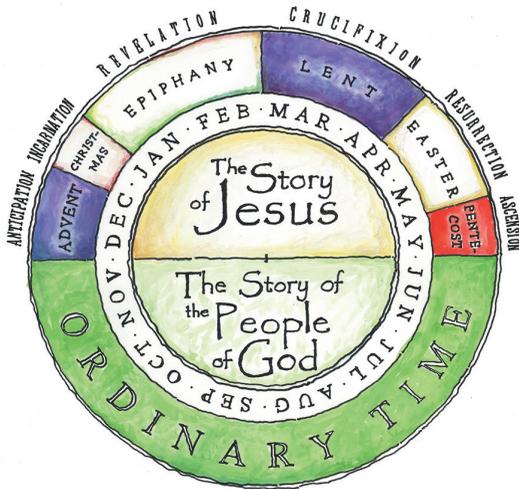
THE
QUESTIONS
OF JESUS

EASTERTIDE | SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019

“Could we with ink the ocean fill and were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry,
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky.”

FREDERICK MARTIN LEHMAN

SANCTUARY DECORATIONS



As followers of Jesus, we “tell time differently” with a calendar shaped by the story of God’s works of salvation and renewal. Not only do we mark the seasons of the Christian year through the readings and music in our worship service, we also use colors and textures to enrich our space and experience of worship.

After six weeks of somber purple to mark the Lenten season of repentance and remembrance of Jesus’ suffering, during Eastertide the Sanctuary is transformed into a place of celebration and joy. The colors of white and gold remind us that Jesus is King, and that his resurrection has overcome death and washed us clean of our sins. Even the lilies of the field join us as we lift up our hands and voices in praise of the One who is renewing all things by his power and love.

GATHERING

God gathers us all and calls us by his grace.

Prelude

“Hail Thee, Festival Day”
(Michael Burkhardt)

Jeff Hummel

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship

From Isaiah 30:15

Leader: In returning and rest is your salvation,
in quietness and trust is your strength.

People: Amen.

Silent Preparation for Worship

Let's quiet our hearts in preparation for worship.

† Call to Worship

From Psalm 84

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place,

People: O Lord of hosts!

Leader: My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord;

People: My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

Leader: Happy are those whose strength is in you,

People: In whose heart are the highways to Zion.

Leader: For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

People: O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!

Prayer of Adoration

† Song of Praise

“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”
“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

#457 in the Hymnal
#581 in the Hymnal

† *The cross indicates standing, as you are able.*

CONFESSING

God invites us to be honest with him about ourselves.

Prayer of Confession

Written by Erin Holbrook

Leader: Lord, we confess our ways are not your ways.
We have sought to be sought, expected to be followed
and have been self-righteous in our rightness.
We hear the good news then determine our path to pursue our passions.
We have taken for granted your sacrifice,
what was necessary to rescue us from death.
For all the sin which we have inflicted on others,
especially your daughters and sons who are still a long way off,
we ask your mercy and forgiveness.
For every way in which we have pierced your heart
and brought you pain and anguish, we beseech your forgiveness,
with humble admission of our failing human hearts.

People: Lord, hear our prayer.

Silent Confession

Words of Comfort and Assurance

(From Luke 24 and Psalm 52)

Leader: Peace be with you, for the Messiah suffered and was raised
for the repentance and forgiveness of sins.

**People: We trust in God's unfailing love forever and ever.
Thanks be to God!**

† Greeting of Peace

As a new spiritual family reconciled to one another through Christ, offer to one another a sign of peace: a handshake, a hug, or even just a smile. You could say something simple like "Peace be with you," or just simply, "Peace."

THANKSGIVING

Our Offerings

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

Interview with Mission Partner Beth Baleke

Offertory

"The Love of God"
(Lehman)

Team / Choir

The love of God is greater far than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star and reaches down to lowest hell.
The guilty pair, bowed down with care, God gave his Son to win;
His erring child he reconciled and pardoned from his sin.

When years of time shall pass away and earthly thrones and kingdoms fall,
When men, who here refuse to pray, on rocks and hills and mountains call;
Then God's love so sure shall still endure, all measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race: the saints' and angels' song.

O love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong!
It shall forevermore endure: the saints' and angels' song!

Could we with ink the ocean fill and were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill, and every man a scribe by trade,
To write the love of God above would drain the ocean dry,
Nor could the scroll contain the whole, though stretched from sky to sky.

O love of God, how rich and pure! How marvelous and strong!
It shall forevermore endure: the saints' and angels' song!
The love of God.

† 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

God speaks to us through his word.

Scripture Reading

John 21:15–22

¹⁵ When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

“Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

¹⁶ Again Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

¹⁷ The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.”

Jesus said, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly I tell you, when you were younger you dressed yourself and went where you wanted; but when you are old you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go.” ¹⁹ Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, “Follow me!”

²⁰ Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, “Lord, who is going to betray you?”) ²¹ When Peter saw him, he asked, “Lord, what about him?”

²² Jesus answered, “If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me.”

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

RESPONDING

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers into one, let us boldly pray as our Savior has taught us:

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.

Prayer Needs

For health: Julie Walden, Stephanie Brooks, Livie Gaertner (daughter of mission partners Chris and Leah), Mary Ann Hancock, Frances Eichost, Christie Geraty, Elva White, Milton Jones, Strick Smith, Betty Cox, Brad Bishop, Charles Ellison, Lou Hanscom

For comfort for those who have lost loved ones: Marjorie Parker (4/16); Pam Douglas (father, 4/22); Ken Newsome (father, 4/16); Bonnie Smith (husband Marc, 4/8); Tom Barila (mother, 3/28); Linda Newsome (mother, 3/29); Rich Ruch (brother); Donna Davis (brother, 3/24); Libby Cornett (father, 3/23); Hal Tyler (wife Ann, 3/19); Scott Frayser (sister-in-law, 3/18); Holly Smith (mother, 3/9); Gretchen Gravely (brother, 3/3)

For Metro Richmond: We pray for the churches and religious institutions of metropolitan Richmond: for seminaries, Bible colleges, and schools training persons for vocations in ministry; for the students, faculty, and staff of these institutions.

SENDING

God sends us into the world as his witnesses.

† **Song of Commission**

“Let It Be Known”

Words below

May our offerings be pleasing to your ears, be holy in your sight.
We repent of sins we never knew we did, but we ask that you’d forgive.
As we come to the altar, we have a single request: that Lord, you’d come and you’d bless;
Bless our relationships with our brothers and sisters as we grow together.

*Let it be known that we have been forgiven. Let it be known that we have been forgiven.
We are sinners who have been redeemed. Let it be known we can forgive like him.*

May our families be rooted in your love, be strengthened through your power.
We will worship you by serving one another, by putting others first.
As we come before our neighbors, we have a single request: we want to honor you.
We seek reconciliation with our brothers and sisters as we grow together.

*Let it be known that we will love the Lord. Let it be known that we will love the Lord.
May our lives reflect your perfect Son. Let it be known that you have made us one.*

Lyrics by Jonathan Knabe and Elena Aronson, Music by Jonathan Knabe

SENDING

† Commission and Benediction

From 1 John 4

Leader: Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God.
Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

People: This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

Leader: This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us
and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

People: Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Leader: No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another,
God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

People: And there is no fear in love.

† Postlude (11:15 service only)

"Toccata"
(David Hegarty)

Jeff Hummel

SERVICE NOTES

Today's flowers are given in honor of Kip Hart at VCU and Sarah Angel at University of Richmond, as they work with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship to build a witnessing community of students and faculty who grow as followers of Jesus Christ.

Today we celebrate the birth of Victoria Kathryn Muangala, born on May 9 to Rosalie and William Muangala.

Today we celebrate the birth of William Dru Harrison, born on May 10 to Emma and Davis Harrison.

NEWS & EVENTS

Today! Meet Our Mission Partner: Beth Baleke – 12:30 p.m., Room 101

Come to this (free!) lunch to catch up with Beth Baleke, a new mission partner with Scripture Union. Scripture Union Uganda has been a leader of the spiritual nurture of Uganda's children, youth and families for over 50 years. Beth is a dynamic leader who engages children and youth holistically so that they may follow Jesus Christ and be instrumental in transforming Africa.

Parish Worship Initiative: A Summer Experiment Happening Today

This is an experimental worship service in which one or two parish areas will be encouraged to attend and worship with those in their parish area communities. We're exploring new ways to open up more space in our Sanctuary so that our church can continue to grow, and we're also seeking fresh ways to deepen the culture of parish life in our church by gathering together in a dynamic way. Today, we're welcoming City North and City South parish areas to worship together at 11:15 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Mission Scholarship and Training Fund – Support Our Short-Term Missions!

Our church is taking two short-term trips this year: one group (of over 40 people) will serve in Haiti, and our students will be serving through relief work in Wilmington, NC. To support these efforts, we are raising \$25,000 and need your help. Give to this special offering by using the envelopes in the pews in front of you, or by giving online at: thirdrva.org/generosity.

Annual Sam Jackson Charity Golf Outing – Monday, June 17

Third Golfers in Fellowship hosts this annual golf outing at Richmond Country Club to bring together golfers and raise money for a mission partner. This Captain's Choice is suited for all levels of golfers, and is open to all: men, women, and teens. Sign up as individuals or pairs, and you'll be placed on teams. Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m., with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. Lunch to follow. Sign up (\$85; covers greens fees, golf cart, range balls, lunch, and donation to Urban Hope): thirdrva.org/events.

NEWS & EVENTS

Community Strategic Visioning Sessions

Monday, May 20 and Tuesday, May 21, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

Our community has been discerning for several years what to do about our church building facility constraints. On May 20 and 21 we'll be holding some strategic visioning conversations with our leaders and covenant partners. These meetings will be facilitated by Doug Turner of the Culture of Ready, and will be aimed at understanding our community's readiness to grow and take on our plans for facility improvements. If you are interested in attending one of these sessions, please email Andi Redmond: andir@thirdrva.org.

Parish Area Summer Gatherings – Sunday, June 2, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

On June 2*, our parish areas across the metro Richmond area are hosting cookouts to share food, meet one another, and celebrate the start of summer. And we want you to be there. Whether or not you're involved in a parish group, this is a chance to connect with others from Third who live near you, meet your Shepherding Elders, Deacons, and parish group leaders, and just enjoy a meal together. Find your parish area and the details for your area's gathering: thirdrva.org/parish-life.

**Gayton and Louderdale parish groups are meeting on Saturday, June 1.*

Important Changes to Our Online Giving!

We plan to phase out our current online giving platform (ServiceU) by May 30. On May 31, our online giving and registration pages will link to our new platform, ShelbyNext Giving. If you have a recurring gift setup through ServiceU Giving, you will need to cancel it in ServiceU and re-establish it in ShelbyNext, and create a new username and password. Please contact Lynley Steadman for help with any of this (lynleys@thirdrva.org) or visit our **Help Desk** on June 2 and 9 in between services in the Commons.

Welcome Back College Student Lunch at the McCrays

Sunday, June 2, 1:00–3:00 p.m.

Welcome back home, college students! Come join us for some free food, a time to reconnect with friends, meet the new Director of College Ministry and hear about opportunities for young people at Third over the summer. RSVP to Drew Cleveland for address info: drewc@thirdrva.org or (703) 901-1606.

SUNDAY ADULT DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Join us this week for one of our adult Sunday school class opportunities. Our classes meet at 10:00 a.m. and are open to all. Class locations are listed below. For full descriptions about each class, visit thirdrva.org/Sunday-discipleship.

Rest for Your Souls

Room 217 | Led by Erin Rose

Jesus is inviting every weary soul to rest in him. Together, we'll take a close look at several of Jesus' encounters with men and women in the gospels where we see his invitation to rest, inviting us away from carrying burdens and toward a life patterned after him.

Book of Acts Study

Room 213 | Led by Andrew Fuller and Jennifer Parham

Study Acts and explore what it has to say about our theology, our community, and our outreach.

Questions about our Sunday school classes? Contact Derek Mondeau: derekm@thirdrva.org.

Metamorphosis Class

*Multipurpose Room, 500 Forest Avenue
Led by Mary Damon*

Delve into scripture and brain research to address questions like "Why can't I control my anger, my eating, my wasting time online, my _____?"

Good News Class: Study of the Gospel of Mark

*Room 101 | Led by Dave Carroll,
David Skove, and Dave Beckmann*

Join us for expository Bible teaching of the Gospel of Mark, centered on understanding and applying God's word for his glory and our growth as his people.

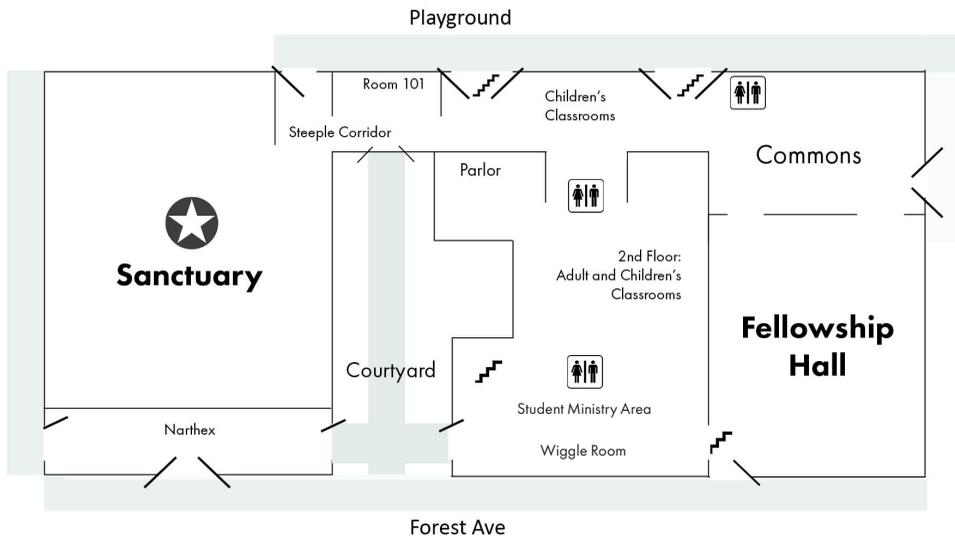
FAMILY & STUDENT MINISTRY

During 8:45 and 11:15 a.m. services: Childcare is available for all children aged Kindergarten and younger. First grade and above attend worship with their parents.

Infants, toddlers, 2 year olds	First Floor
Young 3s–Kindergarten	Second Floor

During the 10:00 service: Children are welcome to attend worship with their parents or Sunday school:

Infants, toddlers, 2 year olds	First Floor
Young 3s–4th Grade	Second Floor
5th–6th Grade (Club56)	Basement
Middle and High School	Student Ministry Area (First Floor)



THIS WEEK AT THIRD

Sunday, May 19

- 8:45, 10:00, 11:15 a.m. Worship services – Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. Welcome Coffee – Parlor
- 11:15 a.m. Parish Worship Service – Fellowship Hall
- 12:15 p.m. Luncheon with mission partner Beth Baleke – Room 101
- 6:00 p.m. Student Ministry “Night to Remember” – Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 21

- 1:00 p.m. Women’s Study – Kitchen, 500 Forest Ave.

Wednesday, May 22

- 6:30 p.m. Freedom Road – Conference Room, 500 Forest Ave.

Thursday, May 23

- 7:00 p.m. Worship Team rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Choir practice – Choir Room

WELCOME!

¡Bienvenido! 欢迎! مرحباً Добро пожаловать!

We're so glad you're here.

If you're new with us, we'd love to get to know you. Fill out one of the Connect Cards in front of you, drop it in the offering, and we'll be in touch.

1. LEARN ABOUT THIRD

Visit our website (thirdrva.org), sign up for our ministry emails (thirdrva.org/signup), and pick up a copy of Third Press, our monthly newsletter, from around the church.

2. JOIN US FOR COFFEE

Join us today at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor for our Welcome Coffee. You'll meet a few people and learn about Third's vision, what we believe, and how you can get involved.

3. FIND COMMUNITY

Our parish groups provide the opportunity for each person at Third to grow in our relationship with God, build authentic community, love our actual neighbors and bless our city. Find a group meeting near you at thirdrva.org/parish-life.