



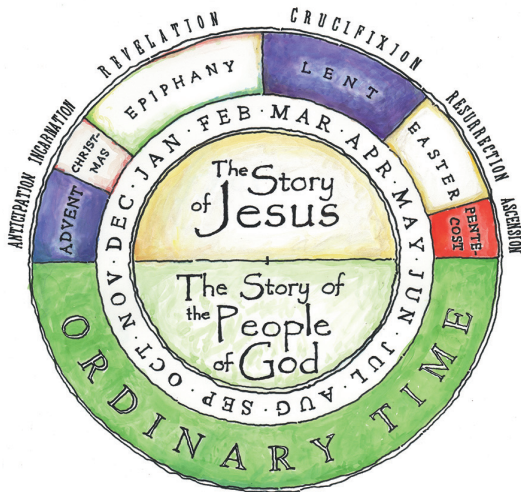
renewing discipleship

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2020

“The church is the gathering of God’s children, where they can be helped and fed like babies and then, guided by her motherly care, grow up to full personhood in maturity of faith.”

JOHN CALVIN

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.

In the season of Epiphany, we are focused on Jesus’ earthly life and mission to bring God’s kingdom to the whole world, reclaiming and renewing all things. Jesus’ life among the people of Israel reveals the complicated, beautiful nature of God, and in each aspect of Christ’s identity and calling we see glimpses of new life in Jesus.

Added to the white of Christmas (and Easter) are touches of many other colors, each one standing for one aspect of the kingdom of God revealed in Jesus: yellow and gold for the gifts of the Wise Men, signaling that Jesus came to claim people of every nation as his own; red and orange for the Holy Spirit that rested upon Christ to inaugurate his ministry; blue for the tassels of the rabbinical robe marking Jesus as our great teacher and High Priest; royal purple and pink for Jesus our King; green for new life and the role Jesus affirmed for ordinary people (the church) in the great mission of God; even black and brown to remind us of Jesus’ suffering and rejection. The many colors of Epiphany represent the whole, complex kingdom life that Christ brings into the world, and in this season we ask God to open our eyes to see him more and more in the multi-colored light of Jesus.

GATHERING

God gathers us all and calls us by his grace.

Prelude

“All My Hope on God Is Founded”
(Michael Burkhardt)

Jeff Hummel

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship

“Let All Who Are Thirsty”

*Let all who are thirsty come. Let all who wish, receive the water of life freely.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*

Silent Preparation for Worship

† Call to Worship

From Psalm 145

Leader: Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
his greatness no one can fathom.

**People: One generation commends your works to another;
they tell of your mighty acts.**

Leader: They speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty—
and I will meditate on your wonderful works.

**People: They celebrate your abundant goodness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness.**

Leader: The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

People: Let every creature praise his holy name for ever and ever.

Prayer of Adoration

† Song of Praise

“O Worship the King”

#2 in the Hymnal
(Verses 1, 2, 4, 5)

“How Firm a Foundation”

Music on page 4

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

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION



1. How firm a foun - da - tion, you saints of the Lord, ___
 2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed, ___
 3. "When through fier - y tri - als your path - way should lie, ___
 4. "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose, ___



is laid for your faith ___ in his ex - cel - lent word!
 for I am your God; ___ I will still give you aid.
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, ___ will be your sup - ply. ___
 I will not, I will not ___ de - sert to its foes; ___



What more can he say ___ than to you he has said, ___
 I'll strength-en you, help you, ___ and cause you to stand, ___
 The flame will not hurt you; ___ I on - ly de - sign ___
 that soul, though all hell ___ should en - deav - or to shake, ___



to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?
 up - held by my gra - cious, om - nip - o - tent ___ hand.
 your sin to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!

sing refrain on next page after v 2 & 4



To you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled? ___
 Up - held by my gra - cious om - nip - o - tent ___ hand. ___
 Your sin to con - sume and your gold to re - fine." ___
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!" ___

REFRAIN

Pre - cious are your words, O Lord;
they're wa - ter to my soul, _____
bring - ing life _____ to all who hear. They're
sweet-er, much sweet-er than the hon - ey - comb. _____

CONFESSING

God invites us to be honest with him about ourselves.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: We praise you, Holy God, for your steadfast love given to us in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Hold us by your grace, even as we have sinned against it and marred our relationship with you and our neighbor. We repent of our sins and long for you to restore us.

People: **In your great love, come, cleanse, heal and help us, that we may live out our days to the praise of your grace and to the glory of your holy Name. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Words of Comfort

From Titus 3:4–8

Leader: When the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

People: **He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

Leader: So that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Ordination and Installation of New Officers (11:15 only)

THANKSGIVING

† 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."

Our Offerings

From 1 Chronicles 29:14

Leader: Lord, who are we that we are able to give so generously?

**People: For all things come from you
and what we now offer is already yours.**

Please pray for our mission partner International Cooperating Ministries as they seek to partner with in-country leaders to nurture believers and build churches. Pray for Third members serving at ICM, Janice Allen as Executive Chair and Geof Stiff as President.

Offertory

"Great Are You, Lord"

Worship Team

You give life. You are love. You bring light to the darkness.

You give hope. You restore every heart that is broken. Great are you, Lord.

It's your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise.

It's your breath in our lungs, so we pour out our praise to you only.

And all the earth will shout your praise.

Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing, "Great are you, Lord!"

† 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

Ephesians 4:11–16

¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers,
¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until
we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature,
attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here
and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their
deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every
respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body,
joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love,
as each part does its work.

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: Erika Gouverneur, Francis Steadman, Gretchen Gravely, Bradley Crawford, Randy Raggio, Elaine Turner, Cheryl Fluckiger, Terry Jones, Eileen Raynor, Brad Bishop, Noel and Stephanie Brooks, David Hacker, Julie Walden, Christie Geraty, Milton Jones

For comfort for those who have lost loved ones: Pam Smith (1/26); Holly Roper, Janet Dew (father, husband, Jay, 1/23); Janice Brockenbrough (father, 12/19); Phil Marriott (brother, 12/14)

For Metro Richmond: We pray for the coming of God's realm in metropolitan Richmond: for healthy economic development, which enhances the metropolitan community, employs the unemployed, and contributes to the common good.

Pray for the Renew campaign:

- Pray that the Lord would help every person in our church family to be informed, inspired and engaged in this season together.
- Pray that God would grant us unity, clarity, and increasing love for one another.
- Pray that the Lord would stir up joyful generosity in our hearts.
- Pray that God would be glorified in the work and outcome of this campaign.

Weaving Together: We're writing our prayers of gratitude, praise, and hope on pieces of fabric, and weaving them through the looms that are throughout the church over the next few weeks. Stop by a loom as you see them, add your prayer, and help us display the stories of Third Church, woven together in joyful expectation of the work God will do.

SENDING

† **Song of Commission** “O God Beyond All Praising” #557 in the Hymnal

† **Commission and Benediction** Jude 1:24–25

Leader: To him who is able to keep you from stumbling
 and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy—

**People: To the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!
 Amen.**

† **Choral Benediction** “Ascription of Praise” Choir
(10:00 service only)

Now to him who’s able to keep you from falling,
And to present you without blemish before the presence of his glory,
With rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Be the glory, majesty, dominion and the authority before all time,
Now and forever. Amen.

Postlude “Sing Praise to God” Jeff Hummel
(11:15 service only) (Paul Laubengayer)

SERVICE NOTES

Today’s flowers are given in honor of our mission partner International Cooperating Ministries.

Today we celebrate the birth of Benjamin David Mendez, born on January 26 to parents Kate and Mark Mendez.

renew

A Capital Campaign for Third Church

Since we came to Forest Avenue in 1956, we have been busy making, maturing and sending disciples. Third has always been marked by this movement of the Spirit—pursuing a deep faith that focuses outward to love and serve the world beyond our doors. However, over the past decades, our facilities have aged. They are increasingly burdened by wear and tear, under pressure from years of use without significant updates. This home of ours struggles to meet the needs of today's community.

If we want our home to continue to be a place where we can gather together as one body in mission and purpose through Jesus Christ, then our home needs renewal.

We'll be hosting our final Vision Forums today at both 10:00 and 11:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

We're excited to share our plan to renew our home and how you can be a part of it.

Come to one of these final Vision Forums to learn more about the capital campaign, hear from our campaign chairs, interact with the facility plans, and ask questions.

Note: Please come early to view our gallery of plans and renderings—these forums will start promptly!

**Join us on Sunday, February 23
as we commit together as a community.**

For more info on the campaign, visit

renew.thirdrva.org

NEWS & EVENTS

Join us for an evening of prayer for the Renew campaign

We'll be gathering together this Tuesday, February 11, from 7:00–8:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be praying together for our capital campaign and asking God to lead us, empower us, and transform us as we seek his will for our community.

Ash Wednesday service – Wednesday, February 26, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Join us for this special worship service as we mark the beginning of Lent, the six-week season of repentance and reflection leading up to Holy Week and Easter. Childcare available with reservation to kathyw@thirdrva.org by February 23.

Guided Tour of the Bible – New study kicking off February 13

This 5-week study digs into one section of the Bible, looking at a different book each week, so we can better understand and be impacted by its message. Ed Satterfield authored the Tour and leads our time. Our next study will meet on Thursdays, February 13 – March 12, from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Room 217 and will focus on the non-Pauline Letters. More info and to sign up: thirdrva.org/events.

Officer Nominations Open! Deadline: February 23

Each year, we ask our covenant partners to nominate individuals for the roles of Deacon, Elder, and Trustee. We look to our church family to identify and affirm the callings and giftings of our members. Join us this month by nominating individuals for these offices. More information can be found on our website (thirdrva.org/nominate) or in the handouts found around the church.

Jobs for Life: Spring semester begins February 17!

We're kicking off our next semester of changing lives through this biblically-based jobs ministry. If you are unemployed, under-employed or unhappy in your employment, or if you would like to be a Champion for someone who is, or to help provide a meal for the class, please visit thirdrva.org/jobsforlife, or stop by our table in the Steeple Corridor this morning.

Young Adult Event: How to Steward a Budget

Tuesday, February 18, 6:00–8:00 p.m., Church Office

Does money make you anxious? Would you value practical budgeting advice? Third Church is a family, and families are excellent sources of wisdom. Designed for young professionals and couples, this event will discuss biblical principles of stewardship and provide an overview of budgets and mobile apps. Led by Craig Heah and Drew Cleveland. Dinner provided. Please RSVP to Drew Cleveland (drewc@thirdrva.org) by February 16.

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)

Need help? Look for volunteers wearing gold or blue name badges. They can help answer your questions, find where to take your kids, and guide you around our building.

Student Ministry: Sunday Night Gatherings

Students in 7th–12th grade are welcome to join us on Sunday evenings in the Fellowship Hall from 7:00–8:30 p.m. Contact Rick (rickh@thirdrva.org) or Andrea (andreaw@thirdrva.org) with any questions.

SUNDAY ADULT DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Each Sunday, we offer a few different class opportunities for us to go deep on different topics, grow as disciples, and build community. All classes meet at 10:00 a.m.; locations listed below. For full class descriptions, visit: thirdrva.org/sunday-discipleship.

Good News Class

Room 101

Expository Bible teaching of the Gospel of Mark in the tradition of inductive Bible study. Our teachers ask the three classic questions of each text: (i) what does it say; (ii) what did it mean to them (the original audience); and (iii) what does it mean to us? This class is centered on understanding and applying God's word for his glory and our growth as his people.

Delta: Young Adult Community and Conversation

Room 217

Are you in your 20–30s or college age and looking for a place to connect with others and grow at Third? Join us for coffee, conversation and teaching on how to connect faith to daily life, work, relationships and culture.

Metamorphosis Class

Multipurpose Room, 500 Forest Ave.

We are a diverse community seeking God's healing and wholeness for the brokenness in our lives and families through safe, authentic Christian relationships.

The Story of God. The Story of Us.

Room 213/215

(moving to the Fellowship Hall next week)

There are no perfect marriages. There are only imperfect marriages through which God pours his perfect love and grace. This highly interactive class will provide a gospel-centered framework to help us experience the transformative power of God's grace in our marriages, and build communities where our marriages can flourish.

Beginning next week: Spiritual Conversations in the Digital Age

Room 213

Discover how spiritual conversations can be not something to dread, but a delight. This four-week class will unpack the three spiritual postures people tend to have toward the gospel and the six types of conversations that are most helpful for them based on their posture. Begins February 16.

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

WELCOME!

¡Bienvenido! 欢迎! مرحباً Добро пожаловать!

We're so glad you're here.

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 for our Welcome Coffee next Sunday, February 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor. You'll meet a few people and learn about Third's vision and beliefs, 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.