

Welcome, visitors!

We're glad you've chosen to worship at Third! Be sure to write your contact information (phone and/or email) on the pads that will be passed this morning so that we can get in touch with you to let you know more about life at Third. After the service, you will find information on Third in the Commons area under the display TVs. We look forward to meeting and getting to know you.

If you're not reading *The Loop*, you're not in the loop. Pick up The Loop for this week's announcements and calendar. You'll find it at exits around the building. You can also read The Loop online at www.ThirdRVA.org.

Morning Prayer

Health Needs

Jared Armistead, Mary Ann Hancock, Tom Tullidge, Evelyn Jennings, Scott Cox, Carol Holt, Joe Keller, Mary Cox, Nancy Cunningham

Deaths

Gail White (mother), Jane Mims (father), Ellen Hemphill, Fred Whitten (mother), Tom Tullidge and Aggie Cullen (father), Linda Allen (father), Debi Berg (mother), Julia Durham (mother)

A **Wiggle Room** is available if you prefer to have your child with you but he or she is a little too active or noisy to be in the service. The service is streamed into Room 124 so you can hear the sermon while you nurse or play with your baby/toddler. Room 124 is located in the connecting hall across from the Toddler Room 105 leading to the Student Ministry area.

Are you going to be away any Sunday this month? You can now view our worship services (9:00 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary) online at www.thirdrva.org/watch-live. Or, find the link on the Welcome/This Sunday page. You can view the services through UStream (our vendor) on any device: smartphone, tablet, laptop/desktop.

January 25, 2015
11:15 a.m. Fellowship Hall

MEDITATION

“Love anything and your heart will be wrung and possibly broken. If you want to make sure of keeping it intact you must give it to no one, not even an animal. Wrap it carefully round with hobbies and little luxuries; avoid all entanglements. Lock it up safe in the casket or coffin of your selfishness. But in that casket, safe, dark, motionless, airless, it will change. It will not be broken; it will become unbreakable, impenetrable, irredeemable. To love is to be vulnerable.”

C.S. Lewis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING OF PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 118

Leader: Give thanks to the Lord, who is good, whose mercy endures forever. Let Israel now proclaim,

People: The mercy of the Lord endures forever.

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my song and has become my salvation.

People: There is a sound of exaltation and victory in the tents of the righteous.

Leader: The same stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

People: This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.

OPENING PRAYER SONGS OF PRAISE

CONFESSION

Leader: Father, we have been seeing a vision for Christ centered community that is beautiful. We want to move out of our individualism and be a part of your Spirit filled community that points to your Kingdom. Yet there is also a huge part of us that doesn't want it. We want to stay in our isolated lives. We don't want to be vulnerable and transparent with others. We don't want to do the hard work of re-arranging our lives to make authentic relationships possible. When we get hurt, we either stuff our pain, lash out at the one who hurt us, or leave the community and relationships that cause us difficulty.

All: Have mercy on us, Lord. Purify our hearts, fill us with your Holy Spirit, and equip us with all we need to move toward others even when it is hard. Help us to live as the community Jesus has called us to be.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE

Titus 2:13-14

“Together, we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!”

SONG OF ASSURANCE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

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.”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 6:1-7

(scripture parallel)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

“Grace in Conflict”

Corey Widmer

SONG OF COMMISSION

BENEDICTION

Today’s Bible Reading

Acts 6:1-7

¹ In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ² So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³ Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them ⁴ and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

⁵ This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. ⁶ They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷ So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Today’s Service Leaders: Ed Satterfield, Tim Latham, Kim Taulbee, McKinley Sprinkle, Mark Holt, David Arroyo, Sandy Arroyo, Emily Henley, Mark Sprinkle

The flowers for today’s service are given to the glory of God.