

the
**CRUCIFORM
LIFE**

Sunday | March 11, 2018

CRUCIFORM FREEDOM

Fourth Sunday of Lent

"A Christian is the most free lord of all, and subject to none;
a Christian is the most dutiful servant of all, and subject to everyone."

Martin Luther



*Called together for the renewal of all things
through Jesus Christ.*

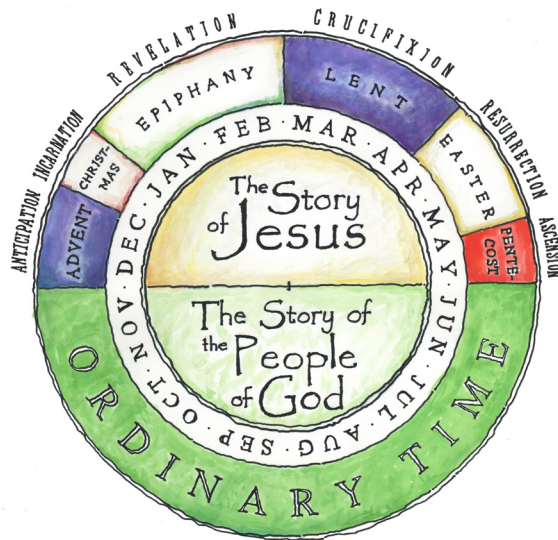
Welcome!
¡Bienvenido!
欢迎!
مرحباً

*We're glad you've chosen to worship at Third!
We look forward to meeting and getting to know you.*

Sanctuary Decorations

During the season of Lent that began on Ash Wednesday, we continue to remember that followers of Jesus “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.

Our banners of royal purple ribbons were introduced during Advent to reflect the way we can rejoice in the signs of new creation while acknowledging that many signs of hope still seem fractured, dim, and obscured by the present world. Now, in a season focused on remembering Jesus’ suffering on our behalf—and for repentance and self reflection of our own sins for which he died—we have added additional layers of gray and brown and gauze to represent Jesus’ rejection and submission to the pain of the world. Because we grieve together as one Body of Christ and not just as individuals, our banners also include strips of printed and painted cloth made together by men, women and children of our congregation (along with neighbors and visitors) as part of our Journey to the Cross meditation experience—a response with hands and hearts as well as minds to the sacrifice made by Jesus.



GATHERING

God gathers us all and calls us by his grace.

Prelude

"Lift High the Cross"
(Donald Busarow)

Jeff Hummel

Welcome and Announcements

Preparation for Worship

From Habakkuk 2:20

Leader: The LORD is in his holy temple;
let all the earth be silent before him,

People: Amen.

Let's quiet our hearts in silent preparation for worship.

† Call to Worship

From Psalm 145

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

People: The Lord is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

Leader: The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

People: The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.

Leader: Our mouths will speak in praise of the Lord,

Everyone: Let every creature praise his holy name forever and ever!

Prayer of Adoration

† Song of Praise

"God, You Call Us to This Place"
"Indescribable"

(See music on following page)

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

GOD, YOU CALL US TO THIS PLACE

God, you call us to this place, where we know your love and grace.
Here your hospitality makes of us one family,
Makes our rich diversity richer still in unity,
Makes our many voices one, joined in praise with Christ your Son.

Now assembled in Christ's name, all your mercies to proclaim—
In the hearing of your word, in our prayer through Christ the Lord,
In the ministries we share, learning how to serve with care—
In the Spirit let us be one in faith and unity.

In the water we were born of the Spirit in the Son.
Now a priestly, royal race rich in every gift of grace—
Called, forgiven, loved, and freed, for the world we intercede:
Gather into unity all the human family.

INDESCRIBABLE



1. From the high - est of heights to the depths of the___ sea,___
2. Who has told ev' - ry light - ning bolt where it should go?___



cre - a - tion's re - veal - ing your maj - es - ty.____
Or seen heav - en - ly store - hous - es lad - en with___ snow?



From the col - ors of fall to the fra - grance of___ spring,
Who i - mag - ined the sun and gives source to its___ light?



ev' - ry crea - ture u - nique in the song that it___ sings.
Yet con - ceals it to bring us the cool - ness of___ night?

Chorus



All ex - claim - ing:
None can fath - om.

In - de - scrib - a - ble, un - con - tain - a - ble;



You placed the stars in the sky and you know them by _____ name._



You are a - maz - ing, _____ God! _____

*All pow - er - ful,
In - com - p'ra - ble,*



*un - tame - a - ble; awe - struck, we fall to our
un - change - a - ble; you see the depths of my*



*knees as we hum - bly pro - claim._
heart and you love me the _____ same._*

You are a - maz - ing,



_____ God! _____

You are a - maz - ing, God!

Words and Music: Jesse Reeves & Laura Story;
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CONFESSING

God invites us to be honest with him about ourselves.

Prayer of Confession

**Everyone: Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of
your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify
your holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

† Words of Comfort

Leader: Hear these words of favor, O children of God:
all these sins you have truly repented of,
he has eternally forgiven.
They will never be held against you.
You are free to love and to serve him in joyful assurance,
knowing his grace will always be more than sufficient
to your own failings.

People: Thanks be to Christ for this glorious gift!

Celebration of Baptism

8:45 a.m. service

Katriona Summers MacPherson

10:00 a.m. service

Zachary James and Charles Henry Nance

11:15 a.m. service

Samuel Henry, Mary-Kate and Ann Campbell Hrabak

Song

"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face shine upon you.

And give you peace, and give you peace, and give you peace forever.

† 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

Myrna McLaughlin of Least of These Ministries recently hosted Dr. Scott Armistead and a team of final-year VCU medical students in Zimbabwe for the month of February. We are thankful to God for a successful collaborative mission trip with two of our mission partners and anticipate hearing a short report next week about the trip. Myrna and Scott worked together at CrossOver Ministries in the 1990's and were delighted to be working together again. We continue to pray for the fruitful work of both ministries.

Offertory

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Sanctuary Choir

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

(Congregation joins in singing)

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all!

† Doxology

Please stand as we sing to the Lord.

**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

1 Corinthians 9:19-27, 10:23-24

¹⁹ Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. ²⁰ To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. ²¹ To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. ²³ I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. ²⁵ Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. ²⁶ Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. ²⁷ No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

²³ "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but not everything is constructive. ²⁴ No one should seek their own good, but the good of others.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Message:
Cruciform Freedom
+ Corey Widmer +

Notes:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

Prayers of the People

Leader: Make us wise, O Lord:

You did not think equality with God something to be flaunted:

People: Release us from the desire for power and prestige, we pray.

Leader: You emptied yourself, taking on the nature of a servant:

People: Free us from all disdain for works of service, we pray.

Leader: You became obedient even unto death, death on the cross:

People: Grant us power to go the way of self-denial, we pray.

Leader: Though free from all, you gave up everything for all to redeem all things:

**People: Lead us to use our freedom for the sake of love,
surrendering all to you and neighbor, we pray.**

Prayer Needs

For Health

Betty Cox, Randy Tabb, Mary Ann Hancock, Estelle Short, Rick DeJarnette, Dru Fitch, Margaret Leith, Larry Dupree, Nick Jeffer, Kaye Phillips, Gina Maio, Brad Bishop, Greyson Tate, Julie Walden, Amy Boyd, Jerry Ramsey, Charles Ellison, Lou Hanscom

For comfort for those who have lost loved ones:

David Skove (father, 2/25), Nan Clarke (father, 1/31), Peggy Larmore and Scott Copeland (father and grandfather, 1/31), Cindy Vogel (mother, 12/30), Martha Rupel (sister, 12/30), Jane Fields (sister, 12/21), Andy Burgess (wife Brenda, 12/19), Sue Kimball (brother, 12/16), Frank Wilson and Lynley Steadman (brother, uncle, 12/1)

For Metro Richmond

We pray for health care in metropolitan Richmond: for all the sick and their caregivers, doctors, nurses, hospice workers, home health care workers, and all who minister to the health of others. For clinics, medical personnel, and all institutions that serve persons who are uninsured or underinsured.

SENDING

God sends us into the world as his witnesses.

† **Song of Commission**

"I Surrender All"

#579 in the Hymnal

All to Jesus I surrender, all to him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust him, in his presence daily live.
I surrender all, I surrender all,
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, humbly at his feet I bow,
Worldly pleasures all forsaken: take me, Jesus, take me now.
I surrender all, I surrender all,
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, make me, Savior, wholly thine;
May thy Holy Spirit fill me, may I know thy power divine.
I surrender all, I surrender all,
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender, Lord, I give myself to thee;
Fill me with thy love and power, let thy blessing fall on me.
I surrender all, I surrender all,
All to thee, my blessed Savior, I surrender all.

† **Commission**

From Galatians 5:13-14

Leader: You, brothers and sisters, are called to be free.
But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature;
rather, serve one another in love.

**People: O Spirit of God, shape our hearts and guide our lives
that we might fulfill the law of love.**

† **Benediction**

Postlude

"If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee"
(J. S. Bach)

Jeff Hummel

11:15 a.m. service

SERVICE NOTES

Today at the 8:45 a.m. service we celebrate the baptism of Katriona "Kate" Summers MacPherson, daughter of Kerrissa and Adam MacPherson. Relatives present today are brother Liam MacPherson; great-grandmother Muriel Kerr; grandparents Robert and Ann Carter MacPherson and William and Kristie Richards; and Katriona's aunts, uncles and cousins. Elder representing the Session by holding the font is Randall White. Prayer sponsors are Bill and Gail White and Kathy White.

Today at the 10:00 a.m. service we celebrate the baptism of Zachary James Nance and Charles Henry Nance, children of Frannie and Richard Nance. Relatives present today are Tommy and Diane Nance and Lex and Caroline LaMotte. Elder representing the Session by holding the font is Annhorner Truitt. Prayer sponsors are Frank and Diane Atkinson.

Today at the 11:15 a.m. service we celebrate the baptism of Samuel Henry Hrabak, Mary-Kate Hrabak and Ann Campbell Hrabak, children of Kendall and Matthew Hrabak. Elder representing the Session by holding the font is Val Kling. Prayer sponsor is Kathy White.

HOLY WEEK AT THIRD CHURCH

March 25 – April 1

We hope you join us for any of the services, opportunities, and reflections offered the week leading up to our celebration of Christ's Resurrection.

More info at: thirdrva.org/events

PALM SUNDAY: HANDEL'S "MESSIAH"

Sunday, March 25, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary

The choir and orchestra will present selections from Handel's "Messiah," parts II and III.

This offering is open to the public and free.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, March 29, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

Join us for this special worship service with time for reflection, music, scripture readings, and the sacrament of Communion. Childcare available.

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, March 30

Good Friday Service: 12:00 p.m., Sanctuary

A brief worship service in the Sanctuary followed by a Lenten lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

Journey to the Cross: 1:00 - 7:00 p.m., begins in the Steeple Corridor

A personal experience of Jesus' final hours. A multi-sensory journey where you will be guided by scripture and artistic presentations to the cross.

RESURRECTION SUNDAY: Easter Sunday, April 1

Services in the Sanctuary: 8:45 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m.

Service in the Fellowship Hall: 10:00 a.m.

We will keep to our usual Sunday morning schedule, with the exception of adding a concurrent service at 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday school for kindergarten and younger will be held during the 10:00 a.m. service.

Childcare available for kindergarten and younger during 8:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. services. No Sunday school for 1st grade and up on Easter morning!

Bring bells from home to ring with joy every time we sing or say "Alleluia!"

NEWS & EVENTS

Today! Congregational Meeting – 12:30 p.m., Sanctuary

Please come to our congregational meeting today following the 11:15 a.m. service.

We'll vote on approving changes in terms of call for Corey Widmer, Ed Satterfield, and Rick Hutton.

The Soul of Shame: A Lecture with Dr. Curt Thompson – Saturday, March 17, 8:30 a.m. – Noon

We are excited to partner with other area churches and organizations to bring Dr. Curt Thompson to Richmond to discuss his powerful book, *The Soul of Shame*. This seminar will take place at West End Presbyterian Church, and will explore how shame affects every aspect of our life and work—but God has personally done something about our shame. He is telling a different story for your life. Come and learn from Dr. Thompson on this important topic.

Easter Lilies – Available for Order

If you'd like to order an Easter lily to enhance worship on Easter Sunday, please contact Rebecca Hatton (rebeccah@thirdrva.org or 282-4645, ext. 101). Each plant will be \$12 and can be taken home after Easter worship. Please note whether your lily is in memory or honor of someone in particular. Deadline for orders: Friday, March 23.

Meet and Greet Mission Partner Lunch — Sunday, March 18, 12:15 p.m.

We will be having a mission lunch with Stephanie Black, who serves with Serge in Dublin, Ireland on Sunday, March 18 in the Multipurpose Room at 500 Forest Avenue at 12:15 p.m. We will be ordering box lunches, so please RSVP to Rebecca Hatton (rebeccah@thirdrva.org) by March 15 if you'd like to join us.

NEWS & EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 24, 10:30 a.m., 1633 Devon Way, Manakin Sabot, VA 23103

Join us for our annual Easter Egg Hunt for families of kindergartners and younger. Siblings are welcome to come help their little brothers or sisters and they'll get a helper prize! We'll have a bounce house and will also set up stations so parents can share about the events leading up to the Resurrection. Invite a friend or neighbor, and make sure to bring a picnic lunch and Easter basket. Drinks provided. The event is free, but we do ask that you RSVP: thirdrva.org/events.

Volunteers needed for our Mission Department!

The mission department is experiencing growing pains! We're expanding our efforts and forming multiple teams. If you're interested in helping with short-term mission trip planning, prayer and care for our existing mission partners, general mobilization efforts, or have organizational, administrative, or communication gifts, please contact L J Jaworski, Mission Pastor at lj@thirdrva.org.

SUNDAY ADULT DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES

Join us for one of our new Sunday school classes!

This new series of classes will run until May 27, all at 10:00 a.m. Sunday mornings. If you've never been to a class before, choose one to drop in on, or try out a few! For descriptions of all our classes, visit: thirdrva.org/Sunday-discipleship.

Financial Stewardship and Generosity

Led by Keith and Connie Byers
March 4 – May 27, Room 215
Pre-registration required!
Thirdrva.org/events

Acts: The Sequel

Led by Andrew Fuller, Grant Holbrook,
Jennifer Parham
March 4 – May 27, Room 213

A Study of Galatians

Led by David Carroll and David Skove
March 4 – May 27, Room 101

The Architectural Design of a Growing and Faith-Based Family

This week: taught by Justin Early on the Culture of Busyness
March 4 – April 29, Fellowship Hall

Soul Repair: Rebuilding Your Spiritual Life

Led by Mary Damon
March 4 – May 27, 500 Forest Ave.,
Multipurpose Room

*For any questions about our Sunday School classes, contact Tom Barila:
tomb@thirdrva.org.*

STUDENT MINISTRY

Sunday morning student ministry

Join us for food, solid teaching, and great people as we grow together in God's word.

600 Forest Avenue, Student Ministry Area

10:00-11:00 a.m. for all students in 7th-12th grade.

Sunday evening student ministry

Join us from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m in the Fellowship Hall.

Questions? Contact Rick (rickh@thindrva.org) or Andrea (andreaw@thindrva.org).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY - SUNDAY MORNING

DURING THE 10:00 A.M. SERVICE: Sunday School is available for all children and students. See below for room locations for all Sunday School classes:

AGE	ROOM
Infants, toddlers, 2 year olds (Little Lambs)	All on the 1st floor
Little Lions - Young 3s	Room 223
Little Monkeys - Older 3s, Young 4s	Room 204
Little Eagles - Older 4s	Room 202
Kindergarten	Room 227
1st Grade	Room 220
2nd Grade	Room 221
3rd Grade	Room 201
4th Grade	Room 209
5th and 6th Grade	Basement
Middle and High School	Meet in Student Ministry Area

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.

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. You'll be able to watch the service via streaming. The room is across the courtyard and directly up the stairs, Room 226.

Please let us know if we can help familiarize you with all that is available at Third for your children. Contact Kathy White (kathyw@thirdrva.org) or Tracie Meadows (traciem@thirdrva.org).

THIS WEEK AT THIRD

Sunday, March 11

8:45, 10:00, 11:15 a.m. Worship services – Sanctuary

12:15 p.m. Cards and Care – Room 207

12:30 p.m. Congregational meeting – Sanctuary

Monday, March 12

10:00 a.m. Circle meeting – Multipurpose Room, 500 Forest Avenue

6:00 p.m. Jobs for Life – Fellowship Hall

7:00 p.m. Mission Committee meeting – Multipurpose Room, 500 Forest Avenue

Tuesday, March 13

9:00 a.m. Janet Kay's monthly study – Room 217

9:30 a.m. "All Things New: A Study on 2 Corinthians" – Room 213

10:00 a.m. Sara's Circle of Friends – Parlor

12:00 p.m. Helping Hands circle – Room 217

7:00 p.m. Special Session meeting – Multipurpose Room, 500 Forest Avenue

Wednesday, March 14

9:30 a.m. Community Bible Study – Fellowship Hall

6:45 p.m. Club56 – Basement

Thursday, March 15

6:00 p.m. Healing Prayer group – Student ministry area

7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir rehearsal – Choir Room

7:00 p.m. Worship Team rehearsal – Sanctuary

Friday, March 16

8:30 a.m. Europe Prayer and Care meeting at Carolyn Oakley's home, 2710 Old Point Drive, 23233, 937-6564

1:00 p.m. Day by Dayers meeting – Multipurpose Room, 500 Forest Avenue

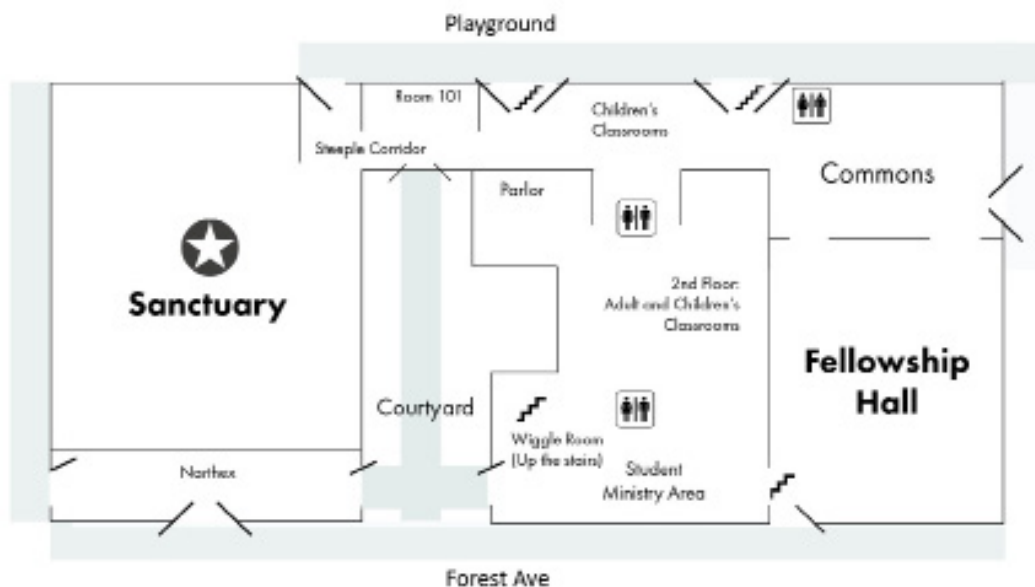
JOIN US NEXT WEEK

Welcome to Third! We're so glad you're here. We'd love to get to know you and for you to learn more about our community. We have a couple opportunities for you to connect with us and help you find out more about Third.

- **Sign up for our ministry emails:** thirdrva.org/signup
- **Pick up Third Press:** Our monthly newsletter can be found around the church.
- **Follow us on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram:** @thirdrva
- **Join us for our next Welcome Coffee:** Sunday, March 18, 11:15 a.m. in the Parlor.
The place to start to learn more about Third!

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT THIRD

If you need help or have any questions at any point on a Sunday morning, look for individuals wearing carnations or yellow name badges. They're here to help answer questions, find you seats, and guide you around our building.



Third Church
804-282-4645
500 Forest Ave.
Richmond, VA 23229
www.thirdrva.org



A Covenant Order
of Evangelical Presbyterians