

GATHERING

"TOCCATA AND FUGUE IN F MAJOR" (DIETRICH BUXTEHUDE)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

- > We have gathered to praise our gracious God.
- » Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

CALL TO WORSHIP

- > For you have been our hope, Sovereign LORD,
- » Our confidence since our youth.
- > From birth, we have relied on you;
- » We will ever praise you.
- > Our mouths are filled with your praise,
- » Declaring your splendor all day long.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

"ALMIGHTY GOD"

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open. Search and know our thoughts and anxious fears. Wash us in the fountain of your mercy. Come with your light; we cannot hide from you.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open. With gratitude we raise our song to you. Come and fill the praises of your people. In grace and truth, you make us new again.

Hallelujah, hallelujah. Hallelujah!

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open. We long for more than what this world provides. No shallow spring will ever satisfy us. Your river deep floods over everything.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open. You take away our sickness and our sin. Oh, Lamb of God, we gather at your table. In bread and wine you have supplied our needs.

PRAYING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

» Sing refrain:

You hear us call, you hear us call, Abba Father. You hear us call, you hear us call, Abba Father. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy.

- > Father, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family. Take away the arrogance and hatred which infect our hearts. Break down the walls that separate us. Unite us in bonds of love. Work through our struggle and confusion to accomplish your purposes on earth that in your good time, all nations and races may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne.
- » (Sing refrain)
- > Jesus, look with pity upon the people in this land who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Have mercy upon us. Help us to eliminate our cruelty to these, our neighbors. Strengthen those who spend their lives establishing equal protection of the law and equal opportunities for all. Grant that every one of us may enjoy a fair portion of the riches of this land.

» (Sing refrain)

- > Holy Spirit, we pray that you especially bless all schools, colleges, and universities as they begin an unprecedented year together, that they may be lively centers for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom. Grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth.
- » (Sing refrain twice)



Request prayer and pray for those with health needs or for those in need of comfort: thirdrva.org/prayer.

We rejoice in the birth of Adeline Hope, daughter of Steve and Lindsay Krieger (Chesterfield Parish) on September 9. She joins big brothers and sisters Caleb, Berkley, Psalm and Joshua. Please join us in praying for the Kriegers as we welcome Adeline into our church family.

GREETING OF PEACE

As a new spiritual family reconciled to one another through Christ, take a few moments to pass the peace of Christ to one another as you're able, either with those in your home, or by sending a text to other friends and family watching.

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 pray for Shelter of Love, a home in Cambodia for disadvantaged and displaced children that seeks to train them to love and serve Jesus Christ to impact their country for him.

MISSION PARTNER INTERVIEW FAKHRI YACOUB | THE CHRISTIAN ARABIC CHURCH



To give online, visit <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 1:9-20

⁹ I, John, your brother and companion in the suffering and kingdom and patient endurance that are ours in Jesus, was on the island of Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. ¹⁰ On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, ¹¹ which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

¹² I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, ¹³ and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. ¹⁴ The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. ¹⁵ His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. ¹⁶ In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

¹⁷ When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. ¹⁸ I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

¹⁹ "Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now and what will take place later. ²⁰ The mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand and of the seven golden lampstands is this: The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches."

- > This is the word of the Lord.
- » Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE | "THE COSMIC CHRIST"

SENDING -

"CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS" | MUSIC ON P. 3

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own; Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave, Who rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save; His glories now we sing who died and reigns on high, Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side, Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified; No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight, But downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright. Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time, Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime. All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me; Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | COLOSSIANS 1:17-20

- Jesus Christ is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.
- » For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #223



Words: sts. 1, 3, 4 Matthew Bridge, 1851; st. 2 Godfrey Thring, 1874, alt., P.D. Music (DIADEMATA 6.6.8.6 D): George J. Elvey, 1868, P.D.