

Welcome!

We're glad you're here.

Stop by the Welcome Desk downstairs to learn more about Third Church, find ways to connect to our community, and ask any questions that you may have.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 113

- › Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD, you his servants; praise the name of the LORD.
- » **Let the name of the LORD be praised, both now and forevermore.**
- › From the rising of the sun to the place where it sets, the name of the LORD is to be praised. The LORD is exalted over all the nations, his glory above the heavens.
- » **Who is like the LORD our God, the One who sits enthroned on high, who stoops down to look on the heavens and the earth?**
- › He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap; he seats them with princes, with the princes of his people.
- » **Praise the LORD!**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

“COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING”

“THE LION AND THE LAMB”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- » **Jesus Lord, in your mercy,
by your holy life that heals us,
by your holy death that saves us,
by your Holy Spirit with us,
come to cleanse these sinners that we are.
Set us free to obey you;
make us clear to stand before you;
then, for your mercy, we will praise you.
Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE | FROM LAMENTATIONS 3:22-24

- › But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
- » **The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness!**
- › Sisters and brothers, hear the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
- » **Thanks be to God!**

GREETING OF PEACE

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.**

“GREAT ARE YOU, LORD”

DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE READING | JOHN 3:1-21

SERMON | CAMILLE BOYD, CALEB CUNNINGHAM, CAMILLE MURCHIE

THE APOSTLES' CREED

- › Christians, what do you believe?
- » **I believe in God the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sits
at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from there he shall come
to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting.**

Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- › Lift up your hearts!
- » **We lift them up to the Lord.**
- › Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- » **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

- › Holy and merciful God, our Father, you have made us in your image and for yourself. You have made this good world for us to tend and to enjoy.
God, our Father,
- » **Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**

- › You sought your ancient people when they strayed from you. You freed them from the oppressor and brought them home. God, our Father,
- » **Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**

- › You have sent your Son to bring us home to you.
By his Incarnation–
- » **You have found us.**
- › By his Death–
- » **You have forgiven us.**
- › By his Resurrection–
- » **You have freed us.**
- › God, our Father,
- » **Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**

- › In union with Jesus Christ of Nazareth, our Great High Priest, and with all who worship you, both in heaven and on earth, we offer you our praise, singing:
- » ***Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he, blessed is he
Who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

- › Holy and merciful God, our Father, send down your Holy Spirit on our bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ, and on your people, that we may be the body of Christ, reconciled to you and to each other by his blood. By your Holy Spirit make us—
- » **One with Christ, one with each other, and one in mission to all the world,**
- › Until Christ shall come in final victory and we feast together at his heavenly banquet. We cry,
- » **Maranatha! Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION | FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23–26

- › “The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, ‘This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.’ For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.”

FOR OUR GUESTS

The Lord’s Supper, or Communion, is one of the two sacraments we celebrate (the other is baptism). It’s one of the most important things we do when we gather together, because the bread and juice are concrete signs of what Jesus has done for us on the cross. When we come forward to receive them, we believe that Jesus is actually present through the Holy Spirit, extending his grace and forgiveness to us. We welcome anyone to the table who is willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. If you are not able to receive Communion, we invite you to use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers.

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth and the Life. Help me to be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Lead me into the light and life you promise. Amen.

Adapted from prayers written by Rev. Scot Sherman, Redeemer Presbyterian Church

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am more blind and sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete acceptance. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

“TRINITY SONG”

PASTORAL PRAYER 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.**

“WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION”

COMMISSION AND BLESSING | FROM JOHN 8:12 AND EPHESIANS 5:8

- › Jesus said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.”
- » **At one time we were darkness, but now we are light in the Lord.**

POSTLUDE

The Ten O'Clock Hour

Join us between our morning services today to grab some coffee or tea downstairs, make a friend, and attend one of the classes listed below.

Letters of John: Eyewitness Testimony to the Light of the World

John, the disciple whom Jesus loved, wrote five books of the Bible. In 1 John he wrote about both recognizing false teaching and giving believers assurance of their salvation. Join us as we explore how these timeless themes apply to you in 2023.

DAVID SKOVE, DAVID CARROLL | CLASSROOM B

Exploring James

Looking for a place to explore Scripture weekly with others? All are welcome to participate in this accessible and energetic class as it engages the joyful wisdom of James.

GREG CRAWFORD | CLASSROOM G

Metamorphosis: Love Does

Join us for a lively and imaginative dive into *Love Does* by Bob Goff. What does it look like to act out our participation in Jesus' comprehensive plan for healing together in community?

MARY DAMON | CLASSROOM H

Men's Fellowship Hour

A new year and a new space is a great opportunity to meet some new guys or reconnect with old friends from church. Join other men from Third for a time of fellowship and conversation about faith and all of life. Life is hard, but good; don't go it alone.

DREW CLEVELAND | CLASSROOM I

Third Kids

Each Sunday we offer childcare during the services for infants through kindergarten; older kids worship with their parents. Then at 10:00 a.m. we have a dedicated Sunday school hour where our kids meet in age-specific classrooms to learn, sing, and read the Bible together.

CHILDCARE

8:45 AND 11:00 A.M.

During our worship services, childcare is available for children *kindergarten and younger*. Please check them in and drop them off before the service.

- Infants through 2-year-olds will be in their dedicated spaces.
- 3-year-olds through Kindergarten will be in the 3-year-olds' room.

FOLLOWING THE 8:45 SERVICE

If you are planning to attend Sunday school after the service, your child will be escorted to their assigned classroom. Please notify your teacher on the sign-in sheet that your child will be attending Sunday school!

If you are not attending Sunday school, please pick up your children as soon as the service ends.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 A.M.

All our Sunday school classes take place at 10:00 a.m.

- Infants through fourth grade: check your child in on the first floor and walk them to their room.
- Grades 5–6: meet in the Club 56 room on the first floor.
- Grades 7–12: meet in the main Student Ministry room on the second floor.

WIGGLE ROOM

There are lots of wiggle areas around our Regency space. At the back of the Sanctuary there are comfortable areas to hang with an infant or if you need to step out for any other reason. You'll still be able to hear worship, but may be just out of eyesight.

If you need more privacy, we have a Family Room on the first floor in the dedicated children's area. This is a good option for nursing mothers who are looking for a quiet space to nurse.

Prayer Needs

FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Please be praying for our mission partner Young Life as they introduce adolescents to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith throughout the Richmond metro area. We ask you to bless Tiont Williams as he leads a growing ministry to teenagers at John Marshall and George Wythe High Schools.

FOR OUR CITY

We pray for the coming of God’s realm in metropolitan Richmond: for a spirit of unity and cooperation among all people in all jurisdictions; to earnestly seek the common welfare of this metropolitan city; to express compassion and care for our natural environment.

FOR HEALTH

Geof Stiff, Amber Anthony, Drew Cleveland, Elizabeth Conner, Diane Atkinson, Ross Little, Beth Marriott, Holly Kinard, Donna Davis, Kathryn Keller, Keith Byers, Barbara Satterfield, Lauren Earley, Addy Allen, Susan Drumwright, Elaine Metcalf, Stan Smith, Mary Ann Hancock, Al Foster, Jerry Dearmon, Evi Burgin, Susan Higgins, Elaine Turner, Stephanie Brooks

FOR THOSE GRIEVING LOSS

Elizabeth Massie (husband Jimmie, 1/25); Kevin Geraty (wife, Christie 1/21); Leslie Brewer (mother, 1/5); Missy DeRegibus (father, 1/3); Leah Hochstetler (grandfather, 12/28); Gina Maio (grandmother, 12/31); Elizabeth Conner (mother, 12/7); Betty Olson (mother, 11/14)

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

Owen Immanuel Porter 1/27
Halle Joanne Eiswerth 11/27
Lillian “Lily” Beth O’Keefe 11/14
Josephine “Josie” Beverly Wright . . 11/5

DEATHS

Dorothy Jones 1/30
Jimmie Massie 1/25
Christie Geraty 1/21
Doug Kinney 1/15

News & Events

MAKE AN OFFICER NOMINATION TODAY

Our nominations are now open for the roles of deacon, parish elder, governing elder, and trustee. Read about the roles and nominate a covenant partner today.



CHURCH-WIDE PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sunday, February 19, 10:00 a.m.

We're taking a break from our Sunday school classes to have a big breakfast together! All ages are invited to gather in our first floor space for pancakes in advance of Lent, which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22. All Sunday school programming will be cancelled for the day.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION PARTNERS NEEDED!

Conversation partners needed for immigrant and refugee adults learning English—either on Wednesday evenings during tutoring or at another time convenient for you. No experience necessary. Email tutoring@thirdrva.org to learn more.

INTERESTED IN LEADING AN ALPHA COURSE?

We're organizing folks interested in leading an Alpha course. If you have a heart for those exploring the Christian faith, email Drew Cleveland to join a lunch on Sunday, February 12: drewc@thirdrva.org.

FAITH COMMITMENT SUNDAY IS NEXT WEEK, FEBRUARY 12

Making annual financial commitments is greatly helpful for us as we wisely steward our resources, but it is also an important spiritual practice for each of us personally as we trust God's provision in our lives.

If you have not received a Faith Commitment card in the mail, pick one up at the Welcome Center today. Bring your card to the service next week, ready to commit yourself and your resources to God's work in and through our church. Online commitments can also be made at thirdrva.org/give.

Notes



