



CONNECT TO TODAY'S ONLINE WORSHIP GUIDE: [THIRDRVA.ORG/THIS-SUNDAY](http://THIRDRVA.ORG/THIS-SUNDAY)

*Here we post current prayer concerns of those with health needs and those in need of comfort, the full scriptural text for today's service, a link to give online, and important announcements about the life of our church.*

## GATHERING

"ALLEGRO MAESTOSO AND FUGUE FROM SONATA II"  
(FELIX MENDELSSOHN)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 124:8

- › Our help is in the name of the LORD,
- » **Who made heaven and earth.**

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

## "SING PRAISE TO GOD WHO REIGNS ABOVE"

Sing praise to God who reigns above,  
The God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love,  
The God of our salvation.  
My soul with comfort rich he fills,  
And every grief he gently stills:  
To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made,  
In mercy he is keeping;  
By morning glow or evening shade  
His eye is never sleeping.  
And where he rules in kingly might,  
There all is just and all is right:  
To God all praise and glory!

We sought the Lord in our distress;  
O God, in mercy hear us.  
Our Savior saw our helplessness  
And came with peace to cheer us.  
For this we thank and praise the Lord,  
Who is by one and all adored:  
To God all praise and glory!

Let all who name Christ's holy name  
Give God the praise and glory.  
Let all who know his power proclaim  
Aloud the wondrous story.  
Cast every idol from its throne;  
The Lord is God, and he alone:  
To God all praise and glory!

## "GREAT ARE YOU, LORD"

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.*

*All the earth will shout your praise.  
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing.  
Great are you, Lord.*

## CONFESSING

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### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- › Merciful God, for the things we have done that we regret,
- » **Forgive us;**
- › For the things we have failed to do that we regret,
- » **Forgive us;**
- › For all the times we have acted without love,
- » **Forgive us;**
- › For all the times we have reacted without thought,
- » **Forgive us;**
- › For all the times we have withdrawn care,
- » **Forgive us;**
- › For all the times we have failed to forgive,
- » **Forgive us.**
- › For hurtful words said and helpful words unsaid,  
for unfinished tasks and unfulfilled hopes,
- » **God of all time, forgive us and help us  
to lay down our burden of regret. Amen.**

### SILENT CONFESSION

*The Lord is steadfast, merciful, and slow to anger. He extends his mercy to us and receives us as we are. Let's bring our confessions to the Lord silently.*

### WORDS OF COMFORT

- › 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.
- » **Thanks be to Christ for this glorious gift!**

## 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.*

- › God of love, hear the cry of those who yearn for love and for connection. We pray for fractured families, broken homes, those who feel neglected, unwanted and alone. You hear their cries and see their need. Meet these precious ones and draw them into your presence. Surround them with your loving-kindness. Lord, hear our prayer.

### » **(Sing refrain)**

- › God of peace, hear the cry of those who yearn for peace. We pray for battle zones, broken states, and those who feel frightened, fearful, and anxious. We pray especially for those living in Myanmar. We ask that those who are protesting peacefully will be unharmed. Strengthen our brothers and sisters there by the power of your Spirit. Bring hope to people who have lost hope for themselves, their children and their grandchildren. Surround with your peace those who are on the run for fear of being detained. Lord, hear our prayer.

### » **(Sing refrain)**

- › God of healing, hear the cry of those who yearn for mercy. We pray for those who are convicted and in need of your grace, those who are humbled and bowed down. We pray for those who are hurting physically, emotionally, and spiritually, who are weakened and depressed. Surround them with your compassion and with your love. Lord, hear our prayer.

### » **(Sing refrain twice)**

### GREETING OF PEACE

*As a new spiritual family reconciled to one another through Christ, pass the peace of Christ to one another as you're able.*

## THANKSGIVING

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### 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 be praying for our mission partner, the Richmond Center for Christian Study, as they connect with college students and others in the Richmond area to help them come to know Jesus Christ and grow in him.*

### OFFERTORY | "WITHOUT HIS CROSS" (MARTIN)

Without his tears, there is no comfort.  
Without his death, there is no life.  
Without his blood, there is no pardon.  
Without his cross, there is no crown.  
Without his shame, there is no glory.  
Without his grief, there is no joy.  
Without his stripes, there is no healing.  
Without his cross, there is no crown.

Lamb of God, you bring salvation  
And with your grace our hearts are sealed.  
Lord, with your tears of love you bathe our sorrows;  
In your eyes we stand revealed.

Without his tears, there is no comfort.  
Without his death, there is no life.  
Without his blood, there is no pardon.  
Without his cross, there is no crown.

*Want to make a gift this morning? You can drop it in the basket in the Commons or give online at [thirdrva.org/give](http://thirdrva.org/give).*

### 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

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### SCRIPTURE READING | GALATIANS 5:22-23; LUKE 6:32-36

*Read along in your Bible or the online guide for this Sunday at [thirdrva.org/this-sunday](http://thirdrva.org/this-sunday).*

### SERMON | "KINDNESS IN A TIME OF HARSHNESS"

### SENDING

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#### "LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD"

All we, like sheep, have gone astray,  
Wandering on paths of sin.  
Like a good shepherd, Jesus is gathering  
The lost to himself once again.

Tired and weak, lost and afraid,  
Exiled from God, we roam.  
Jesus is calling, hear his voice calling:  
"Sinner, O won't you come home?"

*Let the redeemed of the Lord testify:  
He will your longing soul satisfy.  
Jesus our Savior came to save the lost.  
O praise his name.*

Hate and justice, evil and war,  
Distress us like pangs at birth.  
Jesus, come quickly! We need you now.  
Establish your reign on the earth.

We give you thanks, merciful God.  
Your steadfast love endures forever!

### COMMISSION AND BLESSING | EPHESIANS 4:29-32

- › Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.  
» **Let us be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave us.**

#### "MARCH ON 'LASST UNS ERFREUEN'" (JUNE NIXON)

# SING PRAISE TO GOD WHO REIGNS ABOVE

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #572

D G D B7 Em A

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -  
 2 What God's al-might-y power has made, in mer - cy he is  
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but through all grief dis -  
 4 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy  
 5 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God the praise and

Asus A7 D G D B7 Em

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of  
 keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his eye is  
 > tress - ing, an ev - er pres - ent help and stay, our peace, and  
 hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness and came with  
 glo - ry. Let all who know his power pro - claim a - loud the

A Asus A7 D C#7 F#m Bm E A

our sal - va - tion. My soul with com - fort rich he fills, and  
 nev - er sleep - ing. And where he rules in king - ly might, there  
 > joy, and bless - ing; as with a mo - ther's ten - der hand, God  
 peace to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord, who  
 won - drous sto - ry. Cast ev - ery i - dol from its throne; the

D E A D7 G A Asus A7 D

ev - ery grief he gent - ly stills: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 > gent - ly leads the cho - sen band: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 is by one and all a - dored: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry!

Words: Johann J. Schütz, 1675; tr. Frances Cox, 1864, alt., P.D.

Music (MIT FREUDEN ZART 8.7.8.7.8.8.7): Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesänge*, 1566; harm. Heinrich Reimann, 1895, P.D.

# LET THE REDEEMED OF THE LORD

DEDICATED TO THE REVEREND NAN CLARKE



1. All we, like sheep, have gone a - stray, wand - ering on paths of sin.  
2. Tir - ed and weak, lost and a - fraid, ex - iled from God, we roam.



Like a good shep - herd, Je - sus is gath - ering the lost to him - self once a -  
Je - sus is call - ing, hear his voice call - ing: "Sin - ner, O won't you come

## Refrain



- gain.  
home?" Let the re - deemed of the Lord test - i - fy: He will your long - ing



soul sat - is - fy. Je - sus our Sav - ior came to save the lost.



O praise his name. 3. Hate and in - just - ice, e - vil and war, dis - tress us like



pangs at birth. Je - sus, come quick - ly! We need you now. Es - tab - lish your

## Ending

To Refrain



reign on the earth. We give you thanks, mer - ci - ful God.



Your stead - fast love en - dures for - ev - er!