

CONNECT TO TODAY'S ONLINE WORSHIP GUIDE: 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

"THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD" (MICHAEL BURKHARDT)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP | FROM HABAKKUK 2:20

- > The LORD is in his holy temple;
- » Let all the earth be silent before him.

CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 115

- > Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,
- » For the sake of your steadfast love and mercy!
- The idols of the people are silver and gold, the work of human hands.
 They have mouths, but do not speak; eyes, but do not see.
 They have ears, but do not hear; feet, but do not walk.
- » Those who make them become like them; so do all who trust in them.
- > But we trust in the LORD; he is our help and our shield!
- » We will bless the LORD from this time forth and forevermore.
 Praise the LORD!

PRAYER OF ADORATION

"KING OF KINGS"

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope, without light, Till from heaven you came running.

There was mercy in your eyes.

To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word, From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.

Praise the Father, praise the Son, Praise the Spirit, Three in One. God of glory, majesty, Praise forever to the King of Kings.

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost,
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross.
For even in your suffering, you saw to the other side.
Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake you died.

And the morning that you rose, all of heaven held its breath Till that stone was moved for good,
For the Lamb had conquered death.
And the dead rose from their tombs,
And the angels stood in awe,
For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.

And the church of Christ was born,
Then the Spirit lit the flame.
Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint.
By his blood and in his Name, in his freedom I am free,
For the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me.

"BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE"

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look and see him there Who made an end of all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, My sinful soul is counted free; For God the Just is satisfied To look on him and pardon me, To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! The risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness;
The great unchangeable "I AM,"
The King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION | FROM PSALM 79:9

- Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name,
- » Deliver us, and forgive our sins for your name's sake.

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

- May the light of Christ, rising in glory, banish all darkness from your hearts and minds, forgive you your sins, grant you the joy of his kingdom, and raise you to new and everlasting life.
- » Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the church of Christ throughout the world: for its unity in witness and service, for all church leaders and ministers and the people whom they serve, for all the people of this community, that God will confirm the church in faith, increase it in love, and preserve it in peace. Lord, in your mercy,

» Hear our prayer.

> Let us pray for all nations and peoples of the earth, and for those in authority among them: for the President, for the legislative bodies and the courts, for the members and representatives of the United Nations, for all who serve the common good, that by God's help they may seek justice and truth, and live in peace and concord. Lord, in your mercy,

» Hear our prayer.

Let us pray especially for those affected by the deadly shooting in Atlanta earlier this week: for Asian Americans made in the image of God, for those who feel afraid for the increasing threats of violence to their community, for all who suffer discrimination and profiling; that with God's help, they would feel seen, heard, and protected, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, the church would seek to serve and listen to those who are brokenhearted and crushed in Spirit.

» Hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all who suffer and are afflicted in body or in mind: for the hungry and homeless, the destitute and the oppressed, and all who suffer persecution, doubt, and despair; for the sorrowful and bereaved; for prisoners and captives and those in mortal danger; that God will comfort and relieve them and grant them the knowledge of God's love, and stir up in us the will and patience to minister to their needs. Lord, in your mercy,

» Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- And now, gathering our prayers into one, we boldly pray as our Savior taught us, saying:
- » 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.

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

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 Haiti Outreach Ministries: for the staff, the students, the girls at the orphanage and for peace in Haiti.

MISSION PARTNER INTERVIEW | CAROLYN RENNIE

Want to make a gift this morning? You can drop it in the basket in the Commons or give online at thirdrya.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

SCRIPTURE READING | GALATIANS 5:22-23; MATTHEW 11:28-29

Read along in your Bible or the online guide for this Sunday at thirdrva.org/this-sunday.

SERMON | "GENTLENESS IN A TIME OF ROUGHNESS"

"LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN HUMBLE SERVICE"

Lord, whose love in humble service Bore the weight of human need, Who upon the cross, forsaken, Worked your mercy's perfect deed, We, your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart, Consecrating to your purpose Every gift that you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread; Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead. As you, Lord, in deep compassion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the love your Spirit kindles Still to make your people whole.

As we worship, grant us vision
Till your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving
Your abundant life to share.

Called through worship to your service,
Forth in your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged,
Love in living deeds to show.
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That your servants, Lord, in freedom
May your mercy know, and live.

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | EPHESIANS 4:1-2

- > I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.
- » Let us be completely humble and gentle; patient, bearing with one another in love.

"IF THOU BUT SUFFER TO GUIDE THEE" (J. S. BACH)

KING OF KINGS

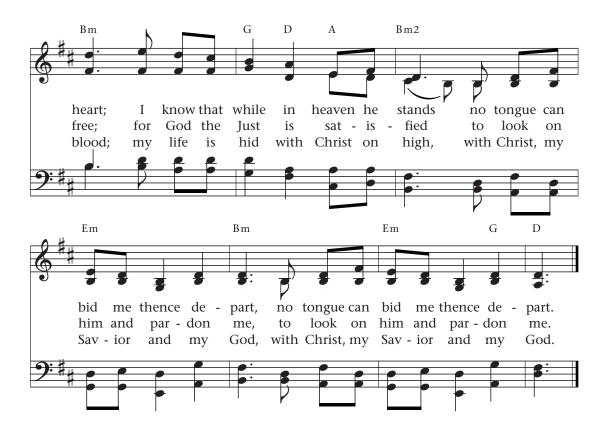


BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #682



Words: Charitie Lees DeCheney Bancroft (1841-1923), P.D. Music (BEFORE THE THRONE 8.8.8.8 D with repeat): Vikki Cook, 1997, © 1997 Soveriegn Grace Worship, admin. EMICMGPublishing.com



LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN HUMBLE SERVICE

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #928



Words: Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984), alt., © 1988 Oxford University Press, reproduced by permission of Oxford University Press

Music (PLEADING SAVIOR 8.7.8.7 D): J. Leavitt's *Christian Lyre*, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaughan Wiliams, 1906, P.D. in North America, used by permission of Oxford University Press for other territories.

