

# 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 96:1-4

- › Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
- » **Sing to the LORD, praise his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.**
- › Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.
- » **For great is the LORD and most worthy of praise.**

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

"KING OF KINGS"

"PSALM 45 (FAIREST OF ALL)"

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- » **Merciful God,**  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you  
with our whole heart and mind and strength;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
Create in us a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within us.

## SILENT CONFESSION

## 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.**

## JOINING OF NEW COVENANT PARTNERS

### GREETING OF PEACE



Let us know you're here today and how we can pray for you!

### 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.**

### OFFERTORY | "BE NOT AFRAID" (COURTNEY)

Be not afraid, for I have redeemed you;  
Be not afraid: I have called you by name.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.  
When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you.  
When you walk through the fire you will not be consumed.  
You are mine; you are precious in My sight.

My love for you is everlasting;  
My love for you shall have no end.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you.  
When you pass through the floods, they will not sweep o'er you.  
When you walk through the fire you will not be consumed.  
You are mine; you are precious in My sight.

You are precious in My sight.

SCRIPTURE READING | ESTHER 4:9-17

SERMON | ESTHER AND THE PROMISE OF DELIVERANCE

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

We respond together:

- › Lord, in your mercy,
- » **Hear our 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.**

“CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS”

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | COLOSSIANS 5:23-24

- › May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- » **The one who calls us is faithful and he will do it.**

POSTLUDE

# The Ten O'Clock Hour

## Pursuing Kingdom Renewal

This class is led by international and local mission partners who are sharing about their practical work of pursuing God's renewal in our city and around the world. This intergenerational class welcomes all ages!

CLASSROOM C/D, UPSTAIRS

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## Prayer Room

Our prayer room is open to all those who need a place to pray or desire to join with others to pray for each other, the life and mission of the church, and our world.

CLASSROOM F, UPSTAIRS

# Third Kids

## CHILDCARE

### ALL MORNING

Childcare is available for children *kindergarten and younger*.\*

**Infants, Toddlers, and Little Lambs** are in their dedicated classrooms.

**Little Lions–Kindergarten\*** are meeting in the Little Lions classroom.

*When you check in, please remember to note when you expect to pick up your children.*

*\*Ages and grade level assignments are as of May 2023. We'll bridge to the next age/class at end of August.*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### 10:00 A.M.

**Little Lions–Kindergarten\*** are meeting in the Little Lions classroom.

**1st through 4th grade\*** are meeting in the 4th grade classroom.

**5th grade and older\*** can join our intergenerational Sunday school class upstairs in Classroom C/D.

## FAMILY ROOM

Looking for a private and quiet space to nurse your infant? Check out the Family Room on the first floor. Families with strollers can use the elevator by the Prayer Room, in the back corner of our space.

# Prayer Needs

## FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Please be praying for Stephanie Black, who serves the kingdom of God in Prague by teaching in theological institutions alongside Serge’s church-planting efforts. She invites and equips others to participate in theological training in cross-cultural settings.

## FOR OUR CITY

We pray for the workplaces and businesses of metropolitan Richmond: for economic development in depressed portions of the city, and for the establishment of businesses that will create new employment opportunities.

## FOR HEALTH

Ian Woie, Karen Tatti, Juan Ledon, Pam Douglas, Richard Haney, Peggy Harvey, Patrick Wallace, Jim Slate, William Higgins, Bill Payne, Elaine Metcalf, Al Foster, Evi Burgin, Elaine Turner, Stephanie Brooks

## FOR THOSE GRIEVING LOSS

Kim Gordon (father, 7/10); Kim Garrett (mother, 7/6); Marybeth Lawrence (husband, 6/26); Karen Tatti (sister, 6/15); Mary Morgan (husband Tom, 5/31); Frank Flanary, Andrea Woie (wife, mother Elizabeth, 4/14); Maggie Tuckley (mother, 4/10); Sunny Rosebro (brother, 4/4)

## BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

Ruby James Bruce . . . . . 8/6  
Emmaline Kate Sadler . . . . . 8/1  
John Lucas “Jack” Brinson . . . . . 7/17  
Rowan Isaiah Ng . . . . . 4/7  
Kennedy Evelyn Steele . . . . . 4/3  
Asher Layne Headley . . . . . 2/19  
Elizabeth Sophia Nix . . . . . 2/4  
Owen Immanuel Porter . . . . . 1/27

## DEATHS

Ann Kooiman . . . . . 7/30  
Mary Ann Hancock . . . . . 7/21  
Tom Morgan . . . . . 5/31  
Elizabeth Flanary . . . . . 4/14  
Velo Christian . . . . . 2/20  
Billie McCray . . . . . 2/2  
Dorothy Jones . . . . . 1/30  
Jimmie Massie . . . . . 1/25  
Christie Geraty . . . . . 1/21  
Doug Kinney . . . . . 1/15

We rejoice in the birth of **Ruby James Bruce** on August 6 to Alex and Janice Bruce and big sisters Lucy and Mae. Please join us in praying for this family!

# News & Events

## **RALLY DAY: KICK OFF THE MINISTRY YEAR WITH US!**

*Sunday, August 20, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.*

Explore our ministry opportunities for the year, feast at our potluck, and reconnect with friends after the summer. Sign up to bring food to share.

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## **SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

*Sunday, August 20, 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.*

Bring your kids between services to visit their new Sunday school rooms and meet their teachers at this Third Kids open house on Rally Day.

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## **PARISH AREA PICNICS**

These picnics are happening in the next few weeks across the city and are a great opportunity to reconnect with Third friends who live in your neighborhood or area and meet new folks!

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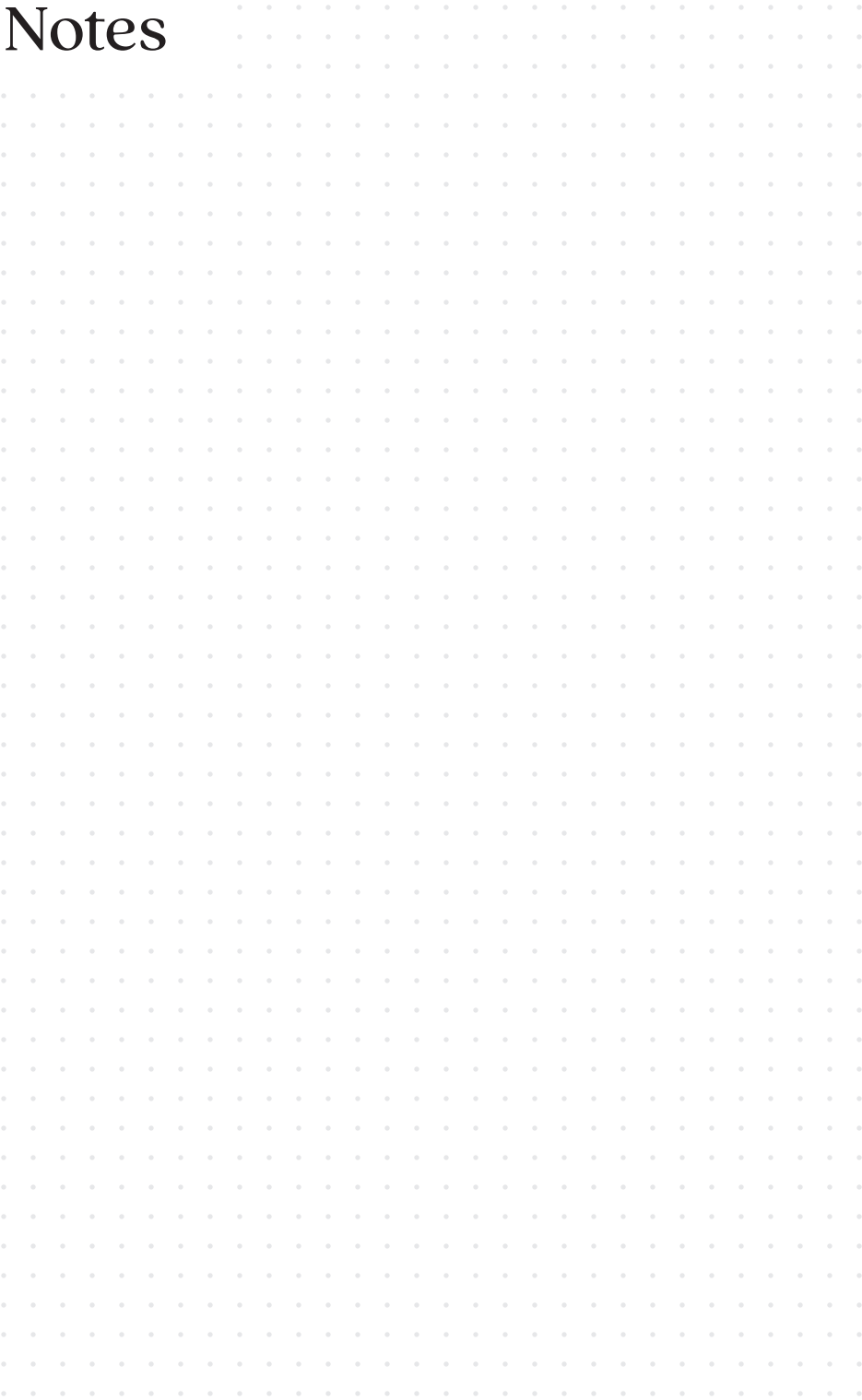
## **NOW HIRING: DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY**

We're looking for a Director of Technology to join our team and provide leadership and direction for the IT infrastructure and systems for Third. Read more and apply online.



For more information and to register for these events, scan the QR codes above or visit [thirdrva.org/events](https://thirdrva.org/events) to see all upcoming events.

# Notes



# Find your place at Third this Fall.



We have many opportunities for you to deepen your community, grow in your love of God, and serve your friends and neighbors!

## PARISH PICNICS

Neighborhood-style picnics happening all over the city this month and next.

## SERVE ON A TEAM

Now's the perfect time to find a place to plug in through serving others.

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## Sunday, August 20

### RALLY DAY

Come next week between 10 and 1 to connect with friends, eat together, and explore ministry opportunities.

### THIRD KIDS OPEN HOUSE

Bring your kids between services to visit their new classrooms and meet their teachers for the year.

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## Sunday, August 27

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Classes for all ages kick off between services at 10:00 a.m.

### STUDENT MINISTRY

Sunday evening gatherings begin at 7:00 p.m. at Regency.

## September

### IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE TUTORING

*Wednesdays at Regency  
Beginning 9/13, 6:45–7:45 p.m.*

Be a tutor for neighborhood immigrant and refugee students—no experience necessary!

### WELCOME COFFEE

*Sunday, 9/17, 10:00 a.m.*

Take your first step at Third with this casual coffee.

### ALPHA

*Mondays, beginning 9/18, 6:00 p.m.*

Curious about Jesus? Have questions you want to work through in trusted community? Check out Alpha.

### EXPLORING COVENANT PARTNERSHIP

*Beginning 9/29*

Considering joining Third? Find out more in this class.

### GRIEF CARE GROUP

*Tuesdays, beginning 9/26*

Find community and support for anyone experiencing grief after the loss of a loved one.



Find all this and more at [thirdrva.org/fall](https://thirdrva.org/fall)