

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 71:5-8

- › 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

"PSALM 131"

"JESUS, STRONG AND KIND"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- › We praise you, Holy God, for your steadfast love given to us in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Hold us by your grace, even as we have sinned against it and marred our relationship with you and our neighbor. We repent of our sins and long for you to restore us.
- » **In your great love come, cleanse, heal and help us, that we may live out our days to the praise of your grace and to the glory of your holy Name.**
Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT | FROM ROMANS 8:31-39

- › Who then is the one who condemns?
- » **No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.**
- › Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
- » **I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

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.**

“I MUST TELL JESUS (WITH BLESSED ASSURANCE)” (MCDONALD)

I must tell Jesus all of my trials;
I cannot bear these burdens alone.
In my distress he kindly will help me;
He ever loves and cares for his own.

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!
I cannot bear my burdens alone.
I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!
Jesus can help me, Jesus alone.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

I must tell Jesus! I must tell Jesus!
I cannot bear my burdens alone.
In my distress he kindly will help me;
He ever loves and he cares for his own.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

This is my song!

“DOXOLOGY”

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.***

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

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.

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.”

“ALWAYS WITH ME”

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.**

“IN CHRIST ALONE”

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | 1 CORINTHIANS 1:28–29

- › God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before him.
- » **It is because of him that we are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.**

POSTLUDE

The Ten O'Clock Hour

Join us between our morning services today to grab some coffee or tea downstairs and visit with a friend. Also, consider attending one of the classes listed below:

People of the Word: Exodus

Led by Kyle Frayser, Gary Van Brocklin, Paul White and Dave Beckmann

Join us for a deep study of the book of Exodus and the story of a holy God's pursuit, deliverance and establishment of his chosen people.

CLASSROOM A/B

Discover the Bible: Sermon on the Mount

Led by Rick Hutton and Becky Bowers

This class will explore the central teachings of Jesus found in Matthew 5-7. This is an open and casual group discussion-based class for all ages.

CLASSROOM C/D

Delta: Young Adults

Led by Drew Cleveland

Join us as we explore a vision for life with God in this unique season of life. College age/20-30s, singles and couples are welcome.

CLASSROOM H

The Generous Life

Led by Craig Heah and Erin Burlew

Using the book *Practicing the King's Economy* as our guide, we will explore the way of Jesus and how we earn, spend, save, and give our money, time and talents.

CLASSROOM G

Metamorphosis: Making Sense of God

Led by Gina Maio and Tom Ebel

Join this safe community of curious souls for an open and honest conversation about faith, doubt, and Tim Keller's book *Making Sense of God*.

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*.

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

Little Lions—Kindergarten are meeting in the Little Lions classroom.

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.
- Grades 5–6: meet in the Club 56 room on the first floor.
- Grades 7–12: meet in the Student Ministry Lounge (Room E) on the second floor.

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 Young Life as they introduce adolescents to Jesus Christ and help them grow in their faith throughout the Richmond metro area. Please pray for Tiont Williams as he leads a growing ministry to teenagers at John Marshall and George Wythe High Schools.

FOR OUR CITY

We pray for schools and educational institutions of metropolitan Richmond: for all superintendents, school boards, school administrators, PTAs, teachers, students, and staff. For curriculum that is grounded in truth and meaning; for space to nourish the creative seed in both teachers and students.

FOR HEALTH

Randee Massey, Sarah Hale, Ian Woie, Karen Tatti, Juan Ledon, Pam Douglas, Patrick Wallace, Jim Slate, Bill Payne, Elaine Metcalf, Al Foster, Evi Burgin, Elaine Turner, Stephanie Brooks

FOR THOSE GRIEVING LOSS

Tom Hayes (mother, 8/18); 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

Wilder Valor Allen 8/23
Novian Lamont Mattox 8/19
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

News & Events

MORE TUTORS NEEDED! IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE TUTORING

Wednesdays at Regency, beginning September 13, 6:45–7:45 p.m.

We still need about a dozen tutors to assist our neighborhood immigrant and refugee students with their homework. No experience necessary. Substitute tutors are also needed!



WELCOME COFFEE

Sunday, September 17 at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor (by the second floor entrance)

If you're new to Third, come to this gathering to meet a few people, learn about Third's vision and what we believe and how to get involved.

ALPHA: BRING YOUR QUESTIONS HERE

Mondays, beginning September 18, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Bring your questions here. Alpha is a series of dinners and group conversations that explore the basics of the Christian faith in an open, friendly environment. Everyone is welcome.



EXPLORING COVENANT PARTNERSHIP

September 29–30, Friday evening and Saturday morning

For those pursuing covenant partnership: Saturday morning, October 7

Are you interested in learning more about Third Church? Join us for this class where we'll go deep on what we believe and how to join our church.



GRIEF CARE GROUP

Tuesdays, beginning September 26, 7-8:30 p.m.

If you are experiencing grief and isolation after the death of a loved one or close friend, we hope that you'll find community and care in this safe space.



LUNCH CELEBRATION FOR NAN CLARKE

Sunday, September 24, 12:30 p.m.

As Nan has stepped down from her role as the Pastor of Care Ministries, we are gathering to thank her and celebrate her over lunch. Bring a dish to share!



For more information and to register for these events, scan the QR codes above or visit thirdva.org/events to see all upcoming events.

Notes



Notes