

#### 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**

## "PARTITA ON 'FOUNDATION'" (DENNIS ELIOT)

# "LIFT UP THE GATES ETERNAL" | HYMNAL #144

Lift up the gates eternal, lift up your voices; The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices.

See, all the earth is God's, its people and nations; God built it on the deeps and laid its foundations.

Who can go up this mountain, who stand in praising? Those who are pure, who come with clean hands upraising.

They shall receive forgiveness, and have God's blessing If they will search for God, their Savior confessing.

Come, lift your voices high, be lifted to glory; The Lord our God approaches; come, shout the story.

Who is this glorious one, for whom we are waiting? We wait the mighty Lord, our God celebrating.

Come, lift your heads with joy; come, lift up your tower; The King of glory comes in full might and power.

Who is this King of glory of whom we're singing? Our God, the Lord of Hosts, the victory is bringing.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

- Jesus Christ has ascended into heaven and is at God's right hand—with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.
- » Since we have a great high priest who has gone into heaven—Jesus, the Son of God—let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. Let us praise his holy name!
- Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!
- » Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength be to our God forevermore!

# PRAYER OF ADORATION

# "O LOVE, HOW DEEP, HOW BROAD, HOW HIGH"

O love, how deep, how broad, how high! It fills the heart with ecstasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take
Our mortal form for mortals' sake.
For us baptized, for us he bore
His holy fast and hungered sore,
For us temptation sharp he knew;
For us the tempter overthrew.

For us he prayed; for us he taught,
For us his daily works he wrought:
By words and signs and actions, thus
Still seeking not himself but us.
For us to evil power betrayed,
Scourged, mocked, in purple robe arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death;
For us gave up his dying breath.

For us he rose from death again;
For us he went on high to reign;
For us he sent his Spirit here
To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.
All glory to our Lord and God
For love so deep, so high, so broad:
The Trinity, whom we adore,
Forever and forevermore.

#### "JESUS, YOUR MERCY"

Jesus, your mercy is all my plea.
I have no defense, my guilt runs too deep.
The best of my works pierced your hands and your feet.
Jesus, your mercy is all my plea!

Jesus, your mercy is all my boast.
The goodness I claim, the grounds of my hope.
Whatever I lack, it's still what I need most.
Jesus, your mercy is all my boast!

Praise the King who bore my sin,
Took my place when I stood condemned.
Oh, how good you've always been to me.
I will sing of your mercy.

Jesus, your mercy is all my rest.
When fears weigh me down and enemies press,
A comfort I cling to in life and in death.
Jesus, your mercy is all my rest!

Jesus, your mercy is all my joy.
Forever I'll lift my heart and my voice,
To sing of a treasure no power can destroy.
Jesus, your mercy is all my joy!

## **CONFESSING**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you.
- » You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.
- > Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you.
- » Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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**

- 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.

#### **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 Needle's Eye Ministries as they seek to build connections between business professionals and matters of faith, and to encourage men and women to impact our community with Christ's values, ethics and love.

## "IN THE FIELDS OF THE LORD"

In the fields of the Lord our work is rest.

He is moving in our hands and feet to bless.

In the fields of the Lord, in the fields of the Lord,

In the fields of the Lord our work is rest.

In the vineyards of the Lord our work is light.
He is tending every leaf and every vine.
In the vineyards of the Lord, in the vineyards of the Lord, In the vineyards of the Lord our work is light.

In the garden of the Lord our work is sound, He is weaving every thorn into a crown. In the garden of the Lord, in the garden of the Lord, In the garden of the Lord our work is sound.

At the harvest of the Lord the fields are white, He will wipe away the tears from ev'ry eye. At the harvest of the Lord, at the harvest of the Lord, At the harvest of the Lord the fields are white.

Want to make a gift this morning? You can drop it in the basket in the Commons or give online at <a href="mailto:thirdrva.org/give">thirdrva.org/give</a>.

# 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**

#### ROMANS 8:20-23; TITUS 2:9,10; REVELATION 21:1,2

Read along in your Bible or the online guide for this Sunday at <a href="mailto:thirdrva.org/this-sunday">thirdrva.org/this-sunday</a>.

SERMON | "OUR WORK, GOD'S KINGDOM"

#### **RESPONDING**

#### 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.

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 OF 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."

## 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."

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

- 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."

As we take the elements together, spend a few moments meditating on the mercy of God given to us in Jesus' death and resurrection. Praise and thank God for his gift of love that binds us together in unity through Jesus' sacrifice!

#### 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.

## **SENDING**

## "ESTABLISH THE WORK OF OUR HANDS"

Without your Spirit, we stand with no strength.
I know my life is passing away,
But the works of your hands are what will remain.
Teach us to number the length of our days.
Pour out your power; we'll pour out your praise.
Teach us to run, to finish the race,
For only what's done in love will remain.

Let the favor of the Lord rest upon us.

O Lord, establish the work of our hands.

O Lord, establish the work of our hands.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

#### COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

- Let the fishers and farmers bless you, great God, the gardeners sing your praise.
   May the cooks and servers bless you, O Lord,
- » Establish the work of our hands.
- Let the healers and caregivers bless you, great God, the mental health workers sing your praise. May the firefighters, police officers and EMTs bless you, O Lord,
- » Establish the work of our hands.
- Let the creators of wealth bless you, great God, the entrepreneurs sing your praise. May the unemployed and under-employed bless you, O Lord,
- » Establish the work of our hands.
- Let the artists and artisans bless you, great God, the musicians and dancers sing your praise.
   May the writers and poets bless you, O Lord,
- » Establish the work of our hands.
- Let the scientists and scholars bless you, great God, the engineers and architects sing your praise.
   May the fixers and builders bless you, O Lord,
- » Establish the work of our hands.
- Let the teachers and parents bless you, great God, the attorneys and judges sing your praise.
   May the pastors and missionaries bless you, O Lord,
- » Establish the work of our hands. Let all who work with their minds, hearts and hands bless you, great God.

"LET ALL TOGETHER PRAISE OUR GOD" (J. S. BACH)

# O LOVE, HOW DEEP, HOW BROAD, HOW HIGH









