

August 20, 2017

It is safe to tell the pure in heart that they shall see God, for only the pure in heart want to.
- C.S. Lewis, *The Problem of Pain*

God gathers us together for worship

Call to Worship

Leader: I love you, O LORD, my strength.

The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,

my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,

my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

People: I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,

and I am saved from my enemies.

Leader: In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I cried for help.

People: From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

Leader: This God – his way is perfect; the word of the LORD proves true;

he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him.

People: For who is God, but the LORD?

And who is a rock, except our God?

Psalm 18:1-4, 6, 30-31

Please stand if able.

We respond in song.

A time to be honest with God about our need for forgiveness. Please read together.

Confession of Sin

Lord God, life is found in You alone, so please hear us as we confess together:

We have been mesmerized by the wealth and glory of this world.

We have compromised our allegiance to You, and have not trusted You as our refuge.

We have often withdrawn from those in need, and cheered the downfall of those we envy.

We have not been wise stewards of gifts for Your kingdom and the common good.

 $\label{thm:continuous} Father in Heaven, for give us! \ Rescue us from the pleasures and the pitfalls of sin.$

Lord Jesus Christ, redeem us! Help us abide in You by faith.

Holy Spirit, renew us! Bear Your fruit in our lives and be our constant comfort.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

At just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

We respond in song.

Romans 5:6

Having been reconciled with God through Christ, we seek peace with one another and participate in His work.

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

Update and prayer: Youth Life Foundation

Isaiah 46:1-9

Scripture Reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God!**

God invites His people to worship Him through the giving of their resources.

Offering

We respond in song.

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon Text

God said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there. Make an altar there to the God who appeared to you when you fled from your brother Esau." 2 So Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Put away the foreign gods that are among you and purify yourselves and change your garments. 3 Then let us arise and go up to Bethel, so that I may make there an altar to the God who answers me in the day of my distress and has been with me wherever I have gone." 4 So they gave to Jacob all the foreign gods that they had, and the rings that were in their ears. Jacob hid them under the terebinth tree that was near Shechem.

5 And as they journeyed, a terror from God fell upon the cities that were around them, so that they did not pursue the sons of Jacob. 6 And Jacob came to Luz (that is, Bethel), which is in the land of Canaan, he and all the people who were with him, 7 and there he built an altar and called the place El-bethel, because there God had revealed himself to him when he fled from his brother. 8 And Deborah, Rebekah's nurse, died, and she was buried under an oak below Bethel. So he called its name Allon-bacuth.

9 God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Paddan-aram, and blessed him. 10 And God said to him, "Your name is Jacob; no longer shall your name be called Jacob, but Israel shall be your name." So he called his name Israel. 11 And God said to him, "I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body. 12 The land that I gave to Abraham and Isaac I will give to you, and I will give the land to your offspring after you." 13 Then God went up from him in the place where he had spoken with him. 14 And Jacob set up a pillar in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone. He poured out a drink offering on it and poured oil on it. 15 So Jacob called the name of the place where God had spoken with him Bethel.

Leader: The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

People: Praise be to God!

Sermon

Genesis 35:1-15

Isaiah 40:8

Today's sermon is given by Rev. Chuck Holliday, Assistant Pastor at Nature Coast PCA in Homosassa Springs, FL.

Invitation to the Lord's Supper

Words of Institution

1 Corinthians 11:23b-26

The Lord Jesus on the night when 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 also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Leader: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

The Lord's Supper

Gluten-free, nut-free wafers are located in the wooden boxes. An elder would be pleased to pray for your children, if you so desire. At the front right of the room stands a person ready to pray with and for you.

We respond in song.

Benediction

About

Northside Church of Richmond is a mission church of the Presbyterian Church in America (www. pcanet.org), planted in October 2011.

Worship Service

Every Sunday at 4pm in the fellowship hall of Battery Park Christian Church, on the corner of Brook and Bellevue. Visitors are always welcome!

Contact

P.O. Box 26175 / Richmond, VA 23260 www.northsidechurchrva.org / 804.516.3322

Staff

Matt Lorish - Pastor matt@northsidechurchrva.org

Joel Passmore - Assistant Pastor, Worship Director joel@northsidechurchrva.org

Nii Aryee - Director of Admin and Community Engagement nii@northsidechurchrva.org

Charity Smith - Ministry Staff charity@northsidechurchrva.org

Corinne Tucker - Ministry Staff, Administrative Assistant corinne@northsidechurchrva.org

Mario Jackson - Vocal Director mariojackson@go.rmc.edu