



# northside church

OF RICHMOND

**July 30, 2017**

So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison.  
- Matthew 5:23-25

## God gathers us together for worship

### Call to Worship

Leader: *Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty heavens!*

People: ***Praise him for his mighty deeds;  
praise him according to his excellent greatness!***

Leader: *Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!*

People: ***Praise him with tambourine and dance;  
praise him with strings and pipe!***

Leader: *Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!*

People: ***Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!  
Praise the Lord!***

*Psalm 150*

Please stand if able.

**We respond in song.**

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

*Daniel 9:9, 18*

**We respond in song.**

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

*Luke 15:17-32*

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

**We respond in song.**

## Confession of Sin

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that Your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin.

In the name of Jesus, our Savior, forgive our lukewarm worship,  
our callousness toward suffering,  
our obsession with comfort and pleasure,  
and our indifference to Your commands.

Holy Spirit, teach us to repent and depend on You, to work for what is good, to love what You love, and to eagerly follow You. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

*The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against Him . . .  
We do not make requests of You because we are righteous, but because of Your great mercy.*

## Passing of the Peace

## Community Life

Update and prayer: High school interns

## Scripture Reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Offering

# God feeds us with His Word

## Sermon Text

Genesis 32:1-22, 33:1-11

*Jacob went on his way, and the angels of God met him. 2 And when Jacob saw them he said, "This is God's camp!" So he called the name of that place Mahanaim.*

*3 And Jacob sent messengers before him to Esau his brother in the land of Seir, the country of Edom, 4 instructing them, "Thus you shall say to my lord Esau: Thus says your servant Jacob, 'I have sojourned with Laban and stayed until now. 5 I have oxen, donkeys, flocks, male servants, and female servants. I have sent to tell my lord, in order that I may find favor in your sight.'"*

*6 And the messengers returned to Jacob, saying, "We came to your brother Esau, and he is coming to meet you, and there are four hundred men with him." 7 Then Jacob was greatly afraid and distressed. He divided the people who were with him, and the flocks and herds and camels, into two camps, 8 thinking, "If Esau comes to the one camp and attacks it, then the camp that is left will escape."*

*9 And Jacob said, "O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, O Lord who said to me, 'Return to your country and to your kindred, that I may do you good,' 10 I am not worthy of the least of all the deeds of steadfast love and all the faithfulness that you have shown to your servant, for with only my staff I crossed this Jordan, and now I have become two camps. 11 Please deliver me from the hand of my brother, from the hand of Esau, for I fear him, that he may come and attack me, the mothers with the children. 12 But you said, 'I will surely do you good, and make your offspring as the sand of the sea, which cannot be numbered for multitude.'"*

*13 So he stayed there that night, and from what he had with him he took a present for his brother Esau, 14 two hundred female goats and twenty male goats, two hundred ewes and twenty rams, 15 thirty milking camels and their calves, forty cows and ten bulls, twenty female donkeys and ten male donkeys. 16 These he handed over to his servants, every drove by itself, and said to his servants, "Pass on ahead of me and put a space between drove and drove." 17 He instructed the first, "When Esau my brother meets you and asks you, 'To whom do you belong? Where are you going? And whose are these ahead of you?' 18 then you shall say, 'They belong to your servant Jacob. They are a present sent to my lord Esau. And moreover, he is behind us.'" 19 He likewise instructed the second and the third and all who followed the droves, "You shall say the same thing to Esau when you find him, 20 and you shall say, 'Moreover, your servant Jacob is behind us.'" For he thought, "I may appease him with the present that goes ahead of me, and afterward I shall see his face. Perhaps he will accept me." 21 So the present passed on ahead of him, and he himself stayed that night in the camp.*

*22 The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.*

*And Jacob lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, Esau was coming, and four hundred men with him. So he divided the children among Leah and Rachel and the two female servants. 2 And he put the servants with their children in front, then Leah with her children, and Rachel and Joseph last of all. 3 He himself went on before them, bowing himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother.*

*4 But Esau ran to meet him and embraced him and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept. 5 And when Esau lifted up his eyes and saw the women and children, he said, "Who are these with you?" Jacob said, "The children whom God has graciously given your servant." 6 Then the servants drew near, they and their children, and bowed down. 7 Leah likewise and her children drew near and bowed down. And last Joseph and Rachel drew near, and they bowed down. 8 Esau said, "What do you mean by all this company that I met?" Jacob answered, "To find favor in the sight of my lord." 9 But Esau said, "I have enough, my brother; keep what you have for yourself." 10 Jacob said, "No, please, if I have found favor in your sight, then accept my present from my hand. For I have seen your face, which is like seeing the face of God, and you have accepted me. 11 Please accept my blessing that is brought to you, because God has dealt graciously with me, and because I have enough." Thus he urged him, and he took it.*

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

**People: Praise be to God!**

## Sermon

**Isaiah 40:8**

Today's sermon is given by Rev. Clint Dowda, pastor of Grace Community Presbyterian Church and member of the Northside Church oversight commission.

# 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](http://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

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