



# northside church

O F R I C H M O N D

**December 17, 2017**

God uses us in the body to build up, spur on, encourage, and bless one another. In fact, the church body ought to be a place where people find help and healing, not where we simply voice our social media status face to face... When we go beneath the surface and speak life-affirming words to the heart of another, it stirs the Spirit within them. It triggers hope within their soul. The love and encouragement from one believer to another is not the same as the world gives, for it is empowered by the Spirit himself.

– Christina Fox, “The Place for Help and Healing,” [thegospelcoalition.org](http://thegospelcoalition.org)

## God gathers us together for worship

### Worship in Song

“Before I Knew”

Words and music: Kirk Ward  
© 2002 Kirk Ward Music

### Call to Worship

Leader: *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.*

*Isaiah 9:2-3, 6-7*

People: ***You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest,  
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.***

The prophet Isaiah tells of a coming King who will rule his people forever in justice and peace.

Leader: *For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be  
upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

People: ***Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.***

### Worship in Song

“Clap Your Hands”

Words and music: Dr. R. A. Vernon &  
“The Word” Church Praise Team

This is a time to be honest with God about our sin and ask Him for forgiveness through Jesus.

*Jeremiah 23:5*

Words and music: Stuart Townend  
© 1995 Thankyou Music

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

Words: Unknown author,  
7th century; Alex Mejias  
Music: Alex Mejias  
© 2009 5PM Records

## Confession and Assurance

Holy God, You have prepared Your salvation in the presence of all peoples,  
yet we are lukewarm about Your Son's coming.

We confess that we have not followed the light of Your Word,  
and have not been consoled by Your presence.

Too often we have sought comforts of our own design,  
and have refused His peace on earth.

Forgive our unbelief, and renew us by Your Holy Spirit that we might eagerly worship You.  
Help us once again find the coming and work of our Savior to be our greatest joy.  
Amen.

- silent confession -

*"Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land."*

## Worship in Song

"How Deep the Father's Love"

## Passing of the Peace

## Community Life

Update and prayer: Mercy Engagement Team

## Scripture Reading

*Luke 9:1-6, 10-11*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## Offering, Worship in Song

"Creator of the Stars of Night"

# God feeds us with His Word

## Sermon

*12 Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. 13 None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. 14 And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, 15 so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. 16 The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.*

*17 But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy 18 they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. 19 But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, 20 "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." 21 And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach.*

*Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought. 22 But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported, 23 "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." 24 Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. 25 And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." 26 Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.*

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

**People: Praise be to God!**

Acts 5:12-26

Isaiah 40:8

Today's sermon is given  
by Assistant Pastor Joel  
Passmore.

1 Corinthians 11:23b-26

Gluten and nut-free wafers can be found in the wooden boxes.

At the front right of the room stands a person ready to pray with and for you.

Words: William Cowper, Kevin Twit  
Music: Kevin Twit, Lucas Morton  
©2015 Kevin Twit Music (ASCAP)  
and Lucas Morton Music (BMI)

Words and music: Hezekiah Walker,  
John David Bratton  
© 2013 Li'l Eva Music

## The Lord's Supper

*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.**

## Worship in Song

"Heal Us, Emmanuel"

"Every Praise"

## 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

Held 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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