



northside church

OF RICHMOND

August 12, 2018

Have you heard God's blessing in your inmost being? Are the words, "You are my beloved child, in whom I delight" an endless source of joy and strength? Have you sensed, through the Holy Spirit, God speaking to you? That blessing- the blessing through the Spirit that is ours through Christ- is what Jacob received, and it is the only remedy against idolatry. Only that blessing makes idols unnecessary. As with Jacob, we usually discover this only after a life of "looking for blessings in all the wrong places." It often takes an experience of crippling weakness for us to finally discover it. That is why so many of the most God-blessed people limp as they dance for joy. - Tim Keller, *Counterfeit Gods*

God gathers us together for worship

Worship in Song

"Arise Oh God"

Words and music: Paul S. Morton
© 2008

Call to Worship

Leader: *How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!
My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.*

Psalm 84:1-4, 10, 12

People: ***Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.***

Leader: *Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!
For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of wickedness.*

People: ***O LORD of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you!***

Worship in Song

"Holy, Holy, Holy"

Words: Reginald Heber;
Music: John B. Dykes
Public domain

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

Confession and Assurance

Loving Lord and King, all of our lives are laid bare before Your eyes:

We often promote ourselves, and overlook people around us.

We nurse anger and envy in secret, while wearing false cheer.

We tether our joy to our circumstances, rather than to the gospel.

We repent of our fruitless wanderings, and ask that You cover us in Jesus Christ.

Help us hear Your voice saying: "Awake and rise!

His blood is your peace, His death is your life, His Spirit is your power."

Convince us that a life lived in Your service is perfect freedom. Amen.

- silent confession -

1 Peter 3:18a

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God.

Words and music: Stuart Townend
© 1995 Thankyou Music

Worship in Song

"How Deep the Father's Love For Us"

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

Passing of the Peace

Community Life

Membership vows: Olivia Persing

Scripture Reading

Revelation 5:1-10

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Words and music: Brian Courtney
Wilson, Aaron Lindsey
©2015 Motown Gospel

Offering, Worship in Song

"I'll Just Say Yes"

God feeds us with His Word

Sermon

Then Jacob called his sons and said, "Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you what shall happen to you in days to come. Genesis 49

2 "Assemble and listen, O sons of Jacob, listen to Israel your father.

3 "Reuben, you are my firstborn, my might, and the firstfruits of my strength, preeminent in dignity and preeminent in power. 4 Unstable as water, you shall not have preeminence, because you went up to your father's bed; then you defiled it—he went up to my couch!

5 "Simeon and Levi are brothers; weapons of violence are their swords. 6 Let my soul come not into their council; O my glory, be not joined to their company. For in their anger they killed men, and in their willfulness they hamstringed oxen. 7 Cursed be their anger, for it is fierce, and their wrath, for it is cruel! I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel.

8 "Judah, your brothers shall praise you; your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; your father's sons shall bow down before you. 9 Judah is a lion's cub; from the prey, my son, you have gone up. He stooped down; he crouched as a lion and as a lioness; who dares rouse him? 10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until tribute comes to him; and to him shall be the obedience of the peoples. 11 Binding his foal to the vine and his donkey's colt to the choice vine, he has washed his garments in wine and his vesture in the blood of grapes. 12 His eyes are darker than wine, and his teeth whiter than milk.

13 "Zebulun shall dwell at the shore of the sea; he shall become a haven for ships, and his border shall be at Sidon.

14 "Issachar is a strong donkey, crouching between the sheepfolds. 15 He saw that a resting place was good, and that the land was pleasant, so he bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant at forced labor.

16 "Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel. 17 Dan shall be a serpent in the way, a viper by the path, that bites the horse's heels so that his rider falls backward. 18 I wait for your salvation, O Lord.

19 "Raiders shall raid Gad, but he shall raid at their heels.

20 "Asher's food shall be rich, and he shall yield royal delicacies.

21 "Naphtali is a doe let loose that bears beautiful fawns.

22 "Joseph is a fruitful bough, a fruitful bough by a spring; his branches run over the wall. 23 The archers bitterly attacked him, shot at him, and harassed him severely, 24 yet his bow remained unmoved; his arms were made agile by the hands of the Mighty One of Jacob (from there is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel), 25 by the God of your father who will help you, by the Almighty who will bless you with blessings of heaven above, blessings of the deep that crouches beneath, blessings of the breasts and of the womb. 26 The blessings of your father are mighty beyond the blessings of my parents, up to the bounties of the everlasting hills. May they be on the head of Joseph, and on the brow of him who was set apart from his brothers.

Today's sermon is given by Senior Pastor Matt Lorish.

27 "Benjamin is a ravenous wolf, in the morning devouring the prey and at evening dividing the spoil."

28 All these are the twelve tribes of Israel. This is what their father said to them as he blessed them, blessing each with the blessing suitable to him. 29 Then he commanded them and said to them, "I am to be gathered to my people; bury me with my fathers in the cave that is in the field of Ephron the Hittite, 30 in the cave that is in the field at Machpelah, to the east of Mamre, in the land of Canaan, which Abraham bought with the field from Ephron the Hittite to possess as a burying place. 31 There they buried Abraham and Sarah his wife. There they buried Isaac and Rebekah his wife, and there I buried Leah— 32 the field and the cave that is in it were bought from the Hittites." 33 When Jacob finished commanding his sons, he drew up his feet into the bed and breathed his last and was gathered to his people.

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

Isaiah 40:8

People: Praise be to God!

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 and music: Reuben Morgan
© 2007 Hillsong Music Publishing

Words and music: Israel Houghton
© 2001 Integrity's Praise! 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

"You Are My Strength"

"You Are Good"

Benediction

About

Northside Church of Richmond is a church of the James River Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in America (www.pcanet.org), planted in Oct 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!

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