THIRD CHURCH SUNDAY, JULY 4, 2021



#### 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**

#### "SUITE GOTHIQUE" (LEON BOELLMANN)

#### "FAMOUS ONE" LITANY

# » Sing:

You are the Lord, the famous One, famous One; Great is your name in all the earth. The heavens declare you're glorious, glorious; Great is your fame beyond the earth.

# From Psalm 95:3-5

 For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.
 In his hand are the depths of the earth, and the mountain peaks belong to him.
 The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

# » (Sing refrain)

From Isaiah 45:8

You heavens above, rain down my righteousness;
 let the clouds shower it down.
 Let the earth open wide,
 let salvation spring up,
 let righteousness flourish with it;
 I, the LORD, have created it.

# » (Sing refrain)

From Colossians 1:15-17

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

# » For in him all things were created:

- Things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.
- » He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.
- » (Sing refrain twice)

#### CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 95:1-2,6-7

- > Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;
- » Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.
- > Let us come before him with thanksgiving
- » And extol him with music and song.
- > Come, let us bow down in worship,
- » Let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;
- > For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,
- » The flock under his care.

# PRAYER OF ADORATION

### "KING OF KINGS"

In the darkness we were waiting, without hope, without light, Till from heaven you came running.

There was mercy in your eyes.

To fulfill the law and prophets, to a virgin came the Word From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.

Praise the Father, praise the Son, Praise the Spirit, Three in One. God of glory, majesty, Praise forever to the King of Kings.

To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost, To redeem the whole creation

You did not despise the cross.

For even in your suffering, you saw to the other side. Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake you died.

And the morning that you rose, all of heaven held its breath Till that stone was moved for good,

For the Lamb had conquered death.

And the dead rose from their tombs,

And the angels stood in awe,

For the souls of all who'd come to the Father are restored.

And the Church of Christ was born,

Then the Spirit lit the flame.

Now this gospel truth of old shall not kneel, shall not faint. By his blood and in his Name, in his freedom I am free, For the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me.

#### "BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE"

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea,
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart;
I know that while in heaven he stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair And tells me of the guilt within, Upward I look and see him there Who made an end of all my sin. Because the sinless Savior died, My sinful soul is counted free; For God the Just is satisfied To look on him and pardon me, To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there! The risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness;
The great unchangeable "I AM,"
The King of glory and of grace!
One with himself I cannot die,
My soul is purchased by his blood;
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

# **CONFESSING**

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

» Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

#### 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**

- > What can wash away our sins?
- » Nothing but the blood of Jesus.
- > We are brothers and sisters through his blood.
- » We have died together, we will rise together, we will live together.
- > In and through Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
- » Thanks be to God!

#### 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 SAT-7, a ministry of five satellite TV channels that broadcast Christian satellite television to 25 countries in three languages. It is free of charge, free to air, easy to access and safe for viewers to watch in remote areas and restricted countries.

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**

# SCRIPTURE READING | PSALM 95

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

# SERMON | "AN INVITATION TO WORSHIP"

#### **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**

#### "MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS"

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace; In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his blood Support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

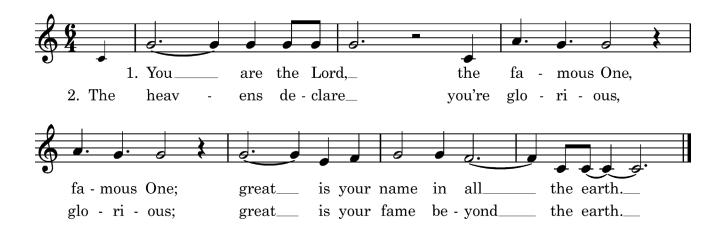
When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found, Dressed in his righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne.

# COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | ISAIAH 55:1-3

- Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;
   and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!
   Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost.
- » Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy?
- Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.
- » Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live.

"RIGAUDON" (ANDRE CAMPRA)

# FAMOUS ONE (REFRAIN)



# KING OF KINGS

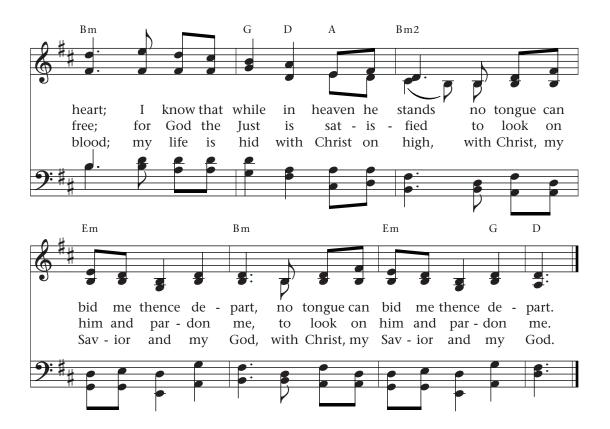


# BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD ABOVE

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #682



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# MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

"LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS" HYMNAL #772



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