

Welcome!

We're glad you're here.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 145

- › The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.
- » **The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.**
- › The LORD upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.
- » **The LORD is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made.**
- › Our mouths will speak in praise of the LORD.
- » **Let every creature praise his holy name forever and ever!**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

“ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING”

“GOODNESS OF GOD”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- › We praise you, Holy God, for your steadfast love given to us in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Hold us by your grace, even as we have sinned against it and marred our relationship with you and our neighbor.
We repent of our sins and long for you to restore us.
- » **In your great love come, cleanse, heal and help us,
that we may live out our days
to the praise of your grace
and to the glory of your holy Name.
Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT AND ASSURANCE | FROM LAMENTATIONS 3:22-24

- › But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
- » **The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness!**
- › Sisters and brothers, hear the good news: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
- » **Thanks be to God!**

GREETING OF PEACE



Let us know you're here today and how we can pray for you!

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.**

OFFERTORY | "LIKE A RIVER IN MY SOUL" (ARR. OSIEK)

I've got peace like a river, like a river in my soul.
 I've got peace like a river, soothing river, calmly flow.
 When the world closes in, feel the stillness within.
 I've got peace like a river, like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean, like an ocean in my soul.
 I've got love like an ocean, endless ocean, deep and full.
 When you're lost and alone, let the waves bring you home.
 I've got love like an ocean, like an ocean in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain, like a fountain in my soul.
 I've got joy like a fountain, like a fountain in my soul.
 When your hope nearly dies, just remember:
 Once again you shall rise!

I've got joy like a fountain, love like an ocean, peace like a river, in my soul.

DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE READING | ROMANS 8:14-17

SERMON | "LIFE AS GOD'S CHILDREN" (COREY WIDMER)

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.**
- › 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.***

FOR OUR GUESTS

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 FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

God, I am not sure what I believe and I have a lot of questions. But I hear the claim that you love me, that you are for me, that you have given yourself to me in the person of Jesus Christ. If this is indeed true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Help my unbelief. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Holy God, I don’t want to do life on my own anymore. I admit that I have often lived my life apart from you, even in rebellion against you. Yet I see that you love me. I believe that you given your Son Jesus Christ to live, die and rise for me. I trust in his work on my behalf and receive your grace and forgiveness. Send your Holy Spirit into my life to help me follow Jesus and his way. Amen.

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.”

“COME TO THE FEAST”

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.**

“NOTHING”

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | FROM 1 JOHN 3:1–2

- › See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!
- » **When Christ appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.**

POSTLUDE

The Ten O'Clock Hour

Join us between our morning services today to grab some coffee or tea downstairs and visit with a friend. Also, consider checking out one of the options listed below:

People of the Word: Exodus

Led by Kyle Frayser, Gary VanBrocklin, Paul White and Dave Beckmann

Join us for a deep study of the book of Exodus and the story of a holy God's pursuit, deliverance and establishment of his chosen people.

CLASSROOM B

Discover the Bible: Galatians

Led by Becky Bowers and Rick Hutton

This class will explore the letter of Galatians and the freedom we have in Christ. This is an open and casual group discussion-based class for all ages.

CLASSROOM C/D

Prayer Room

Our prayer room is open to all those who need a place to pray or desire to join with others to pray for each other, the life and mission of the church, and our world.

CLASSROOM F

Intergenerational Wisdom

Led by Drew Cleveland

There is much to learn from one another's experiences of the world and God's grace. Join us as we hear a different story from a different generation each week.

CLASSROOM G

Metamorphosis: On Loneliness

Led by Mary Damon and Tom Ebel

Join this safe community of curious souls for an open and honest conversation about loneliness, centered on Dr. Mark Mayfield's *The Path Out of Loneliness*.

CLASSROOM I (DOWNSTAIRS)

Third Kids

Each Sunday we offer childcare during the services for infants through kindergarten; older kids worship with their parents. Then at 10:00 a.m. we have a dedicated Sunday school hour where our kids meet in age-specific classrooms to learn, sing, and read the Bible together.

CHILDCARE

8:45 AND 11:00 A.M.

During our worship services, childcare is available for children *kindergarten and younger*.

Infants, Toddlers, and Little Lambs are in their dedicated classrooms.

Little Lions—Kindergarten are meeting in the Little Lions classroom.

FOLLOWING THE 8:45 SERVICE

If you are planning to attend Sunday school after the service, your child will be escorted to their assigned classroom. Please notify your teacher on the sign-in sheet that your child will be attending Sunday school!

If you are not attending Sunday school, please pick up your children as soon as the service ends.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00 A.M.

All our Sunday school classes take place at 10:00 a.m.

- Infants through fourth grade: check your child in on the first floor.
- Grades 5–6: meet in the Club 56 room on the first floor.
- Grades 7–12: meet in the Student Ministry Lounge (Room E) on the second floor.

FAMILY ROOM

Looking for a private and quiet space to nurse your infant? Check out the Family Room on the first floor. Families with strollers can use the elevator by the Prayer Room, in the back corner of our space.

Prayer Needs

FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Please be praying for Lauren Moore serving in Basque France. Lauren is a church planter who has a deep theological understanding of Roman Catholicism, the primary faith tradition in this area of France. Pray for her as she seeks to train other missionaries to bring the message of salvation to the French people.

FOR OUR CITY

We pray for the power of the resurrection to transform metropolitan Richmond: for the redeeming power of God to give us hearts of love, cooperation, peace, community, and commitment to all people in God’s name.

FOR HEALTH

Vickie O’Dell, Margaret Leith, Greg Ellen, Patrice Foster, Jean Sommerville, Judy Duarte, Susan Barr, Ian Woie, Karen Tatti, Juan Ledon, Patrick Wallace, Bill Payne, Elaine Metcalf, Elaine Turner, Stephanie Brooks

FOR THOSE GRIEVING LOSS

Randy Harrison (mother, 2/21); Holly Smith (father, 2/13); Barbara Romanello (husband, 2/8); Jesse Kell (father, 1/4); Glenn Davis (mother, 1/4); Parker Hale (father, 12/8); Alex Bruce (mother, 12/1)

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

Peter Scott Copeland. 2/27
Charles Hunter Brady Williams . . . 2/16
Eva Hargrave Cave. 12/7

DEATHS

Evi Burgin 12/4

We rejoice in the birth of **Peter Scott Copeland** born on February 27, 2024 to Scott and Sarah Copeland, and big sisters Ann Douglas and Caroline. Please join us in praying for this family!

News & Events

FLOURISHING IN THE THIRD THIRD OF LIFE

Wednesdays, March 6 – April 10, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

What does it look like to flourish in the later seasons of life? This six-session course will help you understand how to flourish in the third third of your life. Bring your lunch and join for good teaching and great community.



CLUB 56 RETREAT

Friday and Saturday, March 22–23

Our 5th and 6th grade students are invited to this overnight at Regency, where they'll grow in relationship with God, connect more deeply with one another, and have lots of fun. Learn more and register online.



DONATE EASTER LILIES FOR THE SANCTUARY

Donate a lily to help us decorate our Sanctuary for Easter. Donations can be made in honor or memory of a loved one. Contact Rebecca Hatton to donate (\$20): rebeccah@thirdrva.org.

Notes



renew

THE NEXT CHAPTER

If you call Third your church home, we invite you to make a commitment to the Renew campaign if you haven't yet done so.

You can drop this completed form in the offering plate or commit online at renew.thirdrva.org/commit.

Thank you!

FOLD HERE

TEAR HERE

You can still participate!

We are all invited, and we are all necessary.

Name(s)
.....

By faith, I/we commit to give a total of \$ (fill out the following section)

I/we commit to give to this next chapter of the Renew campaign by the end of 2025, over and above my/our annual giving and any pledge commitments I/we made to the first Renew campaign.

I/we intend to give:

- A one-time gift
- \$ per year over year(s)
- Other:
- I/we would like to donate stock or another asset.
Description and approximate value:

Email Phone

Address

City State Zip

This is a statement of intent, not a legally binding agreement.