

# Welcome!

We're glad you're here.

Stop by the Welcome Desk downstairs to learn more about Third Church, find ways to connect to our community, and ask any questions that you may have.

## PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 66:1-2, 4

- › Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.
- » **All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.**

## PRAYER OF ADORATION

"IL M'A SAUVÉ"

"GOODNESS OF GOD"

"JESUS LOVES ME, THIS I KNOW"

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- » **Jesus Lord, in your mercy,  
by your holy life that heals us,  
by your holy death that saves us,  
by your Holy Spirit with us,  
come to cleanse these sinners that we are.  
Set us free to obey you;  
make us clear to stand before you;  
then, for your mercy, we will praise you.  
Amen.**

Respond in song together:

- » *You hear us call, you hear us call, Abba Father.  
You hear us call, you hear us call, Abba Father.  
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy.  
Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy.*
- » **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.**

#### WORDS OF COMFORT

- › May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from your hearts and minds,  
forgive you your sins, grant you the joy of his kingdom,  
and raise you to new and everlasting life.
- » **Amen.**

#### 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.**

## “THE YEARNING” (COURTNEY/BOERSMA)

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down  
By ancient grief and centuries of sorrow.  
There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide  
And in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow.

There is a yearning, a yearning  
For the promised One, the firstborn of creation.  
There is a yearning for the Lord who visited his own,  
And by his death for sin atoned to bring to us salvation.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

There is a yearning that fills the hearts  
Of those who wait the day of his appearing.  
There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased  
And we shall see the One who placed within our hearts the yearning.

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

## DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE READING | ACTS 26:19–22

SERMON | “WHEN WE SAY YES TO GOD” (LEON DORLEANS)

“BE THOU MY VISION”

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | FROM 2 CORINTHIANS 5:16–20

- › From now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view.
- » **If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:  
The old has gone, the new is here!**
- › All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.
- » **We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors,  
as though God were making his appeal through us.**

## POSTLUDE

# 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. Today we have a special **Family Advent Celebration** for ages 3 through 4th grade accompanied by their adults.

## 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 though two-year-olds: check your child in on the first floor.
- Three-year-olds through fourth grade: join us for our **Family Advent Celebration** in the downstairs Gathering Area.
- 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

Pray for Haiti Outreach Ministries and Pastor Leon Dorleans. Please keep the students, the girls at the orphanage, and the HOM staff in your prayers and pray for peace in Haiti amidst political unrest, gang violence and significant poverty.

## FOR OUR CITY

We pray for the families of metropolitan Richmond: for families going through divorce and for all in the midst of life transitions; for peace, reconciliation, and forgiveness among family members, whatever the distance and however old the hurt or grievance.

## FOR HEALTH

Eli Cox, Emily Oostdyk, Mallory Ballard, Tom Ebel, Mary Hale, Kathy White, Ian Woie, Karen Tatti, Juan Ledon, Patrick Wallace, Jim Slate, Bill Payne, Elaine Metcalf, Evi Burgin, Elaine Turner, Stephanie Brooks

## FOR THOSE GRIEVING LOSS

Brennan Morrisett (mother, 11/9), Mason Robinson (wife, Jean, 11/9); Linda Foster (husband, Al, 10/22); Brad Houff (mother, 9/13); Will and Elisabeth Hayes (son, 9/12); Tom Hayes (mother, 8/18)

## BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

Lucy Hansen Ballard . . . . . 10/31  
Lilly Jael Sawyer . . . . . 10/26  
Margaret Richmond Mattingly . . . . 10/1  
Lily Marie Northcutt. . . . . 9/23  
June Marie Henry . . . . . 9/9  
Elisabeth Louise (Libbie) Bowman . . 9/7

## DEATHS

Gordon Sandridge . . . . . 11/11  
Jean Robinson . . . . . 11/9  
Ann Kooiman . . . . . 7/30  
Mary Ann Hancock. . . . . 7/21  
Tom Morgan. . . . . 5/31  
Elisabeth Flanary. . . . . 4/14

# Budget Update

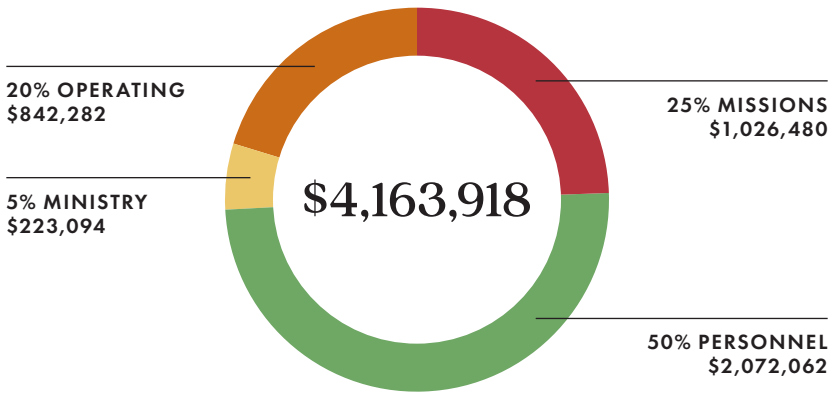
## 2023 BUDGET NEEDS

In order to finish the year strong and position us well for 2024, we rely on gifts in November and December to make up **29% of total projected giving** for the year.



We are in need of and praying for gifts totaling **\$1.2 million before the end of the year** to meet our 2023 budget projection. We invite you to consider including Third in your giving this season. As always, we continue to thank God for his faithful provision and trust that he will continue to meet our every need.

## 2024 BUDGET OVERVIEW



Look for a letter and commitment card in the mail this week. Pray and consider how you can give next year and bring your card to worship on **Faith Commitment Sunday, December 3**. We will make our commitments and pray over them together.

For more information, contact Geof Stiff, Treasurer and Elder ([stiffgs1@gmail.com](mailto:stiffgs1@gmail.com)) or Ed Satterfield, Executive Pastor ([eds@thirdva.org](mailto:eds@thirdva.org)).

# News & Events

## **TODAY! FAMILY ADVENT CELEBRATION**

*Today, 10:00 a.m., Downstairs Gathering Area*

Celebrate the start of Advent together by learning about this special season and enjoying fellowship, crafting, and singing together. For kids ages 3 through 4th grade, accompanied by their adults.

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## **TODAY! MEET OUR MISSION PARTNER: PASTOR LEON DORLEANS**

*Today, 10:00 a.m., Classroom C/D*

Come and hear more from Pastor Leon Dorleans about his work with Haiti Outreach Ministries to develop self-sustaining communities by addressing the physical, mental, economic, and spiritual needs of the people of Haiti.

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## **LESSONS AND CAROLS**

*Sunday, December 3, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m., Regency*

Usher in the Advent season with this special service that tells the full story of God through the reading of Scripture and the singing of both traditional and modern carols. Childcare available at 4:30 service with reservation to Blair.

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## **WOMEN OF VALOR PRAYER GATHERING**

*Saturday, December 9, 9:00–10:30 a.m., Regency*

For any women who want to come and pray in community: come and be encouraged. Particularly well suited for women who feel on the margins. Childcare available with reservation.

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## **WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER**

*Tuesday, December 5, 6:30–8:30 p.m., Regency*

Join us for this beloved gathering with women of Third as we share a meal, worship together, and hear from covenant partner and poet Lauren Medina. RSVP online and bring a dish to share.

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## **DONATE POINSETTIAS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP**

Donate a poinsettia to beautify our Sanctuary during Advent and Christmas, and then enjoy it at home. Poinsettias are \$17.50 each in memory or honor of a loved one. Contact Rebecca by December 6 to order: [rebeccah@thirdrva.org](mailto:rebeccah@thirdrva.org). Poinsettias may be claimed at the conclusion of the Christmas Eve services.

# Notes