

WELCOME!

WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE.

New here? Learn about Third on our website at thirdrva.org and sign up for our ministry emails at thirdrva.org/signup. Looking to get plugged in and find community? Find a parish group meeting near you at thirdrva.org/parish-life.

PRELUDE | "FESTIVE GLORIA" (AARON DAVID MILLER)

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP | "GLORIA IN EXCELSIS" (VIVALDI)

Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Glory be to God in the highest!

CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 24:7-10

- › Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up,
you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
- » **Who is this King of glory?**
- › The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.
- » **Lift up your heads, O you gates; lift them up,
you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.**
- › Who is he, this King of glory?
- » **The LORD Almighty—he is the King of glory.**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL" 61

"THOU WHO WAST RICH BEYOND ALL SPLENDOR"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- › O promised Christ: We are a world at war.
- » **Our peace depends on your coming.**
- › We are a sinful people.
- » **Our pardon depends on your coming.**
- › We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises.
- » **Our only hope of doing God's will
is that you should come and help us do it.**
- › Lord Christ, Word made flesh,
- » **Our world waits for your peace, for your pardon, and for your grace.
Even so: come, Lord Jesus.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF COMFORT

- › The Lord, the Light of light, descended and vanquished the powers of hell on the cross. He will come again to clear the gloom of hell away.
- » **Thanks be to God!**

GREETING OF PEACE

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.**

INTERVIEW WITH MISSION PARTNERS JONATHAN AND MIKA HICKS

DOXOLOGY

SCRIPTURE READING | LUKE 2:25-35

SERMON | "SIMEON: A SONG OF HOPE" (ELISABETH HAYES)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Respond together:

- » ***Joy to the world! The Lord is come.***

"CHRIST IS COMING! LET CREATION"

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | FROM REVELATION 22:20

- › He who testifies to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon."
- » **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

POSTLUDE | "TOCCATA ON 'REGENT SQUARE'" (LANI SMITH)

THE TEN O'CLOCK HOUR

Grab coffee at our **Outdoor Commons** by the playground or check out one of the classes listed below. Have kids? Bring them to one of the classrooms listed on the following page.

Discipleship Pathways: Community & Mission

Together, we'll explore the God who is community and sends us into communities of practice, which can include parishes, acts of service, pursuits of justice, and sharing the gospel.

FELLOWSHIP HALL | DREW CLEVELAND, LJ JAWORSKI, ELISABETH HAYES, JASON SNOOK

Households of Faith: Marriage

Join us as we talk about 6 gospel principles that will strengthen a marriage, based on Paul Tripp's book, *Marriage: 6 Gospel Commitments Every Couple Needs to Make*.

CHOIR ROOM | KATHIE AND ROB COX

Exploring Philippians

All are welcome to participate in this accessible and energetic class as it engages the letter to the Philippians as a community.

ROOM 217 | ADRIENNE WRIGHT

To Be Made Well Book Study

Join this safe and authentic community as we study Amy Julia Becker's recent book, *To Be Made Well*.

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM, 500 FOREST AVE | MARY DAMON

Special Advent Class: Explore the Music of Christmas

This week we'll look at music written over the past 800 years that celebrates the birth of Jesus.

ROOM 213/215 | BILL PAYNE, DAVID SKOVE

CHILDCARE 8:45 AND 11:00 A.M.

Each Sunday we offer childcare during our worship services for infants through kindergarten; older kids worship with their parents.

Infants (up to 12 months or steady walkers)	102
Toddlers	107
2-year-olds.	103
3-year-olds (as of 9/30/22) – Kindergarten.	223

Following the 8:45 service: If you plan to attend Sunday school after the service, your child can be escorted to their assigned classroom but please notify your teacher on the sign-in sheet that they will be attending Sunday school. Otherwise, please pick up your children immediately after the 8:45 service ends.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00 A.M.

During the ten o'clock hour, we have a dedicated Sunday school hour where our kids meet in age-specific classrooms to learn, sing, and read the Bible together.

Infants (up to 12 months or steady walkers)	102
Toddlers (12–24 months)	107
2-year-olds (as of 9/30/22): Little Lambs.	103
3-year-olds (as of 9/30/22): Little Lions.	223
4-year-olds and Pre-K: Little Eagles	202
Kindergarten	220
First grade.	201
Second grade	207
Third grade.	218
Fourth grade.	227
Club 56 (5th and 6th grades).	Basement
7th–12th grades.	Student Ministry Area

Following Sunday school: If your child attends Sunday school and you plan to attend the 11:00 a.m. service, they can be escorted by their teacher to Room 223. Please let your teacher know on the sign-in sheet when you'll be picking up your child!

PRAYER NEEDS

FOR OUR MISSION PARTNERS

Please be praying for our mission partners Gregg and Kathryn Donley with WEC International. Gregg travels to Jordan, Greece, Turkey, Lebanon and Germany and is involved in evangelism, discipleship, leadership development, aid distribution and developing church-planting ministries among various refugee populations in numerous locations. Their ministry goal is to educate and mobilize the Church in the Muslim world.

FOR OUR CITY

Please be praying for persons in financial need in metropolitan Richmond: for healthy relationships; for constructive, safe, and caring households for the bringing up and nurturing of children and caring for the elderly.

FOR HEALTH

Keith Byers, Barbara Satterfield, Randee Massey, Lauren Earley, Addy Allen, Carrie Henaghan, Carolyn Oakley, Susan Drumwright, Elaine Metcalf, Joe Slay, Stan Smith, Mary Ann Hancock, Al Foster, Jerry Dearmon, Beatrice White, Evi Burgin, Linda Ludlow, Susan Higgins, Elaine Turner, Stephanie Brooks, Christie Geraty

FOR THOSE GRIEVING LOSS

Elizabeth Conner (mother, 12/7); Betty Olson (mother, 11/14); William Muangala (grandmother); Joy Orteza (father, 10/31); Jane Fields (husband, Jim, 10/7)

BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

Halle Joanne Eiswerth 11/27
Lillian "Lily" Beth O'Keefe 11/14
Josephine "Josie" Beverly Wright . . 11/5
Owen Patrick Cherry 10/31
Robert Rhodes Gardiner 10/5
John Watson Henderson 9/26
Wren Carter Blackwell 9/24
Jane Crosby Kochard 9/19

DEATHS

Jim Fields 10/7
Betty Thomas 4/5
Loma Shafer 3/14
Liam Geraty 2/24
Taylor Frazier 2/13
Garry Buttner 2/3
Jinny Bartlett 1/8

NEWS & EVENTS

CHRISTMAS SERVICES: DECEMBER 24 AND 25

Join us on **Christmas Eve** for one of our services in the Sanctuary: 3:30, 5:00, 7:30, and 9:00 p.m. Communion will be served at the 9:00 service. Childcare available for kids three and younger during 3:30 and 5:00 services (please RSVP to Susan: susanb@thirdrva.org). Then join us on **Christmas morning** at 11:00 a.m. for a casual service of carol singing, prayer, and a brief message.

TODAY! MEET OUR MISSION PARTNER: JONATHAN AND MIKA HICKS

12:15 p.m., Office Building at 500 Forest Ave.

The Hickses work together with a small Japanese congregation to reach the people of Fukuoka, Japan. Learn more and join us for lunch. No RSVP needed.

BARNABAS TRAINING BASIC

Saturday, February 11, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Our friends at the Barnabas Center host this seminar that equips you to go deeper in conversations and better care for friends facing difficult times in life and faith. Early bird discount ends December 20! Register today.



NO IN-PERSON WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

Due to our move, we will not have in-person worship services on Sunday, January 1. Instead, we will provide an at-home worship guide with pre-recorded message to use with your family, friends, or on your own that morning.

THIRD OFFICE CLOSURES

Please note that our office will be closed on Monday, December 26, Friday, December 30, and Monday, January 2. Any tithes sent to Third should be postmarked by December 31, or hand delivered by Thursday, December 29.

GIVING TO THIRD

As you make any end-of-year gifts, we're asking that you consider Third in your plans. We are grateful for the many ways you have already contributed this year and look forward to another wonderful (and exciting!) year of ministry ahead.

Please note that our office will be closed on Monday, December 26, Friday, December 30, and Monday, January 2. Any tithes sent to Third should be postmarked by December 31, or hand delivered by Thursday, December 29.

REVENUE
\$2.912MM

761K

BUDGET
\$3.673MM

While we do plan for many of the gifts to Third to come in during the last month of the year, we are facing a larger gap (\$179K) than we anticipated. That means we need current pledges and planned giving to be fulfilled in December as well as a little extra from those who are able. This will not only help us reach our revenue budget, but, more importantly, will help us to not incur a loss for 2023.

Furthermore, if we are able to exceed our current goals, that will enable us to fulfill our commitments to our refugee families: namely, raising additional funds for things like rent, transportation and legal support for the new year.



GIVE ONLINE AT [THIRD.RVA.ORG/GIVE](https://thirdrva.org/give)

Need help with online giving? Email us at finance@thirdrva.org.

Our first Sunday at Regency will be January 8.

Join us as we fill our temporary space with our people and our praise!
Sunday morning services at 8:45 & 11:00.



Help us prep our space! We've compiled a number of workdays over the next few weeks to help us paint, prep, and organize our space. Find a time you can stop by or commit a full day.