

## Order Of Worship :: April 22nd, 2012 :: Third Sunday in Easter

Easter is not a day, it is a seven week celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The holiest of all Christian seasons, Easter begins on Easter Day and lasts 50 days, ending on Pentecost Sunday. Thus, in 2012 it begins on April 8 and ends on May 27. During the seven weeks of the Easter season, the theme of worship is the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead and the promise of the renewal of all things. In most churches the season is marked by the colors white and gold. White represents the angels who announced the resurrection, while gold symbolizes triumph.

### GREETING

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

### CALL TO WORSHIP: Based on Matthew 18:20

Joyful is the sound we make this morning!

**For this day liberates us from doubt and fear.**

Thankful is the song we sing!

**For this day moves us past darkness and despair.**

Hopeful is the prayer upon our lips!

**For this day awakens in us long-awaited new life.**

Jesus said, “Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

**Christ lives here and now.**

**He is among us at this and every moment!**

May his peace and presence be known to you.

**And also to you.**

### PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of glory, fill your church with the power that flows from Christ’s resurrection so that, in the midst of the sinful world, it may signal the beginning of a renewed humanity, risen to new life with Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

### SONG OF APPROACH: Agnus Dei Words and Music by Michael W. Smith, 1990.

Alleluia, Alleluia  
For the Lord God almighty Reigns (repeat)

Alleluia, Alleluia  
Holy, Holy,  
Are you Lord God almighty  
Worthy is the Lamb, Worthy is the Lamb, Amen

### CONFESSION OF SIN: From Luke 10:26-27

““What is written in the law?’ You shall love the Lord your God with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Together, in freedom and with hope, let us confess our brokenness before the Lord.

**Almighty Father, We confess that we do not and cannot keep your law, “since through the law comes knowledge of sin”, we are rebellious and needy people. We do not love you rightly and so, do not love each other rightly. We confess that you have given your only Son to die for our sins, and to rise again for our justification; Forgive us, restore us, and grant to us the grace to put aside all malice, wickedness, and complacency; that we may always serve you in pureness of living and truth; through the merits of Christ our Lord. Amen**

Now is a time of silent confession for specific and personal sins.

### SONG OF CONFESSION: Nothing but the Blood of Jesus Words Robert Lowry, 1876; Arr. by Village Church E.A., 2011.

What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

For my cleansing, this I see, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
For my pardon, this my plea, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Oh, precious is the flow that makes me white as snow.  
No other fount I know. Nothing but the blood of Jesus.*

Nothing can for sin atone, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
Naught of good that I have done, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Chorus*

This is all my hope and peace, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.  
This is all my righteousness, Nothing but the blood of Jesus.

*Chorus*

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON: From Romans 3:23-26; 8:38

Brothers and Sisters, because God put forth Jesus as the sacrifice for our sins, know that through faith in him we receive forgiveness. Therefore let us confess our assurance of pardon.

**For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks Be to God!**

### SONG OF PRAISE: In Christ Alone Words and Music By Keith Getty and Stuart Townend, 2001.

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This corner-stone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless babe.  
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save;  
Till on that cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For every sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again.  
And as He stands in victory, sin’s curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am his and he is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow’r of Christ in me.  
From life’s first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow’r of hell, no scheme of man, could ever pluck me from His hand.  
‘Til He returns or calls me home here in the power of Christ I stand

### CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed (325 A.D.)

Christian, what is it that we believe?

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit He was born of the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; and with the Father and the Son He is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children, crawling - 5 years old, are dismissed to Sunday School at this time.

### SONG OF PRAISE: The Gospel is Good News Indeed Taken from the Gadsby Hymnal, #528 Words by William Gadsby, 1773-1844. Music by Benj Pocta, 2005.

The gospel is good news indeed,  
To sinners deep in debt;  
The man who has no works to plead,  
Will thankful be for it.  
To know that when he’s nought to pay,  
His debts area all discharged,  
Will make him blooming look as May,  
And set his soul at large.

No news can be compared with this,  
To men oppressed with sin;  
Who know what legal bondage is,  
And labor but in vain.  
Freedom from sin and Satan’s chains,  
And legal toil as well,  
The gospel sweetly now proclaims;  
Which tidings suit them well.

How gladly does the prisoner hear,  
What gospel has to tell!  
‘Tis perfect love that casts out fear,  
And brings him from his cell.  
The man that feels his guilt abound,  
And knows himself unclean,  
Will find the gospel’s joyful sound,  
Is welcome news to him.

### CELEBRATION of BAPTISM Hallie Rose McCarty, daughter of Garrick and Lindsay McCarty

### OLD TESTAMENT READING: 1 Samuel 2:1-10 (p. 226 in pew Bible)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON: The Throne of God

The Rev. Kellett Thomas  
Revelation 4:1-11 (p. 1030 in pew Bible)

### Notes

### THE OFFERING

The offering is a part of our worship for those who consider Village Church their home. Visitors should not feel any obligation to give.

### SONG OF PRAISE: Abide with Me Words by Henry F. Lyte, 1847; Music by Justin Smith, 2010.

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, abide with me.

Thou on my head in early youth didst smile  
and, though rebellious, and perverse meanwhile,  
thou hast not left me, though I oft left thee,  
On to the close Lord, abide with me.

I need Thy presence every passing hour.  
What but Thy grace, can foil the tempter’s power?  
Who, like Thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight, tears loose their bitterness.  
Where is thy sting death? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies  
Heav’n’s morning breaks, and earth’s vain shadows flee.  
In life, in death, Lord, abide with me.

## COMMUNION

*Invitation to the Table*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

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 Him thanks and praise.**

*Words of Institution*

*Breaking Bread Together*



## 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.

## SONG OF THANKS: Prayer of St. Francis

**Words attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, date unknown; Alt. Words and Music by Marti Reardon, 2006.**

Make me an instrument of peace,  
Where there is hate let me sow love.  
Where there is hurt let me bring your healing.

Make me an instrument of peace,  
Where there is fear let faith arise.  
Where there is dark let me be your light.

*Make of me the hands and feet,  
I want to be to the people around me.  
What you want to be to the people around me.*

It's in the loving we find love,  
Its in the giving we receive.  
Its in the dying we are found, found, found!

*Chorus*

Make me an instrument of peace,  
Where there is fear let faith arise.  
Where there is dark let me be your light.

## BENEDICTION: 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God the Father  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Amen.**

## SENDING: based on 1 Corinthians 6:19

You are not your own, you were bought with a price. Go now live to  
the glory of God and walk in the peace of our risen Savior.

**Thanks be to God.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Membership/Inquirer's Class - Friday, April 27

What is church membership? Is it important? What kind of church is Village Church? What are our core beliefs? These and many other questions will be answered at our upcoming membership/inquirers classes. The class will only be **Friday evening from 7 to 9pm at the home of the Hoods**. Attendance is required to join the church, but feel free to come and ask questions even if you don't plan on joining. For more info or to RSVP email Helen at [helen@villagechurchofeastatlanta.org](mailto:helen@villagechurchofeastatlanta.org).

### Nik's Activity Hour/Childcare - Tuesday, May 1 and Thursday

**May 17, 7:30pm-8:30pm** - Provide a helping hand to the children of Nicolas House while parents are completing classes and training. Volunteers will prepare one or two activities for children aged 8-11. Space is limited. To sign up, contact Jacob Rufenacht.

**Doves for Pentecost Sunday** – Come make doves for Pentecost Sunday at the McGinnis's house on Saturday, May 5th from 2pm to 4pm. E-mail Amity at [amity.mcginnis@gmail.com](mailto:amity.mcginnis@gmail.com) with questions.

**Volunteer at the Brownwood Bike Rally!** – Volunteer opportunities are available through the East Atlanta Kid's Club to support the upcoming 2012 Brownwood Bike Rally to be held on May 5. Help is needed with logistics, registration, marketing, fundraising, and more. For more information, check out [www.eastatlantakids.org](http://www.eastatlantakids.org).

### Village Church Women's Gathering - Friday, May 11

Save the Date! We will have a Women's Gathering at the Blake's house on Friday, May 11th at 7pm. Please e-mail Rachael Smith at [mrsrachaelsmith@gmail.com](mailto:mrsrachaelsmith@gmail.com) for details.

**Stay Connected** - Want to know about upcoming events and happenings at Village Church and in the neighborhood? Sign up on our website for our weekly info emails. [www.villagechurchofeastatlanta.org/connect](http://www.villagechurchofeastatlanta.org/connect).

# Third Sunday in Easter



## WELCOME TO VILLAGE CHURCH!

Our desire is to be a church that is *in, of, and for* East Atlanta Village and its surrounding neighborhoods. We believe that the church is not a place to go, or an event to attend, but *a community of people* who have been changed by the love and grace of God in Jesus Christ. As those who have been so loved, the church is called to love and bless whatever place it finds itself. That's why we hope to not only be a church that meets *in* the neighborhood, or is simply made up *of* people from the neighborhood, but we desire to be *for* the neighborhood, working for its care and welfare.

### Village Church of East Atlanta

602 Brownwood Ave SE

Atlanta, GA 30316

Sundays at 10:00 am

**Website:** <http://www.villagechurchofeastatlanta.org>

**Office Phone:** 404.865.1443

**Mailing Address:**

457 Flat Shoals Ave

Suite 1-B

Atlanta, GA 30316

**Pastor:** Matthew Armstrong

**Email:** [matt@villagechurchofeastatlanta.org](mailto:matt@villagechurchofeastatlanta.org)

**Administration & Finance:** Helen Kynes

**Email:** [helen@villagechurchofeastatlanta.org](mailto:helen@villagechurchofeastatlanta.org)

**Worship Director:** Jeremy Ezell

**Email:** [jeremy@villagechurchofeastatlanta.org](mailto:jeremy@villagechurchofeastatlanta.org)