

**Subject:** Sacrificial Worship  
**From:** "St. Francis Episcopal Church" <[vicar@stfrancisva.org](mailto:vicar@stfrancisva.org)>  
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# St Francis



August 12, 2015

## **Sacrificial Worship**

*I appeal to you, therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*

## *Romans 12:1*

### ***Presenting Yourself***

Last Sunday in worship we sang Tim Hughes' wonderful song "Here I Am To Worship." Many of us gathered there had known this song for a number of years. He wrote it in 1999 and it has been sung around the world since that time. It is about presenting yourself to God as a living sacrifice for worship. Here is how he came to write it as described in various sources:

Tim Hughes wrote this song in 1999 as a response to how he felt after reading [Philippians 2](#). The passage speaks about Christ's humility and how He willingly left His throne in heaven, came to earth as a man, and sacrificed Himself on the cross all because of His love for us. With this passage in mind, Tim picked up his guitar and, as he sang, the words to the song flowed out, but he was not satisfied with the chorus and felt that it did not flow well with the song. For several months, he struggled with the chorus and even put the song aside for about six months before finally finishing the song. However, he was still not confident in the chorus. It was not until he played this song at his home church [Soul Survivor](#), and his pastor told him to play the song more often, that he realized the potential the song had. Since then, this song has spread and become widely known. Tim Hughes himself said. "No one has been more surprised than myself at seeing how God has used this worship song."

As you can see there is no overwhelming experience or dire circumstance prompting him to write this song. He simply presented himself to God for worship and stuck with it until he broke through.

### ***The Sacrifice***

For you and me there is a sacrifice to be made every time we worship. On the outside we make a sacrifice of time and effort when we drive to a church service. We make a sacrifice when we give financially. However, what if you do not feel like worshipping? What if you are too tired, had a rough week, feel as if you have to do something else, or just don't want to for no reason. That's when you make the sacrifice that may be very meaningful. Would you make the sacrifice of going to church to worship on the Sunday morning when you just don't want to go? Would you make the sacrifice of offering to God a sacrifice of praise and worship when you are all by yourself and would just rather not? Would you offer God a sacrifice of worship if you are mad at Him, or expected God to do something for you and and it seems He did not come through? What sacrifice is God drawing from you right now?

## **Coming Attractions**

***Wednesday, August 12, 2015*** vestry committee meeting at 4:00pm

***Sunday, August 16, 2015*** worship at 10:00am

**Tuesday, August 18, 2015** worship and healing service qt 6:15pm

**Sunday, August 23, 2015** worship at 10:00am

**Please bring non perishable food to worship** with you for distribution to the Goochland Free Clinic and Family Services Food Pantry

***Our Missional Communities***

*The Parke* will meet for pot luck and fellowship on August 16th at 5:00pm at the home of Richard and Hedy Walker. Contact Richard at [richardandhedy@yahoo.com](mailto:richardandhedy@yahoo.com)

*Symphony* will meet on August 23, 2015 at 9:00am at the Symphony Assisted Living. Contact Bobbie Leviness at [bobbiedrew@yahoo.com](mailto:bobbiedrew@yahoo.com)

***Centerville Circle of Prayer***

For Manakin Sabot Veterinary Clinic that animals in our area would lead healthy lives

***Diocese of Virginia***

For the clergy and people of St. Mary's, Lively, that they would continually walk in the power of the Holy Spirit.

***Metropolitan Richmond***

For all businesses and workplaces in Metropolitan Richmond: For financial institutions, healthy and constructive investment practices and policies, effective development efforts to benefit every community in the region.

***What if you have a question or concern for the vicar?*** Here are five ways you can communicate with the vicar:

1. Ask the vicar directly
2. Ask for a meeting at a later date
3. Sit at the vicar's table at the monthly pot luck
4. Email or phone call
5. If you feel the need, ask a vestry member to come along with them to a meeting with the vicar- this is an essential ministry of vestry members

Grace and Peace,

John Maher

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