



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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"Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together."

January 10, 2021

1st Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude *Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior* arr. McDonald

▪ GIVE PRAISE TO GOD ▪

* Opening Words

What a year 2020 has been! So many things have happened. Some of them have been wonderful; many of them, very sad. In all of this, our Lord has been with us; guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing. Now we are on the threshold of a new year. We don't know what it holds for us. In all of what is to come, God is with us, guiding, healing, comforting, and rejoicing with us. Let us give thanks for God's steadfast love and presence.

* Opening Prayer

*** Opening Hymn** *Great is thy faithfulness* # 327

Great is Thy Faithfulness by Thomas O. Chisholm and William Runyan
© 1923, renewal 1951 Hope Publishing Company
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▪ CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY ▪

Commissioning of Our 2021 Board

Congregation: Do you willingly accept the responsibility to which you have been called, and do you promise to be faithful in fulfilling that responsibility?

Board Members: *We do.*

Congregation: Will you seek to live a life worthy of this trust, exemplifying Christian faith and spirit in all that you do?

Board Members: *We will.*

Congregation: Will you be creative, redemptive, and cooperative as you work together in common tasks?

Board Members: *We will.*

Congregation: Will you prepare yourself by becoming familiar with congregational, district, and denominational policies and ministries? And will you prepare through regular Bible study, prayer, worship, and sharing in the life of this faith community?

Board Members: *We will.*

Congregation: We, as brothers and sisters in Christ, affirm you as leaders called to serve in this congregation. We offer to you our cooperation and confidence, our prayers and support, so that both the knowledge and love of God revealed in Jesus Christ may increase among us and in all of God's creation.

Time with Our Children

A New Year Prayer for Love

* Song

Higher Ground

Oatman/Gabriel

• WORSHIP IN GIVING •

1. I'm press - ing on the up - ward way, New heights I'm
 2. My heart has no de - sire to stay Where doubts a -
 3. I want to live a - bove the world, Tho' Sa - tan's
 4. I want to scale the ut - most height, And catch a

gain - ing ev - 'ry day; Still pray - ing as I'm on - ward
 rise and fears dis - may; Tho' some may dwell where these a -
 darts at me are hurled; For faith has caught the joy - ful
 gleam of glo - ry bright; But still I'll pray till heav'n I've

bound, "Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground."
 bound, My prayer, my aim is high - er ground.
 sound, The song of saints on high - er ground.
 found, "Lord, lead me on to high - er ground."

Chorus
 Lord, lift me up and let me stand, By faith, on heav - en's ta - ble - land,
 A high - er plane than I have found; Lord, plant my feet on high - er ground.

Invitation to Give

• LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED •

Special Music

Prayer for Peace

Schroeder

Prayer for Peace by John O. Schroeder
1968 The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)
CCLI License No. 11428263 Size B; 20298271 Size A

Scripture Lesson

Philippians 3:12-14 (NRSV)

Sermon

"On Your Mark!"

Covenant

One: Having been led by the Holy Spirit to receive Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and on the profession of our faith in Him, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit,

Many: We do now in the presence of God most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one Body in Christ.

We promise that we will watch over and counsel one another in the spirit of brotherly love, that we will remember one another in our prayers and that we will aid each other in sickness and distress.

One: We further agree, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to strive for the upbuilding of this church through knowledge, holiness and witness;

Many: To promote its spiritual and physical well being; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline

and doctrines; and to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

One: We further covenant to maintain family and private devotions;

Many: To educate our children in the knowledge and discipline of the Lord; to seek the salvation of our family and acquaintances;

One: To live wisely in this present world;

Many: To do justice in our dealings, to honor our commitments, and to live as Christ-like examples to the world; to avoid all gossip and slander, but rather to live as peacemakers; to abstain from everything that will cause our brother to stumble or that will bring reproach upon the cause of Christ;

One: To strive to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior,

Many: That in criticism or praise we will humbly and earnestly seek to live to the honor and glory of Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.

** Please stand as able and led*



Pastor.....	David Whitten
Worship Leader.....	Bob Gangwer
Children's Story	Jackie Allgood
Special Music.....	Sarah Beers & Bob Phillips
Flutist.....	Sarah Beers
Pianist.....	Bob Phillips
Producer	Kevin Beers

- GO IN GOD'S NAME -

*** Closing Hymn** *Blessed assurance* #332

*** Benediction**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the sweet fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all now and forever. Amen.

*** Postlude** *Higher Ground* Gabriel