



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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

February 7, 2021

5th Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

I Love To Tell / Jesus Loves Me

arr. Marty Parks

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Opening Words

Wild Goose Worship Group, Iona Community

Jesus was always the guest.

In the homes of Peter and Jairus

Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna

he was always the guest.

At the meal tables of the wealthy

where he pled the case of the poor

he was always the guest.

Upsetting polite company

befriending isolated people

he was always the guest.

But here, at this table, Jesus is the host.

Those who wish to serve him

must first be served by him

those who want to follow him

must first be fed by him

those who would wash his feet

must first let him make them clean.

For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished

this is the time when Christ can make us new.

So come, you who hunger and thirst

for a deeper faith

for a fuller life

for a better world.

Jesus Christ,
who sat at our tables
now invites us to be guests at his.

*** Opening Prayer** (in unison)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

*** Opening Song** *Here, O my Lord, I see thee* (vv. 1-3) #465

- 1 Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face.
Here would I touch and handle things unseen,
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
and all my weariness upon thee lean.
- 2 Here would I feed upon the bread of God,
here drink with thee the royal wine of heav'n.
Here would I lay aside each earthly load,
here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.
- 3 This is the hour of banquet and of song;
this is the heav'nly table spread for me.
Here let me feast, and, feasting, still prolong
the brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.

"Here, O my Lord, I see thee" by Horatius Bonar, M. Lee Suiter
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CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with Our Children

Congregational Prayer

Song

Let us break bread together

#453

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees.
Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

When I fall on my knees
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.

- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees.
Let us drink wine together on our knees. [Refrain]
- 3 Let us praise God together on our knees.
Let us praise God together on our knees. [Refrain]

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Invitation to Give

There are no pockets in a funeral burial cloth, no U-Hauls behind a hearse. Seek joy in what you give, not in what you get.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Special Music

Scripture Lesson

Luke 6:1-16 (NRSV)

The Question about the Sabbath

One Sabbath while Jesus was going through the grainfields, his disciples plucked some heads of grain, rubbed them in their hands, and ate them. But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" Jesus answered, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? He entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not

lawful for any but the priests to eat, and gave some to his companions?” Then he said to them, “The Son of Man is lord of the sabbath.”

The Man with a Withered Hand

On another sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. The scribes and the Pharisees watched him to see whether he would cure on the sabbath, so that they might find an accusation against him. Even though he knew what they were thinking, he said to the man who had the withered hand, “Come and stand here.” He got up and stood there. Then Jesus said to them, “I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?” After looking around at all of them, he said to him, “Stretch out your hand.” He did so, and his hand was restored. But they were filled with fury and discussed with one another what they might do to Jesus.

Jesus Chooses the Twelve Apostles

Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray; and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

Sermon “Jesus the Progressive!”

Service of Communion

Prayer of Confession

Minister: Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets
are hid.

People: **Help us to be honest with ourselves and
with you. Save us from believing we can**

live without you. Enable us to speak our hopes and joys, guilt and fears.

Minister: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit . . .

People: Forgive our sins and fill us with your love. Renew our trust in your forgiving love. Let your love be our peace and your reconciliation for the world.

Minister: That we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name.

People: Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray, Amen.

Liturgy for Bread and Cup Communion

Reading of 1st Corinthians 11:23-24 (ESV)

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Unison Prayer

Our God, as we break this bread with the person next to us we are aware of that part of ourselves that is hurting and broken. We also know of things that need to be broken and done away with. We offer all this to you and invite your presence into our brokenness. For it is there that you can reach us and care for us. Amen.

Blessing the Bread and Affirmation of Faith

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

Reading of 1st Corinthians 11:25-26 (ESV)

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Blessing the Cup and Affirmation of Faith:

This cup which we bless is the communion of the
blood of Christ.

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving:

Lord, we have been guests at your table. We know the wholeness that comes when we accept your life and make it ours. We give you thanks for all the blessings that come our way. We thank you even more that in our very difficult moments, in our pain and confusion, even in our separateness from each other, you are present with us. Nothing can separate us from your love. In the assurance of that promise, we truly wish to be your healed and healing body in this world. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Closing Hymn

Sent forth by God's blessing

#478

I Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God
from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended,
O now be extended
the fruits of this service
in all who believe.

The fruit of Christ's teaching,
receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action
for God and for all.

His grace did invite us,
his love shall unite us
to work for God's kingdom
and answer his call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving
to God ever living,
the tasks of our ev'ryday
life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing,
in love ever caring,
embracing the children
of each tribe and race.

With your feast you feed us,
with your light now lead us;
unite us as one
in this life that we share.

Then may all the living
with praise and thanksgiving
give honor to Christ
and his name which we bear.

Sent Forth by God's Blessing (The Ash Grove) by Gerald Hocken Knight, Omer Westendorf

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GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **Benediction**

* **Postlude**

I Gave My Life for Thee

Philip Bliss

** Please stand as able and led*

	
Pastor	David Whitten
Worship Leader	Judith Whitten
Children's Story	Terrie Glass
Special Music	Anna & Travis Williams
Flutist	Sarah Beers
Guitarist	Dave Whitten
Pianist	Bob Phillips
Dir. of Technology & Media	Kevin Beers