



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

7612 Wanyama Road, Henrico, Virginia 23229-4239

804-288-6439 804-282-4408 (fax) wrcob@wrcob.org www.wrcob.org



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

7612 Wanyamala Road, Henrico, Virginia 23229-4239

804-288-6439 804-282-4408 (fax) wrcob@wrcob.org www.wrcob.org

January 2, 2022

2nd Sunday of Christmas

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Birthday of A King

William Neidlinger

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Invitation to Worship

When God lights our way, we will not be lost. For just as wisemen journeyed toward a star long years ago, we too seek to follow the radiance of God's glory, to follow where God leads, to follow through worship and praise.

* Prayer of Gathering

(based on Psalm 80:1-2)

O God, we need to be saved - - from ourselves, from degrading habits, from broken relationships, from false power, from greed, from war, from injustice, from apathy, from despair. In these days of the New Year, we celebrate the epiphany or "showing forth" of Jesus, one whose name means "God saves." Save us into the light of Jesus. Save us that we might sing your glory. Amen.

* Hymn

O beautiful star of Bethlehem

#275, Voices Together

Beautiful Star Of Bethlehem by R. Fisher Boyce

© 1940. Renewed 1967 James D. Vaughan, Music Publisher (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)

CCLI License No. 11428263 Size B; 20298271 Size A

275 O Beautiful Star of Bethlehem

BEAUTIFUL STAR OF BETHLEHEM 9.8.10.9.8.10 with refrain

G C

1 O beau-ti-ful star of Beth-le-hem, shi-ning a - far through shad-ows
 2 O beau-ti-ful star, the hope of light, guid-ing the pil-grim through the
 3 O beau-ti-ful star, the hope of rest for the re-deemed, the good, and

G Em D A/E D/F#

dim, giv-ing a light for those who long have gone, (have gone,
 night, o - ver the moun-tain till the break of dawn; (the dawn;)
 blest, yon-der in glo - ry when the crown is won; (is won,)

G C

and guid-ing the trav-lers on their way un - to the place where Je - sus
 and in - to the light of per-fect day it will give out a love-ly
 for Je - sus is now that Star di-vine; bright-er and bright-er he will

G A7/E D7 G C G

lay; beau-ti-ful star of Beth-le-hem, shine on. (shine on.)
 ray; beau-ti-ful star of Beth-le-hem, shine on. (shine on.)
 shine; beau-ti-ful star of Beth-le-hem, shine on. (shine on.)

Text: R. Fisher Boyce (USA), ca. 1940

Music: R. Fisher Boyce, 1940; harm. Adger M. Pace (USA)

© 1940, renewed 1967 James D. Vaughan Music Publisher (dist. Spirit Sound Music Group)

Refrain

O beau-ti-ful star D G of Beth-le-hem, C

Beau-ti-ful, beau-ti-ful star, star of Beth-le-

G shine up-on us un-til the glo-ry Em D A/E D/F# dawn;

hem, shine up-on us un-til the glo-ry, glo-ry dawn;

G oh, give us your light to light the way in-to the land of per-fect C

oh, give us your light to light the way in-to the land of per-fect

G A7/E D7 G C G day; beau-ti-ful star of Beth-le-hem, shine on. (shine on.)

day; beau-ti-ful star of Beth-le-hem, shine on. (shine on.)

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with Our Children

Congregational Prayer

(adapted from *Lost in Wonder Love and Praise*, Killinger)

O God of mercy, whose love is as constant as the shining of the sun beyond clouds and as deep as any ocean depths, at the beginning of this new year we seek your light and your will. Let your spirit come freshly upon us, and give us the humility that will move us beyond conceit. Let your spirit give us love for every person, every creature, every moment of creation, that we may walk with reverence in the world, instilled with wonder. Impart to the worried new confidence, to the fearful new trust, to the sick new healing, to the distraught new hope, to the mournful new comfort, to the lonely new fellowship. Quicken our sensibilities, deepen our compassion, stir anew our commitment that we may tell your way like it will be. Amen.

Hymn

“As with gladness men of old” (vs. 1-3)

2 | 8

1. As with gladness men of old,
did the guiding star behold
There to bend the knee before
thee whom heaven and earth adore;
so, most gracious Lord, may we,
evermore be led to thee
2. As with joyful steps they sped,
Savior, to thy lowly bed.
There to bend the knee before
thee whom heaven and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
every seek thy mercy seat
3. As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,

pure and free from sin's alloy.
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly king

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

In the nighttimes and wintertimes of life, Jesus can be born anew in our lives through love, a love that shines brighter than the moon or stars or anything else. We are to shine with that love among cultures and peoples, among pandemics and divisions, among creation and destruction, so that all might kneel in the radiance of Jesus, a radiance that gifts us with beauty, peace, and joy. May we have hearts and voices and hands to sing that glory in the highest and to help gift it to others.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Special Music

Noel Sing We Clear

arr. Robert Hughes

Scripture Lesson

Daniel 6: 11-28 (GNB)

¹¹ When Daniel's enemies observed him praying to God, ¹² all of them went together to the king to accuse Daniel. They said, "Your Majesty, you signed an order that for the next thirty days anyone who requested anything from any god or from any human being except you, would be thrown into a pit filled with lions."

The king replied, "Yes, that is a strict order, a law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be changed."

¹³ Then they said to the king, "Daniel, one of the exiles from Judah, does not respect Your Majesty or obey the order you issued. He prays regularly three times a day."

¹⁴ When the king heard this, he was upset and did his best to find some way to rescue Daniel. He kept trying until sunset. ¹⁵ Then Daniel's enemies came back to the king and said to him, "Your Majesty knows that according to the laws of the Medes and Persians no order which the king issues can be changed."

¹⁶ So the king gave orders for Daniel to be taken and thrown into the pit filled with lions. He said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve so loyally, rescue you." ¹⁷ A stone was put over the mouth of the pit, and the king placed his own royal seal and the seal of his noblemen on the stone, so that no one could rescue Daniel. ¹⁸ Then the king returned to the palace and spent a sleepless night, without food or any form of entertainment.

¹⁹ At dawn the king got up and hurried to the pit. ²⁰ When he got there, he called out anxiously, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Was the God you serve so loyally able to save you from the lions?"

²¹ Daniel answered, "May Your Majesty live forever! ²² God sent his angel to shut the mouths of the lions so that they would not hurt me. He did this because he knew that I was innocent and because I have not wronged you, Your Majesty."

²³ The king was overjoyed and gave orders for Daniel to be pulled up out of the pit. So they pulled him up and saw that he had not been hurt at all, for he trusted God. ²⁴ Then the king gave orders to arrest all those who had accused Daniel, and he had them thrown, together with their wives and children, into the pit filled with lions. Before they even reached the bottom of the pit, the lions pounced on them and broke all their bones.

²⁵ Then King Darius wrote to the people of all nations, races, and languages on earth:

"Greetings! ²⁶ I command that throughout my empire everyone should fear and respect Daniel's God.

"He is a living God,
and he will rule forever.
His kingdom will never be destroyed,
and his power will never come to an end.

²⁷ He saves and rescues;
he performs wonders and miracles
in heaven and on earth.
He saved Daniel from being killed by the lions.”

²⁸ Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of
Cyrus the Persian.

Sermon

“Telling It Like It Will Be”

GO IN GOD’S NAME

* Hymn

Beyond the dying sun

3 2 3

1. Beyond the dying sun I saw a vision of the sea,
of golden sails full billowed in the wind.
And echoing above the waves a voice called after me,”
God’s dwelling place is with you till the end.”

*I see a new world coming
when ev’ryone is free!
And all shall be God’s people
in justice, love, and peace.*

2. For God at last shall wipe away the tears from ev’ry eye. The
sting of death shall pierce the heart not more.
When grieving turns to laughter all the pain from us shall fly,
and former ways lie bleached upon the shore. *(refrain)*
3. Though hatred rages on the wind and wars defile the land, I
see those golden sails still coming strong,
for through the eyes of faith still shines the vision of the Lamb,
and o’er a weary earth there rings this song. *(refrain)*

* Benediction

O God, just as prophets envisioned, angels sang, shepherds
journeyed, and wisemen worshiped, help us to envision, sing,

journey, and worship, as we seek to give glory and service to One who changed the world. Amen

Postlude

Christians, Be Joyful

J.S. Bach

Christians Be Joyful by Franklin Ritter, Johann Sebastian Bach
© 1971, 1973, 1978 The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)
CCLI License No. 11428263 Size B; 20298271 Size A

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Guest Speaker.....	David Brunk
Worship Leader	Susan Robertson
Children's Time	Terrie Glass
Special Music	Bob Phillips
Flautist	Sarah Hartman
Pianist	Bob Phillips
Violinist	Bill Kinzie
Media & Technology Director	Kevin Beers