



FIFTH  
Sunday  
OF LENT



**West Richmond Church of the Brethren**

7612 Wanyamala Road, Henrico, Virginia 23229-4239

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April 3, 2022

Fifth Sunday of Lent

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## Welcome and Announcements

**Prelude** *Were You There/He Never Said a Mumblin' Word* arr. L. Leatherman

## GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

### \* Opening Prayer

United Church of Canada

**One:** We are passing through a threshold that leads into a new way of being church. At this threshold we are not alone: God is creating new paths and possibilities,

**Many:** as we prepare for where we are going.

**One:** Christ is freeing us with newfound love and grace,

**Many:** as we learn from where we have been.

**One:** The Spirit is revealing new dreams to guide us,

**Many:** as we start our journey home on a new path.

**One:** At this entryway: We take courage in the assurance that God goes with us; we affirm our call to go where Christ leads; and we trust the Spirit to guide us through the challenging space between, where we have been, where we are, and where we are going. Surely, we are not alone.

**Many:** Thanks be to God.

### \* Hymn

*Great is thy faithfulness*

# 327

- 1) Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father.  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

*Refrain:*

*Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!*

*Morning by morning new mercies I see.*

*All I have needed thy hand hath provided.*

*Great is thy faithfulness! Lord, unto me!*

- 2) Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon and stars in their courses above,  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. *[Refrain]*
- 3) Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow;  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *[Refrain]*

## CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

### A Time to Remember

Ann Miller Andrus

### Special Music

#### Celtic Farewell

Linda R. Lamb

Celtic Farewell by Linda R. Lamb, © 2002 The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Inc.  
(Admin. by Music Services, Inc.), CCLI License No. 11428263 Size B; 20298271 Size A

### A Time to Re-member

United Church of Canada

Reader: God remains with us,

People: **Though we let go of our cherished place.**

Reader: God remains with us,

People: **Though we sing new songs in new places and  
worship in new ways.**

Reader: God remains with us

People: **Though we serve in different ways and pursue  
different causes.**

Reader: God remains with us,

People: **Though we make new friends**

Reader: God's love remains with us,

People: **God's justice will inspire us, God's realm will call us  
to action. God is eternally for us.**

- 1) Now thank we all our God  
with heart and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom his world rejoices,  
who, from our mothers' arms,  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.
- 2) Oh, may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
to keep us safe in grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world in the next.
- 3) All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son and him who reigns  
with them in highest heaven  
the one eternal God,  
whom earth and heav'n adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

## Time with Our Children

### WORSHIP IN GIVING

#### Thoughts on Giving

Tithe.ly, adapted

**Do Not Worry...** “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and

the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

## **LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED**

**Song**

*Bless’d be the tie that binds* (verses 1-4)

# 421

- 1) Bless’d be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
is like to that above.
- 2) Before our Father's throne  
we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.
- 3) We share each other’s woes,  
each other’s burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.

- 4) When we asunder part,  
it gives us inward pain;  
but we shall still be joined in heart,  
and hope to meet again.

## Scripture Lesson

Judges 7:1-8 (NRSV)

7 Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the troops that were with him rose early and encamped beside the spring of Harod; and the camp of Midian was north of them, below the hill of Moreh, in the valley.

2 The Lord said to Gideon, “The troops with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand. Israel would only take the credit away from me, saying, ‘My own hand has delivered me.’”<sup>3</sup> Now therefore proclaim this in the hearing of the troops, ‘Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him return home.’” Thus Gideon sifted them out; twenty-two thousand returned, and ten thousand remained.

4 Then the Lord said to Gideon, “The troops are still too many; take them down to the water and I will sift them out for you there. When I say, ‘This one shall go with you,’ he shall go with you; and when I say, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ he shall not go.”<sup>5</sup> So he brought the troops down to the water; and the Lord said to Gideon, “All those who lap the water with their tongues, as a dog laps, you shall put to one side; all those who kneel down to drink, putting their hands to their mouths, you shall put to the other side.”<sup>6</sup> The number of those that lapped was three hundred; but all the rest of the troops knelt down to drink water.<sup>7</sup> Then the Lord said to Gideon, “With the three hundred that lapped I will deliver you, and give the Midianites into your hand. Let all the others go to their homes.”<sup>8</sup> So he took the jars of the troops from their hands, and their trumpets; and he sent all the rest of Israel back to their own tents, but retained the three hundred. The camp of Midian was below him in the valley.

## Sermon

“Go in the Strength You Have”

# GO IN GOD'S NAME

\* Closing Hymn

*God be with you till we meet again*

Voices Together

## 840 God Be with You Till We Meet Again

GOD BE WITH YOU 9.8.8.9 with refrain

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing coun - sels guide, up -  
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen wings, pro - tect - ing,  
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con -  
 4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's ban - ner float - ing

hold you, may the Shep - herd's care en - fold you; God be  
 hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be  
 found you, put un - fail - ing arms a - round you; God be  
 o'er you, smite death's threat - ning wave be - fore you; God be

with you till we meet a - gain. Till we meet, Till we meet, till we  
 meet, a - gain, till we meet at Je - sus' feet. till we meet. Till we  
 meet, Till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
 Till we meet, a - gain, a - gain, a - gain.

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin (USA), *Gospel Bells*, 1880, alt.  
 Music: William C. Tomer (USA), *Gospel Bells*, 1880

**\* Benediction**

United Church of Canada

One: As we pass over each new threshold,  
let us give all thanks and glory to God,

Many: **whose power working in us can do infinitely more than  
we can ask or imagine.**

One: Glory to God from generation to generation, in the  
church, and through the Spirit, now and forever,

Many: **Amen.**

**Postlude**

*Blessed Be the Name / Heaven*

Hutson/Wilson

\* Please stand as able and led



<b>Ministers</b> .....	<b>All Members</b>
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Worship Leader .....	Alyce Newman
Song Leader.....	Bob Gangwer
Children's Time .....	Sarah Hartman
Special Music .....	Handbell Choir
Flautist .....	Sarah Hartman
Organist/Pianist .....	Bob Phillips
Violinist .....	Bill Kinzie
Media & Technology Dir. ....	Kevin Beers