



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

7612 Wanyamala Road, Henrico, Virginia 23229-4239

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May 1, 2022

2nd Sunday after Easter

Welcome and Announcements

Organ Prelude *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* arr. E. Broughton

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain arranged by E. Broughton

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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

One: Now is the time to sing!

to sing the good news of God:

**Many: who awakens us with dawn's embrace,
who surrounds us with joy and life.**

One: Now is the time to offer praise to God,
in every place, with every voice:

**Many: to rejoice in the One who leads us through each
moment with a gentle hand and a word of hope.**

One: Now is the time to join all creation in extolling God,
from the depths of the sea to the farthest galaxies:

**Many: We will sing the good news of Easter!
We will rejoice in the God who loves us.**

* Opening Prayer

King of Kings, we love to sing praises to you. We rejoice in you, our maker. We exalt you, our King. We praise your name, for you delight in your people. We do not deserve to come into the presence of the Holy God of the Universe but you have crowned the humble with victory, you have lifted up those who are bowed down, you have clothed us in your righteousness. We

come before you with confidence, not based on ourselves, but based on your love. Let your praises be in our hearts and on our lips. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

*** Opening Hymn**

I sing the mighty power of God

46

- 1) I sing the mighty pow'r of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command,
and all the stars obey.

- 2) I sing the goodness of the Lord,
that filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures with a word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

- 3) There's not a plant or flower below,
but makes your glories known,
and clouds arise and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne.
While all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
there's not a place where we can flee,
but God is present there.

[CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY](#)

Congregational Prayer

Song

Because He lives

#345

God sent his Son, they called him Jesus,
he came to love, heal, and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my parson,
an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.
Because he lives I can face tomorrow,
because he lives all fear is gone;
because I know he holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because he lives.

Time with Our Children

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

1 Timothy 6:16

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Special Music

My God and I

arr. Gilbert Martin

Scripture Lesson

Acts 9:1-19a (NRSV)

The Conversion of Saul

9 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are

persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

Prayerful Response to the Word

Convert us, Jesus the persecuted, as you converted Paul and sent him as apostle to the world. May our love, our prayers, our suffering carry your gospel at whatever cost to all who wait to hear it. Amen.

Sermon

“As One Untimely Born”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **Closing Hymn** *I will sing of my Redeemer* (vv. 1,3-4) #344

1) I will sing of my Redeemer
and his wondrous love to me.
On the cruel cross he suffered
from the curse to set me free.

*Refrain: Sing, oh sing of my Redeemer,
with his blood he purchased me,
on the cross he sealed my pardon,
paid the debt and made me free.*

2) I will tell the wondrous story,
how, my lost estate to save,
in his boundless love and mercy,
he the ransom freely gave.

3) I will praise my dear Redeemer,
his triumphant pow'r I'll tell,
how the victory he giveth
over sin and death and hell.

4) I will sing of my Redeemer,
and his heav'nly love to me.
He from death to life hath brought me,
Son of God, with him to be.

* **Benediction**

Postlude *Christ Is Risen, Hallelujah* arr. Phillips

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor David Whitten	Guitarist David Whitten
Worship Leader..... Barbara Beers	Organist/Pianist Bob Phillips
Children's Time..... Sarah Hartman	Violinist Bill Kinzie
Flautist Sarah Hartman	Media & Tech Director..... Kevin Beers