



*“Continuing the work of Jesus.
Peacefully. Simply. Together.”*



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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May 8, 2022

3rd Sunday after Easter

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude Duet

Siciliano

J. S. Bach

Siciliano by George Blake, Johann Sebastian Bach

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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Opening Words

Carol Penner, posted on Leading in Worship

And Jesus said, “Come!”

To all mothers and all children: he said, “Come!”

to the motherless and the childless: he said, “Come!”

to all who long to be mothered: he said, “Come!”

Come unto me all ye who labour and are heavy-laden,
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble of heart
and you will find rest for your souls.”

* Opening Prayer

Our Creator God, we give thanks for it was you who formed our inwards parts and knit us together in our mothers’ womb. We praise you for we are fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are you works. We honor you in all we do in this morning’s worship. Amen.

* Opening Hymn

Here I Am to Worship

#227 VT

- 1) Light of the world, you stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see
beauty that made this heart adore you,
hope of a life spent with you.

*So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down;
here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.*

- 2) King of all days,
oh, so highly exalted,
glorious in heaven above,
humbly you came to the earth you created,
all for love's sake became poor.

*So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down;
here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.*

And I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross.
I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross. (2x)

*So here I am to worship, here I am to bow down;
here I am to say that you're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
altogether wonderful to me.*

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Congregational Prayer

<http://www.worldinprayer.org/>

Holy One, we gather in your presence to give you thanks and to celebrate the gift of your love; a love that supports, nurtures and

challenges us in ways that strengthen and transform us. We offer you praise and thanksgiving for your unfailing presence in our lives and all of the blessings that you so generously offer us.

Today, as we celebrate Mother's Day, we give thanks for mothers the world over. We give thanks for all those who have nurtured and care for us, remembering especially, birth mothers, adoptive mothers, surrogate mothers, aunts, grandmothers, teachers, neighbors and all women who have shared their faith with us.

We pray, compassionate God, for those mothers who have been hurt, disillusioned, or disappointed in their role as mother. We pray for those who have been denied a longed-for chance at motherhood, and for those whose years of mothering have been cut short by the loss of a child.

We lift up before you, O God, the members of our human family around the world—for those who are afflicted or suffering at this time—for those who need healing, for those who require bread or shelter, for those who live in violent homes and communities, for those who are grieving, and for those whose needs are known to you alone.

Holy Creator God of us all, touch us with your healing peace and gentle embrace that we may walk in your ways bringing dignity, justice and peace to all corners of your world. All of this we pray in the strong name of Jesus.

Song

I was there to hear your borning cry

1078

"I was there to hear your borning cry" by John Ylvisaker
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- 1) I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child,
with a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off
and find where demons dwell.

- 2) When you found the wonder of the Word
I was there to cheer you on;
you were raised to praise the living God,
to whom you now belong.
Should you find someone to share your time
and you join your hearts as one,
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme
from dusk till rising sun.
- 3) In the middle ages of your life,
not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night,
complete what I've begun.
When the evening gently closes in
and you shut your weary eyes,
I'll be there as I have always been
with just one more surprise.
- 4) I was there to hear your borning cry,
I'll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,
to see your life unfold.

Time with Our Children (then children leave for Children's Church)

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts of Giving on Mother's Day

Proverbs 31:18, 20

She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. She opens her hand to the poor, and reaches out her hands to the needy.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Special Music

Scripture Lesson

Proverbs 31:25-31 (NRSV)

- ²⁵ Strength and dignity are her clothing,
and she laughs at the time to come.
- ²⁶ She opens her mouth with wisdom,
and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- ²⁷ She looks well to the ways of her household,
and does not eat the bread of idleness.
- ²⁸ Her children rise up and call her happy;
her husband too, and he praises her:
- ²⁹ “Many women have done excellently,
but you surpass them all.”
- ³⁰ Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain,
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
- ³¹ Give her a share in the fruit of her hands,
and let her works praise her in the city gates.

Sermon

“A Woman’s Strength”

GO IN GOD’S NAME

* Closing Hymn

Spirit of God! descend

502

- 1) Spirit of God! Descend upon my heart.
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move.
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.
- 2) I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.
- 3) Hast thou not bid us love you, God and King?
All, all thine own, soul, heart and strength, and mind;
I see thy cross, there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

- 4) Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh.
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.
- 5) Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heav'n-descended dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

*** Benediction** (in unison)

Voices Together, #906

May the Love

**which overcomes all differences,
which heals all wounds,
which puts to flight all fears,
which reconciles all who are separated,
be in us and among us now and always.**

Postlude

Devotion Fanfare

Talmadge

* Please stand as able and led



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|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Ministers | All Members |
| Pastor | David Whitten |
| Worship Leader..... | Alyce Newman |
| Children's Time..... | Sarah Hartman |
| Special Music..... | Ken Heatwole |
| Flautist | Sarah Hartman |
| Guitarist | David Whitten |
| Organist/Pianist | Bob Phillips |
| Violinist | Bill Kinzie |
| Media & Tech Director..... | Kevin Beers |