

Thanks  
be to God  
for his  
indescribable  
gift!

2 Corinthians  
9:15



# West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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July 3, 2022

Labor Day Sunday

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Welcome

Organ Prelude

*Fantasia on "National Hymn"*

arr. Lani Smith

## GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

\* Call to Worship

Isaiah 58:10 *(NRSV)*

One: If you offer your food to the hungry  
Many: **and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,**  
One: then your light shall rise in the darkness  
Many: **and your gloom be like the noonday.**

\* Opening Prayer

\* Opening Hymn

*Here I Am to Worship*

# 227 VT

Here I Am To Worship by Tim Hughes

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Verse 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.

*Refrain: 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.*

Verse 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.

*Refrain*

Bridge: 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.

*Refrain*

## CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

### Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 15:7-11 (NRSV)

<sup>7</sup> “If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. <sup>8</sup> You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. <sup>9</sup> Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, ‘The seventh year, the year of remission, is near,’ and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt. <sup>10</sup> Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. <sup>11</sup> Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, ‘Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.’”

## Song

## *There is in Every Person*

#751 VT

*Verse 1:* There is in ev'ry person  
capacity for love.  
If not to give,  
then to receive.  
If not to grasp,  
then to believe.  
God's image marks each one of us,  
and God is love.

*Verse 2:* There is in ev'ry person  
capacity for grace.  
If not to give,  
then to receive.  
If not to grasp,  
then to believe.  
God's mercy seeks each one of us  
and offers grace.

*Verse 3:* There is in ev'ry person  
capacity for trust.  
If not to give,  
then to receive.  
If not to grasp,  
then to believe.  
God's story shapes each  
one of us and teaches trust.

*Verse 4:* There is in ev'ry person  
capacity for hope.  
If not to give,  
then to receive.  
If not to grasp,  
then to believe.  
God's vision calls each one of us  
and leads to hope.

**Witness to the Host City Blessing**

**Time with Our Children**

**Congregational Prayer**

## **WORSHIP IN GIVING**

**Thoughts on Giving**

Proverbs 19:17 *(NIV)*

<sup>17</sup> Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord,  
and he will reward them for what they have done.

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

**Organ Special Music**

*In That Haven On High*

Donald Moore

In That Haven On High by Donald Lee Moore

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**Scripture Lesson**

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 *(NLT)*

<sup>6</sup> Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. <sup>7</sup> You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." <sup>8</sup> And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. <sup>9</sup> As the Scriptures say,

"They share freely and give generously to the poor.  
Their good deeds will be remembered forever."

<sup>10</sup> For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

<sup>11</sup> Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God. <sup>12</sup> So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanks to God.

<sup>13</sup> As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ. <sup>14</sup> And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the overflowing grace God has given to you. <sup>15</sup> Thank God for this gift too wonderful for words!

## Sermon

7 Life-Giving Virtues: Charity  
“Acts of Generosity and Compassion”

## GO IN GOD’S NAME

### \* Closing Hymn

*Love Divine, All Love Excelling*

#638 VT

*Verse 1:*

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heav’n, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art.  
Visit us with thy salvation;  
enter ev’ry trembling heart.

*Verse 2:*

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
into ev’ry troubled breast.

Let us all in thee inherit,  
let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be.  
End of faith, as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.

*Verse 3:* Come, Almighty, to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive.  
Suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

*Verse 4:* Finish, then, thy new creation;  
true and spotless let us be.  
Let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

## \* Benediction

2 Peter 1:2

“Grace and peace be yours in abundance, through the  
knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.”

**Piano Postlude**     *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*

Franz Haydn

\* Please stand as able and led



<b>Ministers</b> .....	<b>All Members</b>
Pastor .....	David Whitten
Worship Leader .....	Ann Andrus
Special Music.....	Bob Phillips
Organist/Pianist .....	Bob Phillips
Flautist .....	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist .....	David Whitten
Violinist .....	Bill Kinzie
Media & Tech Dir .....	Kevin Beers