

DO JUSTICE  
LOVE KINDNESS  
WALK humbly  
WITH YOUR  
GOD

MICAH 6:8, NRSV

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



# West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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August 7, 2022

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost

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## Welcome

### Prelude

*The Water is Wide*

arr. Lynn Freeman Olson

## GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

### \* Call to Worship

Mary Jo Bowman

How shall we worship our God? We have heard what the Lord requires of us. Leave empty talk and pride behind. We must walk the walk. Prepare to step out in faith, even into troubled waters.

Only God knows where we might need to go. Don't be afraid. Jesus will guide our steps along the way, teaching us to walk humbly, to love boldly, to serve God with body, soul, mind, and strength. Let us pray for the humility and courage to follow where the Spirit leads.

### \* Opening Prayer

#863 Voices Together

Source of all hope and holiness, we gather today to be church. Bless those who are absent, but not from our hearts. Bless those who are distant, but not from our love. Bless each of us here, that we may choose justice by your Spirit, draw kindness from the well of your mercy, and walk humbly in your path, O God.

### \* Opening Hymn *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* # 156 VT

*Verse 1:*

There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
like the wideness of the sea.  
There's a kindness in God's justice,  
which is more than liberty.

*Verse 2:*

There is welcome for the sinner,  
and more graces for the good.  
There is mercy with the Savior,  
there is healing in his blood.

*Verse 3:*

But we make God's love too narrow  
by false limits of our own,  
and we magnify its strictness  
with a zeal God will not own.

*Verse 4:*

For the love of God is broader  
than the measures of the mind,  
and the heart of the Eternal  
is most wonderfully kind.

*Verse 5:*

If our love were but more simple,  
we should rest upon God's word,  
and our lives would be illumined  
by the presence of our Lord.

## CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

### Old Testament Reading

Micah 6:6-8 (NRSVUE)

#### What God Requires

<sup>6</sup> "With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? <sup>7</sup> Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" <sup>8</sup> He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

### Time with Our Children

## Song

*There Is More Love Somewhere*

# 109 STJ

### *Verse 1:*

There is more love somewhere. There is more love somewhere.  
I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more love somewhere.

### *Verse 2:*

There is more hope somewhere. There is more hope somewhere.  
I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more hope somewhere.

### *Verse 3:*

There is more peace somewhere. There is more peace somewhere.  
I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more peace somewhere.

### *Verse 4:*

There is more joy somewhere. There is more joy somewhere.  
I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it. There is more joy somewhere.

## WORSHIP IN GIVING

### Thoughts on Giving

God gave us life, and we give back our lives to God. We present ourselves: our work and play, our joys and sorrows, our thoughts and deeds, our gifts and resources, to be used by God for the sake of people everywhere, through Christ our Savior.

## LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

### Special Music

*Cantelina*

Carl Simone

### Scripture Lesson

Ephesians 4:30-5:2 (NIV)

<sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. <sup>32</sup> Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. 5 <sup>1</sup> Follow God's example, therefore, as dearly loved children <sup>2</sup> and walk in the way

of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

## **Response to the Word**    *Thy Word is a Lamp* (vs. 1)    # 398 VT

*Thy Word* by Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith

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### *Refrain:*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

### Verse:

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,  
still you're there right beside me.

Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.

Please be near me to the end.

### *Refrain:*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

## **Sermon**

7 Life-Giving Virtues: Kindness

“Imitators of God”

## **Call to Reconciliation**

Thom Shuman

**Pastor:** Before we speak, God knows our needs, yet our words open our hearts to God's grace. Let us prepare ourselves for God's healing as, in words and silence, we tell of all that separates us from God and one another. Please join me as we pray together in unison,

**People:** First of all, Everlasting God, we must confess how we have not lived as your people. We serve many masters—work, wealth, power, addictions—yet find no hope in them.

We hear the cries of the poor, and shut the doors of our hearts to them. We ridicule those who expose their hopes and dreams to us.

Forgive us, Compassion's Heart, and heal us of our brokenness. Make us well, so that by our healing, we might be the hope and love others need in their lives, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, brought these gifts to us, calling us to be faithful with the grace, peace, and joy entrusted to us.

*Silence*

### Assurance of Pardon

inspired by Ephesians 4:32

**Pastor:** Now that we have let go of the pain, the bitterness, the anger of our lives, let us be kind, tender-hearted, and gentle towards each other, forgiving as God has forgiven us.

**People:** We are God's beloved children, and will model God's grace and love in our hearts. Thanks be to God! We are forgiven! Amen.

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

### \* Closing Hymn

*You Are Salt for the Earth*

# 297 VT

*Verse 1:*

You are salt for the earth, O people,  
salt for the kingdom of God!  
Share the flavor of life, O people:  
life in the kingdom of God!

*Refrain:*

*Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,  
bring forth the kingdom of peace.  
Bring forth the kingdom of justice,  
bring forth the city of God!*

Verse 2:

You are a light on the hill, O people,  
light for the city of God!  
Shine so holy and bright, O people:  
shine for the kingdom of God! *[Refrain]*

*Verse 3:*

You are a seed of the Word, O people,  
bring forth the kingdom of God!  
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,  
grow in the kingdom of God! *[Refrain]*

*Verse 4:*

We are a bless'd and a pilgrim people,  
bound for the kingdom of God!  
Love our journey and love our homeland:  
love is the kingdom of God! *[Refrain]*

**\* Benediction**

**Piano Postlude**

*In Loving Kindness Jesus Came*

Charles Gabriel

In loving kindness Jesus came my soul in mercy to reclaim.  
And from the depths of sin and shame through grace He lifted me.  
From sinking sand He lifted me, with tender hand He lifted me,  
from shades of night to plains of light, O praise His name, He lifted me.  
Now on a higher plane I dwell, and with my soul I know 'tis well;  
Yet how or why I cannot tell He should have lifted me.

\* Please stand as able and led



**Ministers ..... All Members**

- Pastor.....David Whitten
- Worship Leader ..... Ann Andrus
- Children's Time ..... Sarah Hartman
- Piano Prelude..... Zherina Whitten
- Special Music ..... Bill Kinzie & Bob Phillips
- Flautist ..... Sarah Hartman
- Guitarist.....David Whitten
- Violinist ..... Bill Kinzie
- Media & Tech Director .....Kevin Beers