

In
the
beginning...

God

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



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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August 28, 2022

13th Sunday of Pentecost

Welcome

Organ Prelude

My God and King

George Elvey

My God and King by George Job Elvey, Roger C. Wilson

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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Genesis 1

- One: Let us remember what our God has done!
Many: **God created the world out of a formless void.**
One: Let us remember what our God has done!
Many: **God made every animal and plant, bird and fish.**
One: Let us remember what our God has done!
Many: **God created people in the image of God.**
One: Let us remember what our God has done!
Many: **God has made us caretakers of the earth.**
One: Let us complete our task in faithfulness.

* Opening Prayer

Rev. Mindi

Architect of the Universe, Your voice called out over the deep and darkness and brought forth light. Your voice called out over the waters and brought forth life. Your voice called out over this earth and brought forth our very beings. Your voice continues to call out in our Universe and bring new hope and new life.

Help us to hear Your voice above the hum of the highway and the buzz of the business talk. Help us to hear Your voice in the cries of children, in the soft tones of the sick, in the pleas of the poor. May we hear, listen, and respond to Your voice in our lives and in our world. In Your name we pray. Amen.

* Opening Hymn

God of Wonders

178 VT

God of Wonders arranged by Marc Byrd and Steve Hindalong

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Verse 1: Lord of all creation,
of water, earth, and sky,
the heavens are your tabernacle.
Glory to the Lord on high!

Refrain: *God of wonders beyond our galaxy,
you are holy, holy.
The universe declares your majesty;
you are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth,
Lord of heaven and earth.*

Verse 2: Early in the morning,
I will celebrate the light.
When I stumble in the darkness
I will call your name by night.

Refrain:

Bridge: Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.

Refrain: *God of wonders beyond our galaxy,
you are holy, holy.*

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with our Children

(afterwards children may go to Children's Church)

New Testament Reading

Romans 1:20a *(NRSVUE)*

²⁰Ever since the creation of the world God's eternal power and divine nature, invisible though they are, have been seen and understood through the things God has made.

Verse 1: This is God's wondrous world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is God's wondrous world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
the wonders God has wrought.

Verse 2: This is God's wondrous world;
the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the dark of night,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is God's wondrous world;
a wand'rer I may roam.
Whate'er my lot, it matters not,
my heart is still at home.

Verse 3: This is God's wondrous world;
oh, let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is God's wondrous world;
the battle is not done.
Jesus who died shall be glorified,
and earth and heav'n be one.

Pastoral Prayer

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

Psalm 24:1 adapted

The earth's is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him. Let us give back a portion of what God, in all God's graciousness, has given us.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Organ Special Music

Andante

Edward MacDowell

Andante by Edward Alexander MacDowell, George Blake
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Scripture Lesson

Genesis 1:1-2 (*NRSVUE*)

I When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

Response to the Word

Ancient Words

Lynn DeShazo

"Ancient Words" by Lynn DeShazo
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Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart
Oh, let the Ancient words impart.

Words of Life, words of Hope
Give us strength, help us cope
In this world, where e'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us Home.

*Chorus: Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you.
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart.*

Holy words of our Faith
Handed down to this age.
Came to us through sacrifice
Oh heed the faithful words of Christ.

Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart
Oh, let the Ancient words impart.

Chorus

We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart.

Sermon “In the Beginning: God!”

Poem “The Creation”

James Weldon Johnson
(1871-1938)

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*** Closing Hymn** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* # 182 VT

Verse 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.

Verse 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!

Verse 3: There’s not a plant or flow’r below,
but makes thy 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.

*** Benediction**

- One: God has accomplished marvelous things!
- Many: **We are part of creation’s fulfillment.**
- One: Let us go in new appreciation for the works of God’s hands.
- Many: **We are part of creation’s fulfillment.**
- One: Let us work to restore the earth’s perfect balance and beauty.
- Many: **We are part of creation’s fulfillment.**
- One: Let us live as faithful disciples, telling all what God has done.
- Many: **We are part of creation’s fulfillment.**
- One: And remember that Jesus is always with us, to the end of the age.
- Many: **We are part of creation’s fulfillment.**

Piano Postlude *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* Hughes/Hastings

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land;
 I am weak, but Thou are mighty; Hold me with thy powerful hand.
 Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more,
 Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing waters flow;
 Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through;
 Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield;
 Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield.

* Please stand as able and led



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|-----------------------|----------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Ministers | All Members | Flautist | Sarah Hartman |
| Pastor..... | David Whitten | Guitarist | David Whitten |
| Worship Leader | Floyd Herdrich | Pianist/Organist | Bob Phillips |
| Children’s Time | Sarah Hartman | Violinist | Bill Kinzie |
| Reader | Freda Wilkins | Media & Tech Director... | Kevin Beers |