



*"Continuing the work of Jesus.
Peacefully. Simply. Together."*



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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September 25, 2022

17th Sunday of Pentecost

Welcome

Prelude Duet

Largo

Francesco Veracini

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Psalm 105:1-3 (NRSVUE)

One: O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the people.

People: **Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

One: Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

* Opening Prayer

* 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

Time with our Children

Song

Blessed Be Your Name

6 3 7 VT

Blessed Be Your Name by Beth Redman, Matt Redman
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Verse 1:

Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful,
where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place,
though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name.

Refrain:

*Ev'ry blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise.
When the storm clouds gather in, Lord, still I will say,
"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name."*

Verse 2:

Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me,
when the world's all as it should be, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name on the road marked with suffering,
though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name.

Refrain

Bridge:

You give and take away, you give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, "Lord, blessed be your name."
You give and take away, you give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, "Lord, blessed be your name."

Refrain

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 105:4-6, 16-22 (NRSVUE)

⁴ Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually. ⁵ Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he has uttered, ⁶ O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.

¹⁶ When he summoned famine against the land and cut off every supply of bread, ¹⁷ he had sent a man ahead of them, Joseph, who had been sold as a slave. ¹⁸ His feet were hurt with fetters; his neck was put in a collar of iron; ¹⁹ until what he had said came to pass, the word of the Lord kept testing him. ²⁰ The king sent and released him; the ruler of the peoples set him free. ²¹ He made him lord of his house and ruler of all his possessions, ²² to instruct his officials at his pleasure and to teach his elders wisdom.

Pastoral Prayer

957 VT

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Stewardship Moment

Betsy Schwarzentraub

It takes courage to follow Jesus and live a life trusting in God, especially if we're seeking to be good stewards, or managers, of all God has entrusted to us—including our own lives and the Good News itself.

We can live courageously when we recognize ourselves as God's loved sons and daughters, despite our weakness and frightening circumstances. Such courage prompts us to live free from the love-of-money trap, free to be "rich toward God".

Tasting this greater freedom prompts us to live simply, and to cultivate contentment, whatever our context. Such simpler living encourages us to live generously in our personal lifestyle and together as a congregation. This brings us full circle, as we gain more understanding and stamina to live courageously in the light of God's grace.

As you worship today and throughout this week, think about the interweaving of courage, trust, and stewardship. How is God calling you to be generous through the power of courageous love?

Special Music

An Offering

Jason Krug

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Genesis 39:1-23 (CEV)

39 The Ishmaelites took Joseph to Egypt and sold him to Potiphar, the king's official in charge of the palace guard. ²⁻³ So Joseph lived in the home of Potiphar, his Egyptian owner.

Soon Potiphar realized that the Lord was helping Joseph to be successful in whatever he did. ⁴ Potiphar liked Joseph and made him his personal assistant, putting him in charge of his house and all of his property. ⁵ Because of Joseph, the Lord began to bless Potiphar's family and fields. ⁶ Potiphar left everything up to Joseph, and with Joseph there, the only decision he had to make was what he wanted to eat.

Joseph was well-built and handsome, ⁷ and Potiphar's wife soon noticed him. She asked him to make love to her, ⁸ but he refused and said, "My master isn't worried about anything in his house, because he has placed me in charge of everything he owns. ⁹ No one in my master's house is more important than I am. The only thing he hasn't given me is you, and that's because you are his wife. I won't sin against God by doing such a terrible thing as this." ¹⁰ She kept begging Joseph day after day, but he refused to do what she wanted or even to go near her.

¹¹ One day, Joseph went to Potiphar's house to do his work, and none of the other servants were there. ¹² Potiphar's wife grabbed hold of his coat and said, "Make love to me!"

Joseph ran out of the house, leaving his coat there in her hands.

¹³ When this happened, ¹⁴ she called in her servants and said, “Look! This Hebrew has come just to make fools of us. He tried to rape me, but I screamed for help. ¹⁵ And when he heard me scream, he ran out of the house, leaving his coat with me.”

¹⁶ Potiphar’s wife kept Joseph’s coat until her husband came home. ¹⁷ Then she said, “That Hebrew slave of yours tried to rape me! ¹⁸ But when I screamed for help, he left his coat and ran out of the house.”

¹⁹ Potiphar became very angry ²⁰ and threw Joseph in the same prison where the king’s prisoners were kept.

While Joseph was in prison, ²¹ the Lord helped him and was good to him. He even made the jailer like Joseph so much that ²² he put him in charge of the other prisoners and of everything that was done in the jail. ²³ The jailer did not worry about anything, because the Lord was with Joseph and made him successful in all that he did.

Song *Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us* # 7 | 8 VT

Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us by Gloria Gaither, William J. Gaither
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Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,
for we need you to help us find our way.
Gentle Shepherd, come and feed us,
for we need your strength from day to day.
There’s no other we can turn to
who can help us face another day.
Gentle Shepherd, come and lead us,
for we need you to help us find our way.

Sermon “Sovereignty of God”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **Closing Hymn** *God of Grace and God of Glory* # 716 VT

Verse 1:

God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy pow'r.
Crown thine ancient church's story, bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Verse 2:

Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Verse 3:

Cure thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Verse 4:

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore, serving thee whom we adore.

* **Benediction**

Organ Postlude

This Is My Song

Jean Sibelius

This Is My Song by Jean Sibelius, Lloyd Stone

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*This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is:*

*Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*This is my prayer, O God of all earth's kingdoms,
Your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
O God, be lifted up till all shall serve you,
And hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations.
Myself I give you; let your will be done.*

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Worship Leader	Susan Robertson
Children's Time	Sarah Hartman
Flautist	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Pianist/Organist	Bob Phillips
Violinist	Bill Kinzie
AV Assistant.....	Jon Hartman