



...he walked before you
in *faithfulness*,
in *righteousness*,
and in *uprightness*
of heart toward you.

1 Kings 3:6, NRSVUE



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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October 30, 2022

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Prelude Duet

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

arr. Robert Thornton

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

James 3:17 (*NRSVUE*)

The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy.

* Opening Prayer

Working Preacher

Generous God, you gave your servant Solomon wisdom so that he might govern your people well. Grant us your wisdom, so that we might perform our life's duties with gratitude and wisdom. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

* Opening Song

You Are Exalted

86 VT

You Are Exalted by Twila Paris

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You are exalted, forever exalted on high. I will praise you.

You are exalted, forever exalted, and I will praise your name!

You are my God—forever your truth shall reign. Heaven and earth rejoice in your holy name.

You are exalted, forever exalted on high!

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with our Children

Song

All Who Are Thirsty (2x)

49 VT

All Who Are Thirsty by Brenton Brown, Glenn Robertson

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Verse: All who are thirsty,
all who are weak,
come to the fountain.
Dip your heart in the stream of life.
Let the pain and the sorrow
be washed away
in the waves of God's mercy,
as deep cries out to deep.
We sing...

Refrain:

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Holy Spirit, come. Holy Spirit, come.

New Testament Reading

James 3:13-18 (CEV)

Are any of you wise or sensible? Then show it by living right and by being humble and wise in everything you do. ¹⁴ But if your heart is full of bitter jealousy and selfishness, don't brag or lie to cover up the truth. ¹⁵ This kind of wisdom doesn't come from above. It is earthly and selfish and comes from the devil himself. ¹⁶ Whenever people are jealous or selfish, they cause trouble and do all sorts of cruel things. ¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from above leads us to be pure, friendly, gentle, sensible, kind, helpful, genuine, and sincere. ¹⁸ When peacemakers plant seeds of peace, they will harvest justice.

Pastoral Prayer

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

It's Not About the Amount

Tithe.ly

As we give our tithes and offerings this morning, I want to draw your attention to something Jesus said about offerings. In Luke 21, we read, "He saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasure. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins." Upon seeing this happen, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

Now, we'd never ask anyone to give all they had to live on. However, the principle here is that the amount of the offering isn't the main issue. The motives of the heart and the sacrifice required by the giver are more meaningful than the dollar amount of the gift. Whatever the amount of your gift today, remember that God cares much more about the state of your heart as you give than the amount of the gift itself.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Special Music

Let Us Break Bread Together

arr. Cindy Berry

Scripture Lesson

1 Kings 3:4-9, 16-28 (NRSVUE)

⁴ The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the principal high place; Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have

given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

Solomon's Wisdom in Judgment

¹⁶ Later, two women who were prostitutes came to the king and stood before him. ¹⁷ The one woman said, "Please, my lord, this woman and I live in the same house, and I gave birth while she was in the house. ¹⁸ Then on the third day after I gave birth, this woman also gave birth. We were together; there was no one else with us in the house; only the two of us were in the house. ¹⁹ Then this woman's son died in the night because she lay on him. ²⁰ She got up in the middle of the night and took my son from beside me while your servant slept. She laid him at her breast and laid her dead son at my breast. ²¹ When I rose in the morning to nurse my son, I saw that he was dead, but when I looked at him closely in the morning, clearly it was not the son I had borne." ²² But the other woman said, "No, the living son is mine, and the dead son is yours." The first said, "No, the dead son is yours, and the living son is mine." So they argued before the king.

²³ Then the king said, "The one says, 'This is my son who is alive, and your son is dead,' while the other says, 'Not so! Your son is dead, and my son is the living one.'" ²⁴ So the king said, "Bring me a sword," and they brought a sword before the king. ²⁵ The king said, "Divide the living boy in two; then give half to the one and half to the other." ²⁶ But the woman whose son was alive said to the king, because compassion for her son burned within her, "Please, my lord, give her the living boy; certainly do not kill him!" The other said, "It shall be neither mine nor yours; divide it." ²⁷ Then the king responded, "Give her the living boy; do not

kill him. She is his mother.”²⁸ All Israel heard of the judgment that the king had rendered, and they stood in awe of the king because they perceived that the wisdom of God was in him to execute justice.

Hymn

Hear the Turmoil of the Nations

201 VT

Hear the Turmoil of the Nations by Carl P. Daw, Jr.

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Verse 1:

Hear the turmoil of the nations!
How earth's peoples sigh and groan!
Voices call for revolution;
factions thrive, and threats are thrown.
Few take time to seek God's blessing,
which some others falsely claim.
God, whose will alone is sov'reign,
soon will turn their pride to shame.

Verse 2:

God once set a model monarch
firmly on a royal throne,
there to reign with might and wisdom
bearing witness to God's own.
When the heirs of all that greatness
took for granted what God gave,
God fulfilled the dormant promise
in the One who came to save.

Verse 3:

Listen, all who govern nations!
Rulers of the earth, take heed!
Trust no human scheme or system
to determine how you lead.
Turn to God for strength and courage
when your fears and doubts increase;
in that longed-for place of refuge,
find in God your source of peace.

INTRODUCTION TO COMMUNION

Invitation to Communion

All those who have professed Jesus as Lord and Savior and have been baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ are invited to participate in this morning's Communion Service.

Communion

Scripture

I Corinthians 11:23-24 *(ESV)*

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, “This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Words of Institution

All: This bread is the communion of the body of Christ.

Scripture

I Corinthians 11:25-26 *(ESV)*

²⁵ In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Words of Institution

All: This cup is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Prayer (in unison)

Lord, we have been guests at your table. We know the wholeness that comes when we accept your life and make it ours. We give

you thanks for all the blessings that come our way. We thank you even more that in our very difficult moments, in our pain and confusion, even in our separateness from each other, you are present with us. Nothing can separate us from your love. In the assurance of that promise, we truly wish to be your healed and healing body in this world. In Jesus name, Amen.

Musical Meditation

Jesus Took a Towel

#490 VT

This ends our worship service in the sanctuary. For those who wish to experience the fullness of Love Feast, we include a Service of Feet Washing and a shared meal Brethren call the Agape Meal. Join us, across the hall, in the Gathering Room.

LOVE FEAST

Service of Feet Washing

Scripture

John 13:1-17 (NRSVUE)

Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet

13 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he had come from God and was going to God, ⁴got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my

feet?” ⁷ Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.” ⁸ Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.” ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!” ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.” ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Instructions

Prayer

Feet Washing

Agape Meal

Scripture

John 15:7-12 (NRSVUE)

⁷ If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

¹² “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Prayer

GO IN GOD’S NAME

* Hymn *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* (vv. 1-4) # 778 VT

The Servant Song by Richard Gillard

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Verse 1:

Will you let me be your servant— :
let me be as Christ to you? :
Pray that I may have the grace to :
let you be my servant too.

Verse 2:

We are pilgrims on a journey; :
we are trav’lers on the road. :
We are here to help each other :
walk the mile and bear the load.

Verse 3:

I will hold the Christlight for you :
in the nighttime of your fear. :
I will hold my hand out to you, :
speak the peace you long to hear.

Verse 4:

I will weep when you are weeping; :
when you laugh I’ll laugh with you. :
I will share your joy and sorrow :
till we’ve seen this journey through.

* **Benediction**

Postlude

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

John Hughes

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrims through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me 'til I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain whence the healing waters flow.
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee.

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Worship Leader	Freda Wilkins
Children's Time	Sarah Hartman
Duet.....	Bill Kinzie & Bob Phillips
Musical Meditation	Barbara Beers & Bob Phillips
Special Music	Bob Phillips
Flautist	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Pianist	Bob Phillips
Violinist	Bill Kinzie
Dir. of Tech. & Media.....	Kevin Beers