



**If the prophet had  
commanded you to  
do something difficult,  
you would have done it.**

2 Kings 5:13, CEV



# West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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November 6, 2022

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

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Welcome

Prelude Duet

*Allemanda*

A. Corelli

## GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

### \* Call to Worship

One: We may be thirsty and parched, like an un-watered garden, so we come into God's presence:

**Many: The Divine One is a spring of water!**

One: We may be weary from worry and work so we come into God's presence:

**Many: The Holy One offers us Sabbath rest!**

One: We may be lost or confused so we come into God's presence:

**Many: The Wise One offers us welcome and guidance!**

One: We may be bent over with struggle or pain so we come into God's presence:

**Many: The Healing One empowers us to stand strong!**

### \* Opening Prayer

### \* Opening Song

*O Healing River*

# 706 VT

#### Verse 1:

O healing river, <sup>\*(O healing river.)</sup> send down your waters,  
send down your waters upon this land.

O healing river, send down your waters,  
and wash the blood from off the sand.

Verse 2:

This land is parching, *(This land is parching,)* this land is burning,  
no seed is growing in the barren ground.  
O healing river, send down your waters,  
O healing river, send your waters down.

Verse 3:

Let the seed of freedom *(Let the seed of freedom,)* awake and flourish,  
let the deep roots nourish, let the tall stalks rise.  
O healing river, send down your waters,  
O healing river, from out of the skies.

## CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

### Time with our Children

**Song**

*When Peace Like a River*

# 6 1 7 VT

Verse 1:

When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”

*Refrain: It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

Verse 2:

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,  
and hath shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

Verse 3:

Redeemed! Oh, the bliss of this glorious thought:  
My sin—not in part, but the whole—  
is nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more,  
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*

Verse 4:

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,

the trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend,  
even so, it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

## Pastoral Prayer

### WORSHIP IN GIVING

#### Thoughts on Giving

Tithe.ly

You may have heard that “the love of money is the root of all evil” and, you may have been told you must hate money. But, money, by itself, isn’t bad. After all, we need money to buy food, shelter, clothing, and many other necessities. However, if we pursue money at the expense of our relationship with God and our loved ones, we’ve crossed over into the love of money... which is a serious problem.

As Jesus states in Matthew 6:24, we can’t serve both God and money. When we obey God first, we can trust God with our finances and provision.

### LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED

#### Special Music

*Love*

Ruth Elaine Schram

*Love* by Ruth Elaine Schram

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#### Scripture Lesson

2 Kings 5:1-15a (*CEV*)

5 Naaman was the commander of the Syrian army. The LORD had helped him and his troops defeat their enemies, so the king of Syria respected Naaman very much. Naaman was a brave soldier, but he had leprosy.

<sup>2</sup> One day while the Syrian troops were raiding Israel, they captured a girl, and she became a servant of Naaman's wife.

<sup>3</sup> Some time later the girl said, “If your husband Naaman would go to the prophet in Samaria, he would be cured of his leprosy.”

<sup>4</sup> When Naaman told the king what the girl had said, <sup>5</sup> the king replied, “Go ahead! I will give you a letter to take to the king of Israel.”

Naaman left and took along 30,000 pieces of silver, 6,000 pieces of gold, and 10 new outfits. <sup>6</sup> He also carried the letter to the king of Israel. It said, “I am sending my servant Naaman to you. Would you cure him of his leprosy?”

<sup>7</sup> When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes in fear and shouted, “That Syrian king believes I can cure this man of leprosy! Does he think I'm God with power over life and death? He must be trying to pick a fight with me.”

<sup>8</sup> As soon as Elisha the prophet heard what had happened, he sent the Israelite king this message: “Why are you so afraid? Send the man to me, so that he will know there is a prophet in Israel.”

<sup>9</sup> Naaman left with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup> Elisha sent someone outside to say to him, “Go wash seven times in the Jordan River. Then you'll be completely cured.”

<sup>11</sup> But Naaman stormed off, grumbling, “Why couldn't he come out and talk to me? I thought for sure he would stand in front of me and pray to the LORD his God, then wave his hand over my skin and cure me. <sup>12</sup> What about the Abana River or the Pharpar River? Those rivers in Damascus are just as good as any river in Israel. I could have washed in them and been cured.”

<sup>13</sup> His servants went over to him and said, “Sir, if the prophet had told you to do something difficult, you would have done it. So why don't you do what he said? Go wash and be cured.”

<sup>14</sup> Naaman walked down to the Jordan; he waded out into the water and stooped down in it seven times, just as Elisha had told him. At once, he was cured, and his skin became as smooth as a child's.

<sup>15</sup> Naaman and his officials went back to Elisha. Naaman stood in front of him and announced, “Now I know that the God of Israel is the only God in the whole world.

**Hymn**                      *As I Went Down to the River to Pray*                      # 4 5 3 VT

*Refrain: As I went down to the river to pray, studyin’ about  
that good old way, and who shall wear the starry crown,  
good Lord, show me the way.*

Verse 1:

Oh, sisters, let’s go down, let’s go down, come on down.  
Oh, sisters, let’s go down, down to the river to pray. *Refrain*

Verse 2:

Oh, brothers, let’s go down, let’s go down, come on down.  
Oh, brothers, let’s go down, down to the river to pray. *Refrain*

Verse 3

Oh, children, let’s go down, let’s go down, come on down.  
Oh, children, let’s go down, down to the river to pray. *Refrain*

Verse 4

Oh, sinners, let’s go down, let’s go down, come on down.  
Oh, sinners, let’s go down, down to the river to pray. *Refrain*

**Sermon**                      “Naaman the Leper”

## GO IN GOD’S NAME

**\* Closing Hymn**                      *Shall We Gather at the River*                      # 6 6 7 VT

Verse 1:

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod,  
with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?

Refrain:

*Yes, we’ll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river,  
gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.*

Verse 2:

On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,  
we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. (*Refrain*)

Verse 3:

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down. Grace  
our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. (*Refrain*)

Verse 4:

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease,  
soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. (*Refrain*)

**\* Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Have Faith In God*

B.B. McKinney

*Have Faith In God by B.B. McKinney*

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*Have faith in God when your pathway is lonely, He sees and knows  
all the way you have trod; Never alone are the least of his children,  
Have faith in God. have faith in God.*

*Have faith in God, He's on his throne; Have faith in God, He  
watches o'er his own; He cannot fail, He must prevail;  
Have faith in God, have faith in God.*

*Have faith in God in your pain and your sorrow; His heart is  
touched with your grief and despair; Cast all your cares and your  
burdens upon Him, And leave them there, oh, leave them there.*

\* Please stand as able and led



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

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|--|--|
| Pastor..... David Whitten              | Flautist ..... Sarah Hartman           |
| Worship Leader..... Barbara Beers      | Guitarist ..... David Whitten          |
| Children's Time ..... Sarah Hartman    | Pianist ..... Bob Phillips             |
| Duet..... Sarah Hartman & Bob Phillips | Violinist ..... Bill Kinzie            |
| Special Music..... Bob Phillips        | Dir. of Tech. & Media..... Kevin Beers |