

HE SHALL BE THE  
*one of peace.*  
MICAH 5:5a





# West Richmond Church of the Brethren

7612 Wanyamala Road, Henrico, Virginia 23229-4239

804-288-6439 804-282-4408 (fax) wrcob@wrcob.org www.wrcob.org

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November 13, 2022

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

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## Welcome

### Prelude

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

arr. Jim Brickman

*Holy, Holy, Holy* by Jim Brinkman

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## GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

### \* Call to Worship

Based on Psalm 122

One: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

Many: **To give thanks to the name of the LORD.**

One: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.”

Many: **“Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.”**

One: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.”

Many: **For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.**

### \* Opening Prayer

L. G. Parkhurst, Jr.

Heavenly God, we rejoice that we can come into Your house today and worship You with those who love You, too. Thank You for inspiring and leading Your people to establish Your house here in this place. We pray that all who worship here might experience Your love, grace, mercy, and forgiveness.

We pray for Your people all the world over, and we pray that they might prosper along with us as we serve You and others. May

everyone who trusts in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior find and experience peace with God, others, and themselves. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

\* **Opening Song**

*What is This Place*

# 22 VT

*What Is This Place* by John L. Bell

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Verse 1:

What is this place where we are meeting?  
Only a house, the earth its floor,  
walls and a roof sheltering people,  
windows for light, an open door.  
Yet it becomes a body that lives  
when we are gathered here,  
and know our God is near.

Verse 2:

Words from afar, stars that are falling,  
sparks that are sown in us like seed.  
Names for our God, dreams, signs, and wonders  
sent from the past are what we need.  
We in this place remember and speak  
again what we have heard:  
God's free redeeming Word.

Verse 3:

And we accept bread at his table,  
broken and shared, a living sign.  
Here in this world, dying and living,  
we are each other's bread and wine.  
This is the place where we can receive  
what we need to increase:  
God's justice and God's peace.

**CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY**

**Time with our Children**

## Song

*God of the Bible*

# 420 VT

### Verse 1:

God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,  
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,  
you are our center, daylight or darkness,  
freedom or prison, you are our home.

#### *Soprano Refrain (2x):*

*Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.*

#### *Alto/Tenor/Bass Refrain(2x):*

*Fresh as the sunrise,  
always faithful you do not change.*

### Verse 2:

God in our struggles, God in our hunger,  
suffering with us, taking our part,  
still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,  
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.

### Verse 3:

Those without status, those who are nothing,  
you have made royal, gifted with rights,  
chosen as partners, midwives of justice,  
birthing new systems, lighting new lights.

### Verse 4:

Not by your finger, not by your anger  
will our world order change in a day,  
but by your people, fearless and faithful,  
small paper lanterns, lighting the way.

### Verse 5:

Hope we must carry, shining and certain  
through all our turmoil, terror and loss,  
bonding us gladly one to the other,  
till our world changes, facing the cross.

## Old Testament Reading

Psalm 122 (NRSVUE)

<sup>1</sup> I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" <sup>2</sup> Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup> Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together. <sup>4</sup> To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was

decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. <sup>5</sup> For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

<sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you. <sup>7</sup> Peace be within your walls and security within your towers.” <sup>8</sup> For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.” <sup>9</sup> For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

## Pastoral Prayer

### WORSHIP IN GIVING

#### Thoughts on Giving

Tithe.ly

Sometimes God is very obvious with His instructions. The Ten Commandments are quite clear, after all. However, other instructions are a bit subtler. In Matthew 6:2, we read, “So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. ... ”

Did you hear the instruction in that statement? Yes, it says to not announce your gift loudly, but there’s one more in that statement: “ ... when you give.” WHEN you give ... not if, but WHEN. Implied here is the idea that giving is something we should do. He doesn’t specify an amount, but Jesus makes it pretty clear that we are to give something. If you’ve already given online this month, thank you. If you’re preparing your tithe or offering now, the offering plate is right here, ready to receive your gifts after worship.

### LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED

Special Music

*Hymn*

Liz Story

Scripture Lesson

Micah5:2-5a (CEV)

<sup>2</sup> Bethlehem Ephrath, you are one of the smallest towns in the nation of Judah. But the Lord will choose one of your people to rule the nation— someone whose family goes back to ancient times. <sup>3</sup> The Lord will abandon Israel only until this ruler is born, and the rest of his family returns to Israel. <sup>4</sup> Like a shepherd taking care of his sheep, this ruler will lead and care for his people by the power and glorious name of the Lord his God. His people will live securely, and the whole earth will know his true greatness, <sup>5</sup> because he will bring peace.

**Song**                      *Gentle Shepherd, Come and Lead Us*                      # 7 1 8 VT

*Gentle Shepherd* by William & Gloria 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**                      “The Promise of Shalom”

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

\* **Hymn**                      *O Little Town of Bethlehem*                      # 2 4 5 VT

Verse 1:

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Verse 2:

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing—let “Glory!” ring with peace to all on earth!

Verse 3:

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv’n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of the heav’ns.  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in.

Verse 4:

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray,  
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today!  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell.  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

**\* Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Grace*

Louis Landon

\* Please stand as able and led



<b>Ministers</b> .....	<b>All Members</b>
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Worship Leader .....	Susan Robertson
Special Music .....	Ken Heatwole
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Pianist .....	Ken Heatwole
Dir. of Tech. & Media.....	Kevin Beers