

The Lord is  
my shepherd;  
I shall  
not want.



Psalm 23:1, KJV



# West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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January 1, 2023

New Year's Day

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**Welcome! We begin worship and this new year as we always live: in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

**Pre-Service Music**

*Melody*

Arr. Arnold B. Sherman

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

*Joy to the World*

Arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

## **GIVE PRAISE TO GOD**

### **\* Call to Worship**

**One:** Brothers and sisters, I myself don't think I've reached it, but I do this one thing:

**Many:** I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me.

**One:** The goal I pursue is the prize of God's upward call in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13-14 CEB).

**Many:** Certainly the faithful love of the Lord hasn't ended; certainly God's compassion isn't through! They are renewed every morning. Great is your faithfulness (Lamentations 3:22-23 CEB).

\* Opening Prayer

\* Opening Hymn

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

# 4 | 9 VT

Verse 1:

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father.\*  
There is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

*Great is thy faithfulness!*  
*Great is thy faithfulness!*  
*Morning by morning new mercies I see.*  
*All I have needed thy hand hath provided.*  
*Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Verse 2:

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

*Refrain*

Verse 3:

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow;  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

*Refrain*

[CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY](#)

Time with our Children

**Hymn**

*Renew Your Church* (v. 1)

# 7 1 7 VT

Verse 1:

Renew your church, its ministries restore,  
both to serve and adore.  
Make it again as salt throughout the land,  
and as light from a stand.  
'Mid somber shadows of the night,  
where greed and hatred spread their blight,  
O send us forth with pow'r endued.  
Help us, God, be renewed.

**Pastoral Prayer**

WORSHIP IN GIVING

**Hymn**

*Renew Your Church* (v. 2)

# 7 1 7 VT

Verse 2:

Teach us your word, reveal its truth divine;  
on our path let it shine.  
Tell of your works,  
your mighty acts of grace;  
from each page show your face.  
As you have loved us, sent your Son,  
and our salvation now is won,  
O let our hearts with love be stirred.  
Help us, God, know your word!

**Thoughts on Giving**

“Who Will Speak a Word of Warning”

Richard Leach

Who will speak a word of warning  
To a world whose wealth expands

As the growing wealth is gathered  
Into ever fewer hands.

Christ, you speak a word of warning  
For the church to know and tell:  
Greed is death and life is giving;  
Hands that give receive as well.

## LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

### Special Music

*Sing We Now of Christmas*

Arr. Judy Phillips

### Scripture Lesson

Psalm 23 (KJV)

- 23 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
<sup>2</sup> He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.  
<sup>3</sup> He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
<sup>4</sup> Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.  
<sup>5</sup> Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.  
<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

### Hymn

*Renew Your Church* (vv. 3-4)

# 7 1 7 VT

#### Verse 3:

Teach us to pray, for you are always near.  
Your still voice let us hear.  
Our souls are restless till they rest in you,

where we find strength anew.  
Before your presence keep us still,  
that we may find for us your will,  
and seek your guidance ev'ry day.  
Teach us, Christ, how to pray!

Verse 4:

Teach us to love with heart and mind and soul.  
You, O Christ, be our goal.  
Break down old walls of prejudice and hate.  
Leave us not to our fate.  
As you have loved and giv'n your life  
to end hostility and strife,  
O share your grace from heav'n above.  
Teach us, Christ, how to love!

**Sermon**

“23 And Me!”

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

**\* Hymn**

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past* (vv. 1, 3, 6) # 203 VT

Verse 1:

O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home;

Verse 3:

Before the hills in order stood,  
or earth received its frame,  
from everlasting you are God,  
to endless years the same.

Verse 6:

O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last,  
and our eternal home.

**\* Benediction**

**Postlude**

*The Birthday of a King*

William Neidinger

*In the little village of Bethlehem there lay a child one day.  
From the manger bed what a path He led, What a perfect, holy way.*

*Allelujah! Oh how the heavens sang. Allelujah! How it rang.  
And the sky was bright with a holy light. T'was the birthday of a king.*

\* Please stand as able and led



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

Pastor ..... David Whitten

Guest Speaker ..... Freda Wilkins

Worship Leader ..... Susan Robertson

Children's Time ..... Sarah Hartman

Special Music ..... Our Handbell Choir

Ann Andrus, Barbara Beers, Kevin Beers, Sandy Faw, Carol Goss,  
Alyce Newman, Gail Rhodes, and Sarah Hartman, director

Pianist/Organist ..... Bob Phillips

Media & Technology Director ..... Kevin Beers

