



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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Welcome

Prelude Duet

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

arr. Ty Thornton

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Chris Heckert Blog <http://chrisheckertblog.com/>

One: After he was baptized by John, Jesus went by himself to the wilderness where he was tempted.

Many: **Forty days in the desert, Jesus was tempted to become relevant, spectacular, and powerful.**

One: Today, we begin to journey with Jesus through this new year, which brings us to face some of our own weaknesses and temptations.

Many: **Let us worship God and walk the journey together, seeking the Spirit as our guide and companion along the way.**

* Opening Prayer

God, you know our hearts. You have knitted our inmost being and you know our deepest desires, fears and worries. Help us to journey during this new year into a new awareness of your presence in our lives. Save us from our own temptations, so that we may more freely follow you. Amen.

* Opening Hymn *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* # 25 VT

Verse 1:

Brethren, we have met to worship;
sisters, let us praise our God.

Will you pray with all your power?

Will you hear and preach the word?

All is vain unless the Spirit

of the holy One comes down.
Christians, pray, and holy manna
will be showered all around.

Verse 2:

Kindred, will you come and help us?
Moses' fam'ly aided him.
Will you help the trembling mourners
who are struggling hard with sin?
Tell them all about the Savior.
Tell them that he will be found.
Christians, pray, and holy manna
will be showered all around.

Verse 3:

Is there here a trembling jailer,
seeking grace and filled with fears?
Is there here a weeping Mary,
pouring forth a flood of tears?
Brethren, join your cries to help them;
sisters, let your prayers abound!
Pray, oh pray, that holy manna
will be scattered all around.

Verse 4:

Let us love our God supremely,
let us love each other, too.
Let us love and pray for sinners
till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven,
at his table we'll sit down.
Christ will gird himself and serve us
with sweet manna all around.

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with our Children (afterwards Children go to Children's Church)

Consecration of our Leadership Team

Jori Carter, Chair, Janet Brunk, Vice Chair,
Ann Andrus, Sandy Faw, and Jeff Goss

Ex-Officio Members: Sandy Faw, Church Clerk; Terrie Glass, Moderator;
David Whitten, Pastor; Kevin Beers, Technology & Media Director;
Alyce Newman, Treasurer; and Jackie Allgood, Hilltop Preschool Director

Introduction to Church Leadership

964 VT

Every Christian is called and gifted for ministry, in the church and in the world, through baptism. For some, this ministry takes the form of church leadership, a call and commitment to the creative work of building up the body of Christ and witnessing to God's love in the world. Church leaders are empowered by the Spirit and the church, and are accountable to God and the faith community, who support and bless their ministry.

Commissioning Leaders within a Community

965 VT

Community: Empowering God, with your people throughout the ages, we call members of the church to develop gifts and skills for your service. Thank you for raising up these leaders among us. Fill them with the love of Christ and the church. Empower them with your Holy Spirit. Bless them with joy in the work of ministry.

Commissioned: We pray for wisdom, patience, and hope in this calling. May we use the authority entrusted to us with confidence and humility. May we grow into the mind and spirit of Christ through our service.

All: *For the gifts that the Spirit nurtures within us and the ministries to which we are each called, thanks be to God! Amen.*

* **Prayer of Consecration**

* Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

545 VT

Verse 1:

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, will make the darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

Verse 2:

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

Verse 3:

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will call the poor by name.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? *Refrain*

Pastoral Prayer

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Special Music

How Can I Keep from Singing

arr. Tom Fettke

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation,
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Thoughts on Giving

For All Who Minister

Isaiah 6:8^b reads: And I said, “Here am I; send me!” When we hear God’s word spoken and interpreted, we are called to respond in some concrete way. Stewardship includes the giving of not only our money but also our very selves.

Hymn

In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified

754 VT

In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified by Bob Kilpatrick
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Verse 1:

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

Verse 2:

In our song, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In our song, Lord, be glorified today.

Verse 3:

In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

Verse 4:

In your world, Lord, be glorified; be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

[LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD PROCLAIMED](#)

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 4:1-17 (*NRSVUE*)

The Testing of Jesus

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. ² He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. ³ The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴ But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’ ”

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ” ⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, ⁹ and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Sermon

“Facing Our Temptations”

GO IN GOD’S NAME

* Hymn

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

88 VT

Verse 1:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation.
O my soul, worship the wellspring of health and salvation.
Come, all who hear, now to God’s temple draw near.
Join me in glad adoration.

Verse 2:

Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things is wondrously reigning,
guarding with sheltering wings, ever gently sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needed has been
held in God’s gracious ordaining?

Verse 3:

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work and defend us.
Surely God’s goodness and mercy shall daily attend us.

Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
who with great love still befriends us.

Verse 4:

Praise to the Lord, for in wonder my spirit is soaring!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises outpouring!
Let the “amen” sound from God's people again,
gladly forever adoring!

* **Benediction**

Postlude *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days* arr. Annabel Buchanan

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days by Annabel Morris Buchanan, Charles H. Webb, Claudia Frances Ibotson Hernaman

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*Lord, who throughout these forty days, for us did fast and pray
Teach us with thee to mourn our sins and close by thee to stay.
As thou with Satan didst contend and didst the victory win,
O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to conquer sin.
As thou didst hunger bear, and thirst, so teach us, gracious Lord
To die to self and chiefly live by thy most holy word.*

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Worship Leader	Ann Andrus
Children's Time & Flautist	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Pianist/Organist	Bob Phillips
Media & Technology Director	Kevin Beers