



I am not ashamed of this
Good News about Christ.
It is the power of God at
work, saving everyone
who believes...

Romans 1:16, NLT



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

May 7, 2023

5th Sunday of Easter

Welcome

Prelude *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love* arr. Lani Smith

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Romans 1:8 (CEB)

First of all, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you,
because the news about your faithfulness is being spread
throughout the whole world.

* Opening Prayer

God of all humanity, you welcomed all—sinners and saints—into
your kingdom. Help us to be as welcoming and accepting as you.
We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Lord. Amen.

* Opening Song

To God Be the Glory

84 VT

Verse 1

To God be the glory, great things he hath done:
so loved he the world that he gave us his son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain:

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he hath done.*

Verse 2

Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
to ev'ry believer the promise of God.
The vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain

Verse 3

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son,
but purer, and higher, and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with our Children (after, children under 5 can go to Nursery Care)

Songs

Jesus Loves Me

#516

Verse 1

Jesus loves me! this I know, for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.

*Refrain: Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.*

Jesus Loves the Little Children

Woolston/Root

Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world.
Red, brown, yellow, black and white, All are precious in His sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Testimony

Pastoral Prayer

#996

One: Listening God,

*All: you hear our prayers before we speak yet welcome our
praying; therefore we come with confidence to lay our
requests before you.*

One: We pray for Christians everywhere, for our denomination and congregation, for strength to persevere in faithfulness. We pray for the whole people of God.

Many: God of grace, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for the nations of the world, for all leaders, and for those who make policy decisions. We pray for the well-being of our global community.

Many: God of grace, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for the earth and all living creatures, for regions and species at risk, and for the sharing of resources. We pray for the wholeness of creation.

Many: God of grace, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for those who are overcome by violence, for victims of injustice or oppression, and for those in poverty or pain. We pray for all who need healing and peace.

Many: God of grace, hear our prayer.

One: We pray for those who endure trials, for those who are dying, and for those who mourn. We pray for all in need of comfort and hope.

Many: God of grace, hear our prayer.

One: You have heard the prayers of your people, O God. We rest in the comfort of your care, as we pray in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Special Music

Invitation to Renewal

arr. Patti Dennon

Prayer on Giving

#1015

Generous God, you gave us life; now we give our lives back to you. We present ourselves: our work and play, our joys and sorrows, our thoughts and deeds, our gifts and resources, to be used by you for the sake of all people everywhere, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

* Song

God sent his son

345 Blue

Because He Lives by Gloria Gaither, William J. Gaither

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God sent his Son, they called him Jesus,
he came to love, heal, and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my parson,
an empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.
Because he lives I can face tomorrow,
because he lives all fear is gone;
because I know he holds the future,
and life is worth the living just because he lives.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Romans 1:16-17 (NLT)

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. ¹⁷ This Good News tells us how God makes us right in his sight. This is accomplished from start to finish by faith. As the Scriptures say, “It is through faith that a righteous person has life.”

Sermon

“I Am Not Ashamed”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Closing Song

Blessed Assurance

435

Verse 1

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*Refrain: This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.
This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.*

Verse 2

Perfect communion, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight.
Angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain

Verse 3

Perfect submission, all is at rest.
I in my Savior am happy and bless'd,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Refrain

*** Benediction**

Postlude

Lead On, O God of Freedom

arr. Stanley Saxton

Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide our pilgrim way,
That we may trust the promise through struggle and delay.

We pray that those who follow will live to share that land
Where justice dwells with mercy and love is law's demand.

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers All Members

Pastor.....	David Whitten	Flautist.....	Sarah Hartman
Worship Leader	Jori Carter	Guitarist	David Whitten
Children's Time	Sarah Hartman	Pianist/Organist	Bob Phillips
Special Music	Bob Phillips	Dir. of Tech & Media	Kevin Beers