

A photograph of a white building with a green arched doorway. The doorway is framed in green and has a small stained glass window above it. Two small blue lanterns are mounted on the wall on either side of the doorway. Two black flower pots with purple flowers are placed on the steps leading to the doorway. A small evergreen tree is on the left side of the building. A paved walkway leads to the doorway, and a grassy area is in the foreground.

Do not neglect to show  
hospitality to strangers,

for by doing that  
some have entertained  
angels without knowing it.



# West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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July 9, 2023

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

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**Welcome! The Spirit calls us together as the church to  
worship and praise God, made known to us in Christ.  
Peace be with you all.**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

Chisholm/Runyan

## **GIVE PRAISE TO GOD**

**\* Opening Words**

<sup>1</sup> Walter Russell Bowie; <sup>2</sup> Hebrews 13:2 CEV

**One:** When we receive another human being with warm-hearted kindness. <sup>1</sup>

**All:** We may be nearer than we know to a divine experience.

**One:** Be sure to welcome strangers into your home. <sup>2</sup>

**All:** By doing this, some people have welcomed angels as guests, without even knowing it.

**\* Opening Prayer**

Rebeca Jiménez Yoder

Lord, give us the eyes of Jesus to see our neighbors and the strangers we meet. Teach us what it means to love the stranger as we love ourselves. Forgive us for our selfishness, for our

silence, for not caring enough for the strangers who come to our communities. Teach us to love and care for the stranger the way you do. Amen

\* Hymn

*Come, Now is the Time to Worship*

# 29

*"Come, now is the time to worship"* by Brian Doerksen

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*Refrain:*

*Come, now is the time to worship.*

*Come, now is the time to give your heart.*

*Come, just as you are, to worship.*

*Come, just as you are, before your God. Come.*

Verse 1:

One day every tongue will confess you are God;  
one day every knee will bow.

Still, the greatest treasure remains for those  
who gladly choose you now.

*Refrain*

Verse 2:

Willingly we choose to surrender our lives.  
Willingly our knees will bow.

With all our heart, soul, mind and strength,  
we gladly choose you now.

*Refrain*

## CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

High School Graduate Recognition

Time with Our Children (after, children, over 5, can go to Children's Church)

*God of Wonders* by Marc Byrd, Steve Hindalong

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Verse 1:

Lord of all creation, of water, earth, and sky,  
the heavens are your tabernacle. Glory to the Lord on high!

*Refrain:*

*God of wonders beyond our galaxy, you are holy, holy.  
The universe declares your majesty; you are holy, holy.  
Lord of heaven and earth, Lord of heaven and earth.*

Verse 2:

Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.  
When I stumble in the darkness I will call your name by night.

*Refrain*

Bridge:

Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.  
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.  
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.

*Refrain*

Holy, holy, holy, holy.

## Congregational Prayer

### New Testament Reading

Hebrews 13:1-2, NRSVUE

### Service Well-Pleasing to God

13 Let mutual affection continue. <sup>2</sup> Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

# WORSHIP IN GIVING

**Special Music**

*If I Can Help Somebody*

A. Bazel Androzzo

**Thoughts on Giving**

Shailer Matthews (1863-1941)

If it is more blessed to give than to receive, then most of us are content to let the other fellow have the greater blessing.

**Song**

*I Love the Lord*

# 684

*I Love the Lord* by Isaac Watts, Richard Smallwood

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Richwood Music (Admin. by Conexion Media Group, Inc.)

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Verse 1:

I love the Lord, who heard my cry and pitied ev'ry groan.  
Long as I live and troubles rise, I'll hasten to God's throne.

Verse 2:

I love the Lord, who heard my cry and chased my grief away.  
O let my heart no more despair while I have breath to pray.

## LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

**Scripture Lesson**

Genesis 18:1-8, NRSVUE

**A Son Promised to Abraham and Sarah**

**18** The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup> He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup> He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup> Let a little water be

brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup> Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” <sup>6</sup> And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” <sup>7</sup> Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup> Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

**Sermon**

“The Sacred Art of Hospitality”

## GO IN GOD’S NAME

\* **Song**

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

# 7 | 6

Verse 1:

God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy pow’r.  
Crown thine ancient church’s story,  
bring its bud to glorious flow’r.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour, <sup>(of this hour)</sup>  
for the facing of this hour.

Verse 2:

Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us,  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

for the living of these days, <sup>(of these days)</sup>  
for the living of these days.

Verse 3:

Cure thy children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal, <sup>(kingdom's goal)</sup>  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Verse 4:

Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore.  
Let the search for thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore, <sup>(we adore)</sup>  
serving thee whom we adore.

**\* Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Abide With Me*

Lyte/Monk

\* Please stand as able and led



<b>Ministers</b> .....	<b>All Members</b>
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Worship Leader .....	Alyce Newman
Children's Time .....	Sarah Hartman
Special Music .....	Vanessa Morton
Flautist .....	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Pianist .....	Vanessa Morton
Tech & Media Dir. ....	Kevin Beers