



The
Great
I Am!



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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October 1, 2023

18th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Prelude

Alleluia

Arr. Adrienne Potter

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Opening Words

Our help is in the name of the Lord our God, the Maker of heaven and earth, who comes to our aid in times of need, who gives us the courage to do what we know is right, who invites us to turn away from the influences of the world around us and confess Him alone as Savior and Lord. This is our God! Let's worship together.

* Opening Prayer

God of deliverance, you called Moses to be your hands, feet, and voice in a troubled world. Teach us how to work, walk, and speak your word in the name of Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

* Opening Song *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* # 182 VT

Verse 1:

I sing the mighty pow'r of God,
that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad
and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
the sun to rule the day.
The moon shines full at God's command
and all the stars obey.

Verse 2:

I sing the goodness of the Lord,
that filled the earth with food.
God formed the creatures with a word,
and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,
where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread,
or gaze upon the sky!

Verse 3:

There's not a plant or flow'r below,
but makes thy glories known,
and clouds arise, and tempests blow,
by order from thy throne.
While all that borrows life from thee
is ever in thy care,
there's not a place where we can flee
but God is present there.

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Children's Time (children, under 5, can go to Nursery Care)

Song *I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table* # 801 VT

Verse 1:

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table.
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table
some of these days. Hallelujah!
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table.
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table some of these days.

Verse 2:

God's gonna set this world on fire.
God's gonna set this world on fire
some of these days. Hallelujah!

God's gonna set this world on fire.
God's gonna set this world on fire some of these days.

Verse 3:

I'm gonna walk and talk with Jesus.
I'm gonna walk and talk with Jesus
some of these days. Hallelujah!
I'm gonna walk and talk with Jesus.
I'm gonna walk and talk with Jesus some of these days.

Verse 4:

I'm gonna drink at the crystal fountain.
I'm gonna drink at the crystal fountain
some of these days. Hallelujah!
I'm gonna drink at the crystal fountain.
I'm gonna drink at the crystal fountain some of these days.

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 1:8-14, NRSVUE

The Israelites Are Oppressed

⁸ Now a new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph.

⁹ He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. ¹⁰ Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land."

¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. ¹³ The Egyptians subjected the Israelites to hard servitude ¹⁴ and made their lives bitter with hard servitude in mortar and bricks and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

Congregational Prayer

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

Pledge Drive # 1 (skit)

Song

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

1 9 3 VT

Verse 1:

When Israel was in Egypt's land, let my people go:
oppressed so hard they could not stand, let my people go!

Refrain:

*Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land.
Tell old Pharaoh: Let my people go!*

Verse 2:

"Thus saith the Lord," bold Moses said, "Let my people go!
If not, I'll smite your firstborn dead. Let my people go!"

Refrain

Verse 3:

"No more shall they in bondage toil: let my people go!
Let them come out with Egypt's spoil: let my people go!"

Refrain

Verse 4:

The Lord told Moses what to do, let my people go.
to lead the childr'n of Israel through, let my people go.

Refrain

Verse 5:

They journeyed on at God's command, "Let my people go!"
and came at length to Canaan's land, let my people go.

Refrain

Verse 6:

Oh, let us all from bondage flee; let my people go!
And let us all in Christ be free: let my people go!

Refrain

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Preparing to Hear God's Word

Long Green Valley COB, <http://rockhay.tripod.com/>

One: Come take off your shoes.

Many: For where we stand is holy ground.

One: Come love your neighbor and do good to all around you.

Many: For where we stand is holy ground.

One: Come and respect the planet.

Many: For where we stand is holy ground.

ALL: LOVE ALL THAT GOD GAVE US, FOR WE ARE ALL STANDING ON
HOLY GROUND

Scripture Lesson

Exodus 3:1-15, NRSVUE

Moses at the Burning Bush

3 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness and came to Mount Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. **3** Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight and see why the bush is not burned up." **4** When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." **5** Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." **6** He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 Then the Lord said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, **8** and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the

Jebusites. ⁹ The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Now go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.” ¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” ¹² He said, “I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

The Divine Name Revealed

¹³ But Moses said to God, “If I come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” ¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I am who I am.” He said further, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘I am has sent me to you.’ ” ¹⁵ God also said to Moses, “Thus you shall say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you’:

This is my name forever,
and this my title for all generations.

Sermon “Who Are You? The Riddle of God’s Name!”

GO IN GOD’S NAME

*** Song**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

606 VT

Verse 1:

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy pow’rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed till I want no more, (want no more.)
feed till I want no more.

Verse 2:

Open now the crystal fountain
whence the healing waters flow.
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliv’rer, strong Deliv’rer,
be thou still my strength and shield, ^(strength and shield,)
be thou still my strength and shield.

Verse 3:

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death and hell’s destruction,
land me safe on Canaan’s side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee, ^(give to thee,)
I will ever give to thee.

*** Benediction**

Postlude

I Asked the Lord

Lange/Duncan

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Minister of Music	Vanessa Morton
Worship Leader	Barbara Beers
Children’s Time	Sarah Hartman
Skit Members.....	Barbara McCann, Carol Goss, Pat Gangwer, David Brunk, Floyd Herdrich, Jeff Goss, Thoko Lipato
Flautist	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Violinist	Bill Kinzie
Tech & Media Director	Kevin Beers