

HEAR, O ISRAEL! THE LORD IS OUR GOD, THE LORD IS ONE. DEUTERONOMY 6:4



שְׁמַע
יִשְׂרָאֵל
יְהוָה
אֱלֹהֵינוּ
יְהוָה
אֶחָד

דברים 41



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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October 8, 2023

19th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome

Choral Prelude

God, Be the Love

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

O Christ Surround Me by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
2002 This Here Music (Admin. by Rivers Voice, LLC)
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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Opening Words

<http://www.bruceprewer.com>

- One: Let us start this service well, by reminding ourselves:
That it is not we who chose Christ,
Many: **but Christ who chose us,**
One: That we are not here because of our goodness
Many: **but because of Christ's grace,**
One: That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,
Many: **but to allow Christ to enlighten us,**
One: That we have not come to be entertained
Many: **but to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength.**

* Opening Prayer

Loving Lord, you gave commandments to your people as a gift.
Teach us to be obedient to your Word and to care for each other
as we do your will. Amen.

* Opening Song

Renew Your Church

717 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.

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!

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!

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

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

Song

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship

29 VT

Come, Now Is the Time to Worship by Brian Doerksen
© 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire) (Admin. by Integrity Music)
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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

New Testament Reading

Matthew 22:36-40, NRSVUE

³⁶ “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”

³⁷ He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Congregational Prayer

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Special Music

Center of My Joy

Gaither, Smallwood, Gaither

Center of My Joy by Gloria Gaither, Richard Smallwood, William J. Gaither

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Thoughts on Giving

Giving Magazine

Live Simply: Follow Jesus

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches the crowds and his disciples about their relationship with God and their discipleship in the world. In the verses, Jesus speaks about how God provides for our every need and how undue concern for our possessions can get in the way of our living as his disciples.

These words speak to us today as we wrestle with the daily realities of our lives. We often find ourselves overscheduled, overextended, and overdrawn. Our lives are cluttered with too many commitments, too many possessions. We can be consumed by it all: we wonder, “Will I have enough?” We fear not wearing the right clothes, not driving the right car, not having the latest electronic toy, not living in the right house. Too often our things define who we are.

Jesus comes to us in the midst of our fears and announces: ‘do not worry! God has provided for all of your needs!’ What does it mean for us to live in relationship with Jesus? How might our daily discipleship help us to live more simply, trusting in God’s abundance?

Song

When We Walk with the Lord

570 VT

Verse 1:

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!

While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

*Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.*

Verse 2:

Ev'ry burden we bear, ev'ry sorrow we share,
all our toil he doth richly repay.
Even grief, pain, and loss as we carry a cross
will be blessed as we trust and obey.

Refrain

Verse 3:

But we never can prove the delights of his love,
until all on the altar we lay,
for the favor he shows, and the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey.

Refrain

Verse 4

Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way.
What he says we will do, where he sends we will go,
never fear, only trust and obey.

Refrain

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Deuteronomy 6:4-9, NIV

⁴Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. ⁵Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. ⁶These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. ⁸Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. ⁹Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

Sermon

“Shema!”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Song

Move in Our Midst

827 VT

Verse 1:

Move in our midst, thou Spirit of God.
Go with us down from thy holy hill.
Walk with us through the storm and the calm.
Spirit of God, go thou with us still.

Verse 2:

Touch thou our hands to lead us aright.
Guide us forever, show us thy way.
Transform our darkness into thy light.
Spirit of God, lead thou us today.

Verse 3:

Strike from our feet the fetters that bind.
Lift from our lives the weight of our wrong.
Teach us to love with heart, soul, and mind.
Spirit of God, thy love makes us strong.

Verse 4:

Kindle our hearts to burn with thy flame.
Raise up thy banners high in this hour.
Stir us to build new worlds in thy name.
Spirit of God, O send us thy pow'r!

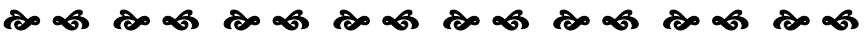
* Benediction

Postlude

Thy Way O Lord

Jackson

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Minister of Music	Vanessa Morton
Trio	Barbara Beers, Sarah Hartman, Vanessa Morton
Worship Leader	Susan Robertson
Children's Time	Sarah Hartman
Flautist	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Tech & Media Director	Kevin Beers