



ASLEEP
IN THE
STORM



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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January 14, 2024

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

Welcome

Prelude

Peace Be Still

Mary Baker

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Psalm 107:28-31 NLT

One: “Lord, help!” they cried in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

Many: **He calmed the storm to a whisper and stilled the waves.**

One: What a blessing was that stillness as he brought them safely into harbor!

Many: **Let them praise the LORD for his great love and for the wonderful things he has done for them.**

* Prayer

* Song

How Firm a Foundation (vv. 1-3)

592 VT

Verse 1:

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!

What more can he say than to you he has said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

Verse 2:

“Fear not, I am with you; O be not dismayed,
for I am your God, and will still give you aid.
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

Verse 3:

“When through the deep waters I call you to go,
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow,
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,
and sanctify to you the deepest distress.

CELEBRATE GOD’S FAMILY

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

Consecration of Our Leadership Team

Janet Brunk, ^{Chair,}

Ann Andrus, ^{Vice Chair,}

Sandy Faw;

Carol Goss;

Ben Mbecha

Ex-Officio Members:

Sandy Faw, ^{Church Clerk,}

Terrie Glass, ^{Moderator,}

David Whitten, ^{Pastor,}

Kevin Beers, ^{Technology & Media Director,}

Alyce Newman, ^{Treasurer,}

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

#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.

EVERYONE: 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

* Song

Here I Am, Lord

5 4 5 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, I 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*

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Remember this—you can't serve God and Money.
But you can serve God with money.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Mark 4:35-41 NRSVUE

Jesus Stills a Storm

³⁵ On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." ³⁶ And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷ A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped.

³⁸ But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion, and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" ³⁹ And waking up, he rebuked the wind and said to the sea, "Be silent! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. ⁴⁰ He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" ⁴¹ And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

Song *When the Storms of Life are Raging* (vv. 1-3, 5) #595 VT

Verse 1:

When the storms of life are raging, stand by me; (stand by me)

when the storms of life are raging, stand by me. (stand by me)

When the world is tossing me like a ship upon the sea,
thou who rulest wind and water, stand by me. (stand by me)

Verse 2:

In the midst of tribulation, stand by me; (stand by me)

in the midst of tribulation, stand by me. (stand by me)

When the hosts of hell assail, and my strength begins to fail,
thou who never lost a battle, stand by me. (stand by me)

Verse 3:

In the midst of faults and failures, stand by me; (stand by me)
in the midst of faults and failures, stand by me. (stand by me)

When I've done the best I can, and my friends misunderstand,
thou who knowest all about me, stand by me. (stand by me)

Verse 5:

When I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me; (stand by me)
when I'm growing old and feeble, stand by me. (stand by me)

When my life becomes a burden, and I'm nearing chilly Jordan,
O thou Lily of the Valley, stand by me. (stand by me)

Sermon

“Asleep in the Storm”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*** Song**

Be Still My Soul

#664 VT

Verse 1:

Be still, my soul! for God is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain:
leave to your God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul! your best, your heav'nly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Verse 2:

Be still, my soul! for God will undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.
Your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be clear at last.
Be still, my soul! the waves and winds still know
the voice that calmed their fury long ago.

Verse 3:

Be still, my soul! the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever in God's peace;
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
love's joys restored, our strivings all shall cease.
Be still my soul! when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

*** Benediction**

Postlude

Peace in My Soul

Tom Birchwood

* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Minister of Music	Vanessa Morton
Children's Time	Sarah Hartman
Special Music	Ken Heatwole
Flautist	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Dir. of Media & Tech.....	Kevin Beers