

The image features a textured, mottled background in shades of brown and tan. Overlaid on this is a large, stylized handprint in a deep purple color. The handprint is oriented with the fingers pointing towards the top right. The text 'A Touch from the Master's Hand' is written in a white, serif font, centered over the handprint. The text is arranged in four lines: 'A Touch', 'from the', 'Master's', and 'Hand'.

A Touch
from the
Master's
Hand



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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January 28, 2024

Communion Sunday

Welcome

Prelude

Children's Medley

arr. Marilyn Ham

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Thom Shuman

One: With friends and strangers, with family and neighbors,
we gather:

Many: **Come among us, Healing God, with that love which
never ends.**

One: With faith reaching out to touch, with hearts straining
to trust, we hope:

Many: **Come among us, Friend of the broken, with your
compassion which makes us whole.**

One: With word and wonder, with silence and song, we wait:

Many: **Come among us, Dryer of our tears, to lift us to our feet
to follow you.**

* Opening Prayer

God of healing, when someone in your world suffers, you suffer
as well. Restore your world and heal your children so that no one
needs to suffer any longer. Amen

* Opening Song

God of the Bible

420 VT

Fresh as the Morning by Shirley Erena Murray
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Verse 1:

God of the Bible, God in the Gospel,
hope seen in Jesus, hope yet to come,
you are our center, daylight or darkness,
freedom or prison, you are our home.

Soprano Refrain (2x):

*Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,
God always faithful, you do not change.*

Alto/Tenor/Bass Refrain(2x):

*Fresh as the sunrise,
always faithful you do not change.*

Verse 2:

God in our struggles, God in our hunger,
suffering with us, taking our part,
still you empow'r us, mothering Spirit,
feeding, sustaining, from your own heart.

Refrain

Verse 3:

Those without status, those who are nothing,
you have made royal, gifted with rights,
chosen as partners, midwives of justice,
birthing new systems, lighting new lights.

Refrain

Verse 4:

Not by your finger, not by your anger
will our world order change in a day,
but by your people, fearless and faithful,
small paper lanterns, lighting the way.

Refrain

Verse 5:

Hope we must carry, shining and certain
through all our turmoil, terror and loss,
bonding us gladly one to the other,
till our world changes, facing the cross.

Refrain

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with Our Children

Scripture and Song

Scripture

Psalm 23:1-3

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

Song

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (vs. 1) # 6 4 0 VT

My Shepherd will supply my need; most holy is your name.

In pastures fresh you make me feed, beside the living stream.

You bring my wand'ring spirit back, when I forsake your ways,

and lead me for your mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

Scripture

Psalm 23:4

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Song

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (vs. 2) # 6 4 0 VT

When I walk through the shades of death, your presence is my stay.

One word of your supporting breath drives all my fears away.

Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread.

My cup with blessings overflows, your oil anoints my head.

Scripture

Psalm 23:5-6

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Song

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need (vs. 3) # 6 4 0 VT

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days.

Oh, may your house be my abode, and all my work be praise.

There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come,

no more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

Pastoral Prayer

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

Matthew 25:40

Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it unto me.

Special Music

For Every Mountain

Kurt Carr

For Every Mountain by Kurt Carr
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LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Mark 5:21-43 NRSVUE

²¹ When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him, and he was by the sea. ²² Then one of the leaders of the synagogue, named Jairus, came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet ²³ and pleaded with him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." ²⁴ So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. ²⁵ Now there was a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years. ²⁶ She had endured much under many physicians and had spent all that she had, and she was no better but rather grew worse. ²⁷ She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, ²⁸ for she said, "If I but touch his cloak, I will be made well." ²⁹ Immediately her flow of blood stopped, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. ³⁰ Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my cloak?" ³¹ And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" ³² He looked all around to see who had done it. ³³ But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth.

³⁴ He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease.”

³⁵ While he was still speaking, some people came from the synagogue leader’s house to say, “Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?” ³⁶ But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the synagogue leader, “Do not be afraid; only believe.” ³⁷ He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. ³⁸ When they came to the synagogue leader’s house, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. ³⁹ When he had entered, he said to them, “Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping.” ⁴⁰ And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside and took the child’s father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. ⁴¹ Taking her by the hand, he said to her, “Talitha koum,” which means, “Little girl, get up!” ⁴² And immediately the girl stood up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. ⁴³ He strictly ordered them that no one should know this and told them to give her something to eat.

Sermon “A Touch from the Master’s Hand”

Invitation to Communion

Song *Let Us Break Bread Together* # 482 VT

Verse 1:

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain:

*When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord have mercy on me.*

Verse 2:

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Let us drink wine together on our knees.

Refrain

Verse 3:

Let us praise God together on our knees.

Let us praise God together on our knees.

Refrain

Communion

Blessing of the Bread (in unison)

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

Blessing of the Cup (in unison)

The cup which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Prayer (in unison)

We give thanks O God, for this holy meal you have given us. May the power and presence of Christ, so evident in this ordinance, be evidenced in our thoughts, words, and deeds as we try to serve both you and our neighbors in the coming days. Keep us mindful of the example of Christ and fill us with your Holy Spirit, now and evermore. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*** Song**

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

#840 VT

Verse 1:

God be with you till we meet again;
loving counsels guide, uphold you,
may the Shepherd's care enfold you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,
till we meet at Jesus' feet.
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

Verse 2:

God be with you till we meet again;
unseen wings, protecting, hide you,
daily manna still provide you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Verse 3:

God be with you till we meet again;
when life’s perils thick confound you,
put unfailing arms around you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Verse 4:

God be with you till we meet again;
keep love’s banner floating o’er you,
smite death’s threat’ning wave before you;
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

*** Benediction**

Postlude

My Tribute

André Crouch

My Tribute by André Crouch

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* Please stand as able and led



Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Minister of Music.....	Vanessa Morton
Worship Leader.....	Susan Robertson
Children’s Time.....	Sarah Hartman
Special Music.....	Vanessa Morton
Flautist.....	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Dir. of Media & Tech.....	Kevin Beers