

What

Will  
you

*take  
up*

for Lent

?

Mark 8:31-38, NRSVUE



# West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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February 11, 2024

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

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Welcome

Prelude

*Old Ship of Zion!*

Thomas A. Dorsey

## GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

### \* Call to Worship

<http://www.gcsrw.org/Portals/4/WHM.worship%20March%20202.pdf>

We come to the mountaintop to be covered in God's presence. We are comforted by God's holiness and glow; we are comforted by the hope of the mountain top, where God is so close, so accessible, where there is no doubt of God's glory. The mountain top reminds us why we worship God. We witness God's bright power, and God's plan for the nations of the earth.

### \* Opening Prayer

As we prepare for worship, God bring us to the mountain top; bring us to the mountain top so that we may be inspired to do your work in the valley below.

### \* Opening Song

*The Lord Is My Light*

# 437 VT

The Lord Is My Light by Lillian Bouknight  
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*Verse 1:*

The Lord is my light and my salvation,  
the Lord is my light and my salvation,  
the Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?

*Refrain:*

*Whom shall I fear, whom shall I fear?*

*The Lord is the strength of my life; whom shall I fear?*

*Verse 2:*

In the time of trouble, he shall hide me,  
in the time of trouble, he shall hide me,  
in the time of trouble, he shall hide me,  
whom shall I fear?

*Refrain*

*Verse 3:*

Wait on the Lord and be of good courage,  
O wait on the Lord, and be of good courage,  
wait on the Lord and be of good courage;  
he shall strengthen thine heart. *Refrain*

## CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

### Time with Our Children

**Song**

*God of Wonders*

# 178 VT

*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.

## New Testament Reading

Mark 9:2-13, NRSVUE

<sup>2</sup> Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, <sup>3</sup> and his clothes became dazzling bright, such as no one on earth could brighten them. <sup>4</sup> And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Then Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us set up three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” <sup>6</sup> He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. <sup>7</sup> Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, “This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!” <sup>8</sup> Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. <sup>10</sup> So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean. <sup>11</sup> Then they asked him, “Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?” <sup>12</sup> He said to them, “Elijah is indeed coming first to restore all things. How then is it written about the Son of Man, that he is to go through many sufferings and be treated with contempt? <sup>13</sup> But I tell you that Elijah has come, and they did to him whatever they pleased, as it is written about him.”

## Special Music

*God On the Mountain*

Tracy Dartt

God On the Mountain by Tracy Dartt  
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## WORSHIP IN GIVING

### A Moment in Black Brethren History

Brethren Encyclopedia

Mattie Dolby (1878-1956) was born into a Brethren family, and she and her brother Joe were the first Black students enrolled in

Manchester College. Mattie studied Bible there, and then in 1903 was sent by the denomination, along with James and Susan May, to establish a church among Blacks in Palestine, Arkansas, where she started a Sunday school for children. Later, she worked among Black congregations in southern Ohio, where she and her husband, Newton, were installed as deacons in the Frankfort congregation in 1907. Four years later, the congregation called Mattie to become a minister. Because of racial prejudice, Mattie and her family left the Church of the Brethren to minister in other denominations until her death.”

In a detailed history of her life and ministry, posted on a North Manchester history site, she is described as “humiliated by the church which nurtured her, yet forgiving, wise, encouraging others, compassionate, a constant student. A forerunner without fanfare.”

## Song

*Lift Every Voice and Sing*

#611 VT

### Verse 1:

Lift ev'ry voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,  
ring with the harmonies of liberty.  
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,  
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,  
let us march on till victory is won.

### Verse 2:

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,  
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet  
come to the place for which our people sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.  
We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered,  
out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last  
where the bright gleam of our bright star is cast.

### Verse 3:

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way,  
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,  
keep us forever in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;  
lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;  
shadowed beneath thy hand, may we forever stand,  
true to our God, true to our native land.

## LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

### **Scripture Lesson**

Mark 8:31-38, NRSVUE

<sup>31</sup> Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. <sup>32</sup> He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. <sup>33</sup> But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>34</sup> He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? <sup>37</sup> Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? <sup>38</sup> Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

### **Sermon**

"What Will You Take Up for Lent?"

### **Pastoral Prayer**

# GO IN GOD'S NAME

## \* Song

*We Walk by Faith*

#588 VT

### Verse 1:

We walk by faith, and not by sight; no gracious words we hear  
from one who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we believe him near.

### Verse 2:

We may not touch his hands and side, nor follow where he trod,  
yet in his promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

### Verse 3:

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief, and may our faith abound to call  
on you when you are near, and seek where you are found:

### Verse 4:

that when our life of faith is done, in realms of clearer light we  
may behold you as you are in full and endless sight.

### Verse 5:

We walk by faith, and not by sight; no gracious words we hear  
from one who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we believe him near.

## \* Benediction

## Postlude

\* 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