



Third  
Sunday  
of  
*Lent*



**West Richmond Church of the Brethren**

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*During the season of Lent, may we look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of faith” (Hebrews 12:2), and grow in love toward God and one another. Welcome to worship.*

## Welcome

### Prelude Duet      *Come, Give Me Your Hand*

Come, Give Me Your Hand by

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## GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

### \* Call to Worship

Reader:      Come, let us praise God together in the company of his gathered people. For the works of our God are unparalleled. Everything He does reveals his glory and majesty.

People:      **Our God is full of grace and mercy, and his righteousness never fails.**

Reader:      So, come and worship, all you who revere the Lord, for reverence and awe is the foundation of true wisdom.

### \* Opening Prayer

### \* Opening Song      *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing*      # 7 VT

#### Verse 1:

Come, let us all unite to sing, God is love.

Let heav'n and earth their praises bring, God is love.

Let ev'ry soul from sin awake,

let ev'ry heart sweet music make,

and sing with us for Jesus' sake, for God is love.

*Refrain: God is love! God is love!  
Come, let us all unite to sing that God is love.*

Verse 2:

O tell to earth's remotest bound, God is love.  
In Christ we have redemption found, God is love.  
His blood has washed our sins away,  
his Spirit turned our night to day,  
and now we can rejoice to say that God is love. *Refrain*

Verse 3:

What though our mortal flesh shall fail, God is love!  
Through Christ we shall o'er death prevail, God is love!  
While endless ages roll along,  
we'll triumph with the heav'nly throng  
and this shall be our sweetest song, that God is love! *Refrain*

Verse 4:

How happy is our portion here, God is love.  
These promises our spirits cheer, God is love.  
God is our sun and shield by day,  
our help, our hope, our strength and stay;  
and will be with us all the way: our God is love. *Refrain*

## CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

### Time with Our Children

**Song** *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* # 365 VT

*Lord, I Lift Your Name on High* by Rick Founds

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Verse 1:

Lord, I lift your name on high;  
Lord, I love to sing your praises.  
I'm so glad you're in my life;  
I'm so glad you came to save us.

*Refrain:*

*You came from heaven to earth to show the way,  
from the earth to the cross my debt to pay;  
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;  
Lord, I lift your name on high.*

## New Testament Reading

Mark 12:1-12 CEB

### Parable of the Tenant Farmers

12 Jesus spoke to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the winepress, and built a tower. Then he rented it to tenant farmers and took a trip. <sup>2</sup>When it was time, he sent a servant to collect from the tenants his share of the fruit of the vineyard. <sup>3</sup>But they grabbed the servant, beat him, and sent him away empty-handed. <sup>4</sup>Again the landowner sent another servant to them, but they struck him on the head and treated him disgracefully. <sup>5</sup>He sent another one; that one they killed. The landlord sent many other servants, but the tenants beat some and killed others. <sup>6</sup>Now the landowner had one son whom he loved dearly. He sent him last, thinking, They will respect my son. <sup>7</sup>But those tenant farmers said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Let’s kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ <sup>8</sup>They grabbed him, killed him, and threw him out of the vineyard.

<sup>9</sup>“So what will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy those tenants and give the vineyard to others. <sup>10</sup>Haven’t you read this scripture, *The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.* <sup>11</sup>*The Lord has done this, and it’s amazing in our eyes?*”

<sup>12</sup>They wanted to arrest Jesus because they knew that he had told the parable against them. But they were afraid of the crowd, so they left him and went away.

## Pastoral Prayer

## WORSHIP IN GIVING

### Thoughts on Giving

Luke 12:15 CEB

<sup>15</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Watch out! Guard yourself against all kinds of greed. After all, one’s life isn’t determined by one’s possessions, even when someone is very wealthy.

### Song

#### *In Christ Alone*

#332 VT

*In Christ Alone* by Keith Getty, Stuart Townend  
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#### *Verse 1:*

In Christ alone my hope is found;  
he is my light, my strength, my song—  
this cornerstone, this solid ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease.  
My comforter, my all in all,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.

#### *Verse 2:*

In Christ alone, who took on flesh—  
fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones he came to save,  
till on the cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied.  
My ev’ry sin on him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.

#### *Verse 3:*

There in the ground his body lay,  
light of the world by darkness slain;

then bursting forth in glorious day,  
up from the grave he rose again!  
And as he stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
for I am his and he is mine,  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.

*Verse 4:*

No guilt in life, no fear in death,  
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
from life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no human plan,  
can ever pluck me from his hand;  
till he returns or calls me home,  
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

## LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

### Scripture Lesson

Mark 12:13-17, NRSVUE

#### The Question about Paying Taxes

<sup>13</sup> Then they sent to him some Pharisees and some Herodians to trap him in what he said. <sup>14</sup> And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality but teach the way of God in accordance with truth. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not? <sup>15</sup> Should we pay them, or should we not?" But knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why are you putting me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me see it." <sup>16</sup> And they brought one. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, "Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." And they were utterly amazed at him.

### Sermon

"Politics and Taxes"

# GO IN GOD'S NAME

\* **Song**

*How Great Thou Art*

#436 VT

*How Great Thou Art* by Stuart Wesley Keene Hine

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## Verse 1:

O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed:

*Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

## Verse 2:

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

*Refrain*

## Verse 3:

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin:

*Refrain*

## Verse 4:

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

*Refrain*

\* **Benediction** (in unison)

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

# Postlude

## *Instruments of Your Peace*

arr. Tom Fettke

Instruments of Your Peace by Kirk and Deby Deaman, arr. Tom Fettke  
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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, Sarah Hartman, Dave Whitten
- Flautist .....Sarah Hartman
- Guitarist ..... David Whitten
- Dir. of Media & Tech. ....Kevin Beers