



Fifth
Sunday
of
Lent



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

7612 Wanyamala Road, Henrico, Virginia 23229-4239

804-288-6439 804-282-4408 (fax) wrcob@wrcob.org www.wrcob.org

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

Blessed Redeemer

Christiansen/Loes

GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Bruce Prewer

One: Are we ready? This question, put to us on this Sunday in Lent is a very personal one. Christ comes again in glory to judge the living and the dead, Are we ready?

All: **Revive us, O Lord, God of heaven’s countless hosts, Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

One: Are we ready? Ready for the coming of Christ Jesus with the mercy which is judgement and the judgement which is mercy? Are we ready?

All: **Revive us, O Lord, God of heaven’s countless hosts, Let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

* Opening Prayer

Liturgies Alive

Let us pray that we may be vigilant to see the coming of our Lord among us (*pause*) Our saving God, long ago you sent your Son Jesus among us, but we have been little aware of his presence and we hide him even from others. Wake us up, make us recognize him, that he may be the light of our lives and that eagerly we may lead people to him. May he build up among us and with us a world and a kingdom of peace and love where we serve you in one another, as we move forward in hope to your home of endless joy and rest. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* **Opening Song** *As I Went Down to the River to Pray* # 4 5 3 ^{VT}

*Refrain: As I went down to the river to pray,
studyin' about that good old way,
and who shall wear the starry crown,
good Lord, show me the way.*

Verse 1:

Oh, sisters, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Oh, sisters, let's go down, down to the river to pray. *Refrain*

Verse 2:

Oh, brothers, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Oh, brothers, let's go down, down to the river to pray. *Refrain*

Verse 3:

Oh, children, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Oh, children, let's go down, down to the river to pray. *Refrain*

Verse 4:

Oh, sinners, let's go down, let's go down, come on down.

Oh, sinners, let's go down, down to the river to pray. *Refrain:*

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with Our Children

Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 42:1-5, NIV

¹ As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? ³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, "Where is your God?" ⁴ These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.

⁵ Why, my soul, are you downcast? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Song

As the Deer

1017 HWBS

As the deer by Martin Nystrom

© 1984 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing (Admin. by Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing, Inc.)
CCLI License No. 11428263 Size B; 20298271 Size A

Verse 1:

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship You.

*Refrain: You alone are my strength, my shield;
to you alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship you.*

Verse 2:

I want you more than gold or silver, only you can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy giver, and the apple of my eye.

Refrain

Verse 3:

You're my friend and you are my brother, even though you are a king.
I love you more than any other, so much more than anything.

Refrain

Pastoral Prayer

Special Music

God, Be the Love

Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

O Christ Surround Me by Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
© 2002 This Here Music (Admin. by Rivers Voice, LLC)
CCLI License No. 11428263 Size B; 20298271 Size A

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

Brethren Hymnal

Accept, O Lord, the gifts we lay upon thine altar, and the gifts of substance, we would lay upon the altar of thy service our own lives to be used for thy glory, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Verse 1:

Jesus walked this lonesome valley; he had to walk it by himself.
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him; he had to walk it by himself.

Verse 2:

We must walk this lonesome valley; we have to walk it by ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us; we have to walk it by ourselves.

Verse 3:

You must go and stand your trial; you have to stand it by yourself.
Oh, nobody else can stand it for you; you have to stand it by yourself.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Mark 13:28-37, NRSVUE

The Lesson of the Fig Tree

²⁸ “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

The Necessity for Watchfulness

³² “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Beware, keep alert, for you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵ Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening or at midnight or at cockcrow or at dawn, ³⁶ or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Sermon

“Keep Awake”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **Song**

My Hope Is Built

#621 ^{VT}

Verse 1:

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.*

Verse 2:

In ev'ry rough and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the vale.
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

Refrain

Verse 3:

Not earth, nor hell, my soul can move; I rest upon unchanging love.
I trust his righteous character, his counsel, promise, and his pow'r.

Refrain

Verse 4:

When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

Refrain

* **Benediction**

Postlude

Near the Cross

Crosby/Doane

* Please stand as able and led

      	      
Ministers.....All Members	Special Music Barbara Beers,
PastorDavid Whitten	Sarah Hartman, Vanessa Morton
Minister of Music..... Vanessa Morton	FlautistSarah Hartman
Worship Leader..... Carol Goss	Guitarist David Whitten
Children's Time Sarah Hartman	Dir. of Media & Tech. Kevin Beers