

life

**AFTER
EASTER**



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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God sets a table before us and anoints us with the oil of gladness;
our cup overflows (see Psalm 23:5; 45:7). Welcome to worship!

Welcome

Prelude

Life Everlasting

David Paxton

Life Everlasting by David Paxton

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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Psalm 147:1 NRSV

Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God, for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

* Opening Prayer

Gracious God, hear our songs. Gather us in as one people, that we may worship you as one body. Heal our broken hearts and bind up our wound, that we may come into your presence healthy and whole. As we seek your wisdom help us to discern your greatness, as we honor the power and glory of your love. Amen.

* Opening Song

Praise the Lord, Sing Hallelujah

95 ^{VT}

Verse 1:

Praise the Lord, sing hallelujah,
from the heavens praise God's name!
Praise the Lord, our great creator;
all you angels, praise proclaim.
All you hosts, together praising,
sun and moon and stars on high.
Praise the Lord, O heav'ns of heavens,
and the floods above the sky.

Refrain:

*God, we praise you, hallelujah, for your name alone is high.
And your glory is exalted, and your glory is exalted,
and your glory is exalted, far above the earth and sky!*

Verse 2:

Let them praise the Lord creator;
they were made at God's command,
who established them forever,
whose decree shall ever stand.
From the earth, O praise your maker,
raging seas, you creatures all,
fire and hail and snow and vapors,
stormy winds that hear the call.

Refrain

Verse 3:

All you fruitful trees and cedars,
ev'ry hill and mountain high,
creeping things and beasts and cattle,
birds that in the heavens fly,
crowns of earth from ev'ry nation,
rulers great, earth's judges all;
praise together, all you people,
aged ones and children small.

Refrain

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with our Children

Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 147:7-11 CEB

⁷ Sing to the Lord with thanks; sing praises to our God with a lyre!

⁸ God covers the skies with clouds; God makes rain for the earth; God makes the mountains sprout green grass. ⁹ God gives food to the animals—even to the baby ravens when they cry out. ¹⁰ God doesn't prize the strength of a horse; God doesn't treasure the

legs of a runner. ¹¹ No. The Lord treasures the people who honor him, the people who wait for his faithful love.

Song

When in Our Music God is Glorified

83 ^{VT}

When In Our Music God Is Glorified (Engelberg) by Charles Villiers Stanford, Fred Pratt Green
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Verse 1:

When in our music God is glorified,
and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried alleluia!

Verse 2:

How often, making music, we have found
a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound alleluia!

Verse 3:

So has the church, in liturgy and song,
in faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
borne witness to the truth in ev'ry tongue, alleluia!

Verse 4:

And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night
when utmost evil strove against the Light?
Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight: alleluia!

Verse 5:

Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise!
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always alleluia!

Pastoral Prayer

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

#1022 ^{VT}

Leader: Holy One, as you are faithful to us, may we be faithful to you:

People: faithful with our time and energy, faithful with our possessions and wealth.

Leader: Receive these gifts by your grace.

People: Multiply and use them through the power of the Holy Spirit to make real your reign of love, justice, and peace in our world. Amen.

Special Music

His Eye is On the Sparrow

Martin/Gabriel

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Acts 17:1-9 NRSVUE

The Uproar in Thessalonica

17 After Paul and Silas had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a Jewish synagogue. ²And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days argued with them from the scriptures, ³explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Messiah to suffer and to rise from the dead and saying, "This is the Messiah, Jesus whom I am proclaiming to you." ⁴Some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵But the Jews became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house. ⁶When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some brothers and sisters before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also, ⁷and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus." ⁸The people and the city officials were disturbed when they heard this, ⁹and after they had taken bail from Jason and the others, they let them go.

Words to Follow Scripture (in unison)

May God bless to our understanding this reading from the Word.

Song

Thy Word Is a Lamp

#398 ^{VT}

Thy Word by Amy Grant, Michael W. Smith

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*Refrain: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

Verse 1:

When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way,
still you're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near.
Please be near me to the end.

Refrain

Verse 2:

I will not forget your love for me, and yet
my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to your side;
I will love you to the end.

Refrain

Sermon

“A Right-Side-Up World”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **Closing Song**

You Are Salt for the Earth

#297 ^{VT}

Verse 1:

You are salt for the earth, O people,
salt for the kingdom of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people:
life in the kingdom of God!

Refrain:

*Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,
bring forth the kingdom of peace.*

*Bring forth the kingdom of justice,
bring forth the city of God!*

Verse 2:

You are a light on the hill, O people,
light for the city of God!

Shine so holy and bright, O people:
shine for the kingdom of God!

Refrain

Verse 3:

You are a seed of the Word, O people,
bring forth the kingdom of God!

Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,
grow in the kingdom of God!

Refrain

Verse 4:

We are a bless'd and a pilgrim people,
bound for the kingdom of God!

Love our journey and love our homeland:
love is the kingdom of God!

Refrain

* **Benediction**

Postlude

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin

** Please stand as able and led*



| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Ministers | All Members |
| Pastor..... | David Whitten |
| Minister of Music | Vanessa Morton |
| Worship Leader | Alyce Newman |
| Children's Time | Sarah Hartman |
| Special Music | Vanessa Morton & David Whitten |
| Guitarist..... | David Whitten |
| Dir. of Media & Tech..... | Kevin Beers |