



Let Me
Walk a Mile
in Your
Shoes



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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September 1, 2024

15th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome to worship this Labor Day weekend.
May God be in our work and our leisure,
our fellowship and our praise.

Welcome

Organ Prelude

In His Love

Scott A. Ressman

In His Love by Scott A. Ressman
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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* Call to Worship

Psalm 32:1-2 NIV

Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.

* Opening Prayer

Our hearts are blessed as we gather before You today, O Lord, for you have given us freedom from all our transgressions and joy in exchange for heavy hearts. You are the refuge we seek when we are troubled and the courage we need when we venture into our days. Bless us today with Your steadfast love as we declare our trust in You. Amen.

Verse 1:

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, who rules all creation.
O my soul, worship the wellspring of health and salvation.
Come, all who hear, now to God's temple draw near.
Join me in glad adoration.

Verse 2:

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning,
guarding with sheltering wings, ever gently sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needed has been
held in God's gracious ordaining?

Verse 3:

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper our work and defend us.
Surely God's goodness and mercy shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
who with great love still befriends us.

Verse 4:

Praise to the Lord, for in wonder my spirit is soaring!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises outpouring!
Let the "amen" sound from God's people again,
gladly forever adoring!

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with Our Children

Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 32:3-5 NIV

³When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. ⁴For day and night your hand was heavy on me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer.

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Pastoral Prayer

Song

When Pain or Sorrow / Hold On

#612 ^{VT}

Verse 1:

When pain or sorrow is too much to bear;
when your heart feels numb, unable to care,
when faith seems so pointless that you cannot pray,
when no one knows quite what to say, then

Refrain

*hold on, hold on, to find a way to get through.
And when your hope is gone and you can't hold on,
we will hold on to you.*

Verse 2:

If God is silent when you need to hear
that you're not alone, that comfort is near;
if you are abandoned when you need a friend,
when all good things come to an end, then

Refrain

Verse 3:

And when it looks like there's no end in sight,
know all that is wrong can still be made right.
You're never alone; God has promised to be
with us even when we can't see, so

Refrain

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

I John 3:17 KJV

Whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have
need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how dwelleth
the love of God in him?

Special Music

Lean On Me

Bill Withers

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 7:1-5 NIV

7 “Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.

³ “Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother’s eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.

Song

Help Us to Help Each Other

#722 ^{VT}

Verse 1:

Help us to help each other, Lord, each other’s load to bear,
that all may live in true accord, our joys and pains to share.

Verse 2:

Help us to build each other up, your strength within us prove.
Increase our faith, confirm our hope and fill us with your love.

Verse 3:

Jesus, united by your grace, and each to each endeared,
with confidence we seek your face and know our prayer is heard.

Verse 4:

Drawn by the magnet of your love, we find our hearts made new.
Nearer each other let us move and nearer still to you.

Sermon

“Let Me Walk a Mile in Your Shoes”

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* Song

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

#743 ^{VT}

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Verse 2:

I am weak but thou art strong: Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.

Verse 3:

Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.

Verse 4:

When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore.

Verse 5:

Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

* Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26 NIV

The Lord bless you and keep you the Lord make his face shine
on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward
you and give you peace.

Postlude

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Peter Lutkin

** Please stand as able and led*



Our thanks to all who have helped to prepare and lead this morning's worship service, including:

Ministers All Members

Pastor David Whitten

Minister of Music Vanessa Morton

Time with Our Children Sarah Hartman

Flautist Sarah Hartman

Guitarist David Whitten

Director of Media & Technology Kevin Beers