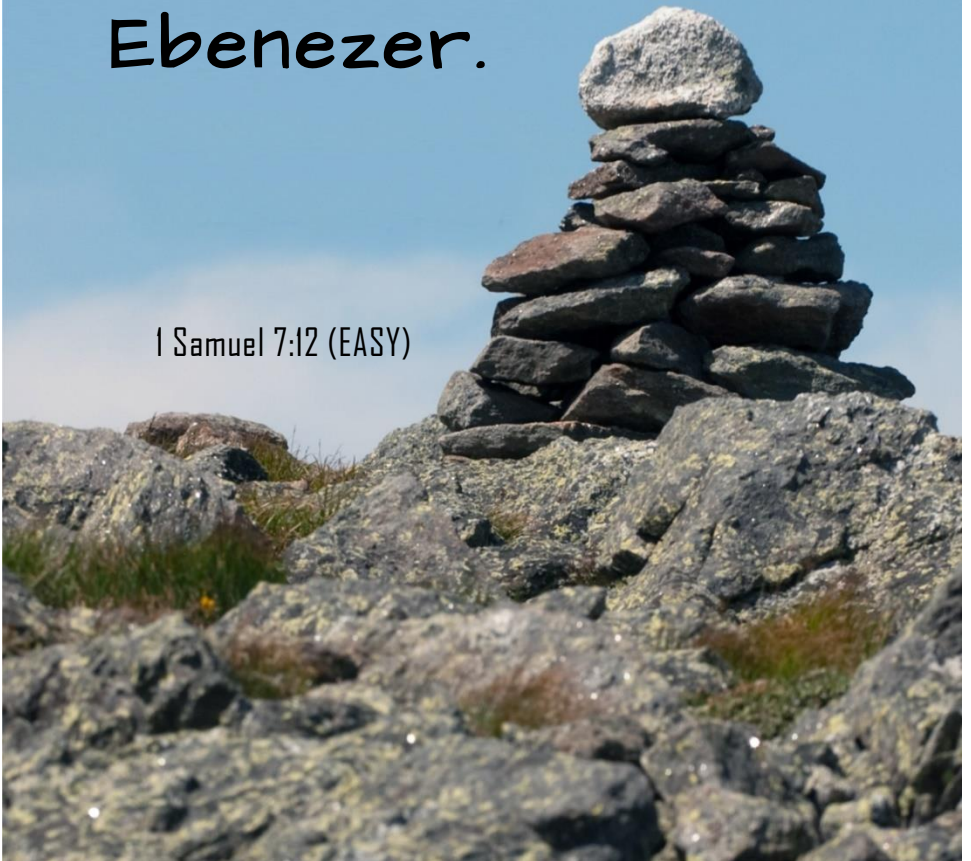


Samuel took
a stone.

He called
the stone
Ebenezer.

1 Samuel 7:12 (EASY)





West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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October 6, 2024

World Communion Sunday

Welcome! God says: “Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth”.
Let us listen for God’s voice as we worship.

Welcome

Prelude

The Lord’s Prayer

Albert Hay Malotte

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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* **Call to Worship**

Isaiah 35:10

Those the Lord has rescued will return. They will enter Zion with singing; everlasting joy will crown their heads. Gladness and joy will overtake them, and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

* **Opening Prayer**

* **Opening Song**

Come, We That Love

#31 ^{VT}

I Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known.
Join in a song with sweet accord,
join in a song with sweet accord,
and thus surround the throne, and thus surround the throne.

We’re marching to Zion, beautiful, beautiful Zion.

We’re marching upward to Zion, the beautiful city of God.

- 2 The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets,
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
or walk the golden streets, or walk the golden streets. *Refrain*
- 3 Then let our songs abound, and ev'ry tear be dry.
We're marching thro' Immanuel's ground,
we're marching thro' Immanuel's ground,
to fairer worlds on high, to fairer worlds on high. *Refrain*

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with Our Children

Song *My Jesus, I Love Thee* #133^{VT}

- 1 My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine.
For thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art thou.
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
- 2 I love thee, because thou hast first loved me,
and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow.
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
- 3 In mansions of glory and endless delight
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow.
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Pledge Sunday

Offertory

Give Thanks

Henry Smith

Give Thanks by Henry Smith

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* **Offertory Prayer**

* **Doxology** *Praise God (Old 100th)*

#71B ^{VT}

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

1 Samuel 7:12-14 NRSV

¹²Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Jeshanah and named it Ebenezer, for he said, "Thus far the Lord has helped us." ¹³So the Philistines were subdued and did not again enter the territory of Israel; the hand of the Lord was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel. ¹⁴The towns that the Philistines had taken from Israel were restored to Israel, from Ekron to Gath, and Israel recovered their territory from the hand of the Philistines. There was peace also between Israel and the Amorites.

Song

Come, Thou Fount (verse 1)

#563 ^{VT}

1 Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace.
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love.

Message

"My Ebenezer"

- 2 Here I raise my Ebenezer,
hither by thy help I'm come,
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand'ring from the fold of God.
He, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.
- 3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love
seal it for thy courts above.

Quietly leave the sanctuary, to go
home or to enter the Gathering Room,
as we continue to worship in our

CELEBRATION OF LOVE FEAST.

PERIOD OF EXAMINATION

A Litany of Confession (One/All)

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Most merciful God, Spirit of purity and grace, whose salvation is never far from the contrite heart, be merciful to us, and pardon

our iniquities of thought, word, and deed. May Your forgiveness kindle our wonder, banish our fear, and fill us with gratitude.

Hear us, O God.

Forgive our forgotten vows; the better purposes we have allowed to grow weak; the good resolutions we have not kept; and the excuses we have made to hide from ourselves our unfaithful lives.

Hear us, O God.

Forgive our words of unjust anger and bitterness, our readiness to blame others and our want of thoughtfulness, patience, kindness, and sympathy in our social relations.

Hear us, O God.

Forgive us from the sins of evil passion which estrange our hearts from goodness and dim our vision of heavenly things; from all hardness of heart and impenitence of spirit, and from pride and self-sufficiency.

Hear us, O God.

From secret faults and careless ways, from yielding to the temptations to which by nature we are exposed, and from going back to any sin of which we have repented.

Hear us, O God.

O God, whose nature and property it is ever to have mercy and to forgive, receive our humble confessions; and though we be tied and bound with the chains of our sins, yet let the pitifulness of Your great mercy sets us free through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

ORDINANCE OF FOOT WASHING

Scripture

John 13:1-17

13 Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. ²The devil had already decided that Judas son of Simon Iscariot would betray Jesus. And during supper ³Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands and that he

had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ got up from supper, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself. ⁵ Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was tied around him. ⁶ He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered, "You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand." ⁸ Peter said to him, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus answered, "Unless I wash you, you have no share with me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to him, "Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you." ¹¹ For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, "Not all of you are clean."

¹² After he had washed their feet, had put on his robe, and had reclined again, he said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call me Teacher and Lord, and you are right, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ Very truly, I tell you, slaves are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. ¹⁷ If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.

Comments and Instruction

Prayer of Preparation

#783 ^{HWB}

Lord Jesus, we have knelt before each other as you once knelt before your disciples, washing another's feet. We have done what words stammer to express. Accept this gesture of love as a pledge of how we mean to live our lives. Bless us, as you promised, with joy and perseverance in the way of the cross. AMEN

Washing of the Feet

THE AGAPE MEAL

Scripture

John 15:12-17

¹² “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Hymn

Break thou the bread of life

#360^{HWB}

Prayer of Blessing

#789^{HWB}

Almighty and loving God, we thank you that through your great love you have fed us from our Lord’s table and have assured us that your goodness to us never fails. We give you thanks that your goodness to us never fails. We give you thanks that we are members of the body of Christ, Heirs with Christ, and brothers and sisters in your family. By your grace assist us in our pilgrimage that we may go forth strong and faithful in our witness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN

Meal

COMMUNION

Scripture

Mark 14:17-25

¹⁷ When it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸ And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.”

¹⁹They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I?” ²⁰He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. ²¹For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”

²²While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” ²³Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴He said to them, “This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

Hymn

Eat this bread

#471 ^{HWB}

The Bread

Scripture

I Corinthians 11:23-24

²³For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Words of Institution

Leader: I invite you to join me in a declaration of faith as we prepare to break the bread.

ALL: The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

The Cup

Scripture

I Corinthians 11:25-26

²⁵In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶For as often as you eat

this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Words of Institution

Leader: I invite you to join me in a declaration of faith as we prepare to partake of the cup.

ALL: The cup which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Closing Prayer

#790 ^{HWB}

Blessed are you, O God. You set aside this bread as a sign of your Son's broken body, this cup as a sign of his shed blood, this basin as a sign of his servanthood. Through them you have made us partakers of Christ and of one another. As we go forth, give us grace to count others better than ourselves, to love our enemies, to seek peace. Send the Spirit of truth to keep alive in us what Jesus taught and did, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. AMEN

Closing Song

Sent forth by God's blessing

#478 ^{HWB}

** 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
Worship Leader	Susan Robertson
Children's Time	Sarah Hartman
Flautist	Sarah Hartman
Guitarist.....	David Whitten
Communion Committee	Carol Goss, Jeff Goss, Joel Guyer, Don Ziegler
Dir. of Media & Tech.....	Kevin Beers



E-Headliner Special Report: Virlina's response to the storm damage in our neighboring Southeastern District.

Much of the Southeastern District has tragically been affected after Hurricane Helene made its destructive path through Asheville, Boone, Taylors Valley, and so many other small communities. After a meeting with leadership from Brethren Disaster Ministries, Southeastern District and Virlina District, a plan of action has begun.

It is the practice of Brethren Disaster Response to stay out of the way during the first days following a disaster, and we will most assuredly be sending volunteers in the months and even years to come to help rebuild. Also, since over four hundred roads are currently closed, and many of the areas are still in active search and rescue mode, it is recommended that we gather supplies in outlying areas, and not self-deploy.

How can you help?

In addition to collecting a cash donation, which Virlina District will send directly to the Southeastern District, Virlina will be collecting much needed **clean up buckets and hygiene kits**, lists are at the following link <https://www.brethren.org/bdm/kits/>. New to the list of items we are collecting are products that will

help kill mold. Below are some recommended links for you to read about as you choose how you will help.

Kim Gingerich of BDM, states, “it is recommended that persons using these products first take pictures of everything before beginning any muck and gut or other work. FEMA, and likely insurance companies, will require pictures of the damage.”

Dealing With a Flood - Concrobium This website indicates that it is safe to use concrobum, but suggests masking to protect you from the mold. It is sprayed over the mold and then left to dry. It will kill the mold. The FEMA website contains this information - <https://www.fema.gov/fact-sheet/prevent-mold-becoming-secondary-disaster-0>

Brethren Disaster Ministries located these resources as well:
After the Disaster: DIY Mold Remediation:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UxaE8q9_jqU

SBP: Step-by-Step Mold Remediation Guide:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YMqVB9pTCo&feature=youtu.be>

Clorox does not kill mold, that is why we use Concrobium. Shock Wave is used if the mold is heavier. Wood cannot have more than 20% moisture in it when applying mold treatment or the treatment will not work. It is very important that folks dry out their wood before applying mold treatment. Moisture meters are another step for checking the level of moisture in the wood.

Where can we drop off supplies?

Virlina has tried to provide as many convenient locations as possible for our Virlina members for the whole month of October. Our first location is in the gym at Camp Bethel on Heritage Day, Saturday, October 5. This is the only time we will be using Camp Bethel’s location for a drop off center. If you are planning to come to Heritage Day, please consider dropping off

your clean-up buckets and supplies on the same day. After Saturday, please bring the completed buckets, kits & supplies to:

1. District Resource Center, 3402 Plantation Road, Roanoke, VA 24012, 540-362-1816 (Mary St. John, Director of Witness/Disaster Response Committee)
2. Pulaski-First Church of the Brethren, 1749 Newbern Road, Pulaski, VA 24301 , 540-980-3798 (Pastor Frank Peters)
3. Concord-Living Faith Church of the Brethren, 3251 Rock Hill Church Road, Concord, NC 28027 , 704-782-3641 (Pastor Frances Beam)
4. Topeco Church of the Brethren, 3460 Floyd Highway, South, Floyd, VA 24091 540-789-7339 (Contact Annette Hubbard) (Note: Topeco Church of the Brethren is also collecting the following items: Water (Gallon Jugs Preferred), Diapers, Baby Wipes, Non-Perishable Easily Prepared Food Items, Cat and Dog Food, and Hygiene Kits)

Is there a need for volunteers?

As stated earlier, volunteers will be deployed to help clean and rebuild and to aid in childcare services, as soon as Brethren Disaster Ministries is able to get locations established. In the meantime, Virlina's Disaster Response Ministries Committee will be asking for volunteers to drive the Disaster van to each of the sites listed above to collect the supplies. We hope to have direct access, then, to one of the Southeastern churches located as close to the disaster sites as possible for drop-off. Contact Mary St. John at virlina.directordcnw@gmail.com for more information.