

A decorative wreath made of pinecones and acorns is centered on a background of horizontal wooden planks. The wreath is composed of various sizes of pinecones and acorns, some with their caps on and some without, arranged in a circular pattern. The text "Singing Our Hearts Out" is written in a white, elegant cursive font across the center of the image, overlapping the wreath and the wooden background.

*Singing
Our
Hearts Out*



West Richmond Church of the Brethren

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November 24, 2024

Thanksgiving Sunday

Welcome to Thanksgiving worship as together we
give God praise for his countless blessings —
not least his Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Welcome

Organ Prelude

Harvest Fanfare

Gilbert Martin

Harvest Fanfare by Gilbert Martin

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GIVE PRAISE TO GOD

* **Call to Worship** (Leader/People)

Let us gather here today, hearts filled with gratitude, to give thanks to God who provides all that we have. Let us come together to praise God for the abundance of our living, for the love of family and friends, and for the countless blessings that fill our lives. Let us give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
And His mercy endures forever.

* **Opening Prayer**

Gracious God, we gather before You today with hearts overflowing with gratitude. We thank You for the beauty of creation, the warmth of human connection, and the sustenance that sustains us. We acknowledge Your abundant provision, Your steadfast love, and Your unwavering presence in our lives. As we come together to give thanks, may our hearts be filled with Your peace and our spirits renewed by Your love. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

* **Opening Song**

We Gather Together

#17 ^{HWB}

- 1 We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing.
He chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name, he forgets not his own.
- 2 Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine.
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, was at our side, all glory be thine!
- 3 We all do extol thee, thou Leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation.
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

CELEBRATE GOD'S FAMILY

Time with Our Children

Song

Count Your Blessings

Oatman, Jr./Excell

- 1 When upon life's billows you are tempest tossed,
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,
Count your many blessings, name them one by one,
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Refrain:

*Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your blessings, see what God hath done;
Count your blessings, name them one by one;
Count your many blessings, see what God hath done.*

- 2 Are you ever burdened with a load of care?
Does the cross seem heavy you are called to bear?
Count your many blessings, ev'ry doubt will fly,
And you will be singing as the days go by.

Refrain

- 3 When you look at others with their lands and gold,
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;
Count your many blessings, money cannot buy
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high. *Refrain*
- 4 So, amid the conflict, whether great or small,
Do not be discouraged, God is over all;
Count your many blessings, angels will attend,
Help and comfort give you to your journey's end. *Refrain*

Pastoral Prayer

WORSHIP IN GIVING

Thoughts on Giving

As we present our offerings today, let us remember the words of the apostle Paul: "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Corinthians 9:7) Our gifts, both large and small, are expressions of our love and gratitude for all that God has given us. May our offerings be a reflection of our hearts, given freely and joyfully.

Special Music

Thanksgiving Medley

arr. Cindy Berry

Thanksgiving Medley arr. by Cindy Berry
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LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Scripture Lesson

Psalm 100

- ¹ Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. ² Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.
- ³ Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him; bless his name.

⁵ For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever and
his faithfulness to all generations.

Song

Give Thanks

#1030 ^{HWBS}

Give Thanks by Henry Smith

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Give thanks with a grateful heart;
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his son. (2x)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich
because of what the Lord has done for us." (2x)

Give thanks.

Sermon

"Singing Our Hearts Out"

GO IN GOD'S NAME

* **Song**

How Great Is Our God

#116 ^{VT}

How Great Is Our God by Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

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1 The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty,
let all the earth rejoice, let all the earth rejoice.
He wraps himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at his voice, and trembles at his voice.

Refrain: How great is our God!

Sing with me: how great is our God!

And all will see how great, how great is our God!

2 And age to age, he stands, and time is in his hands;
beginning and the end, beginning and the end.

The Godhead, Three in One, Father, Spirit, Son,
the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.

Refrain

Bridge: Name above all names, worthy of all praise.
My heart will sing, how great is our God!

* **Benediction**

Postlude

Creation's Praise

Dennis Eliot

Creation's Praise by Dennis Eliot

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** Please stand as able and led*



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

Ministers	All Members
Pastor.....	David Whitten
Minister of Music	Vanessa Morton
Worship Leader	Ann Andrus
Time with Our Children	Sarah Hartman
Special Music.....	Our Choir
Guitarist	David Whitten
Director of Media & Technology.....	Kevin Beers