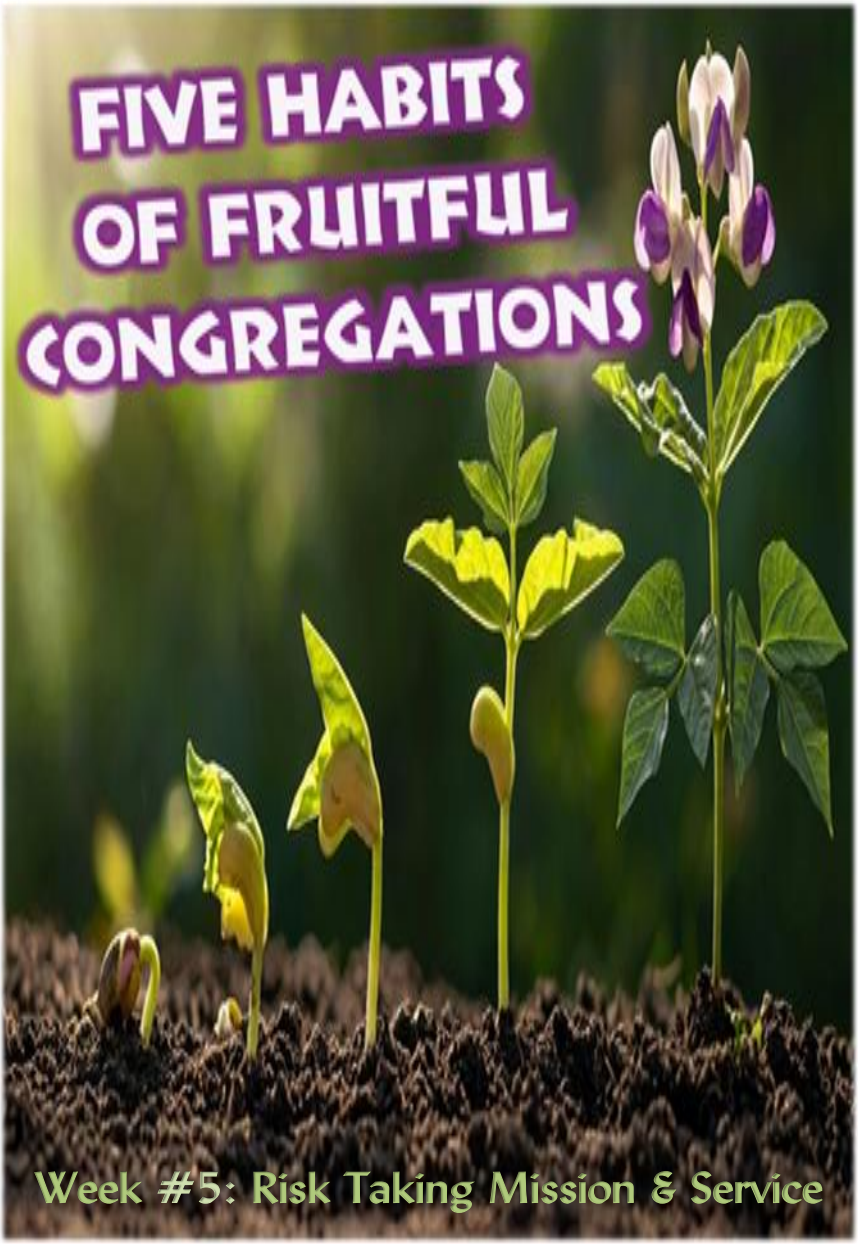


**West Richmond Church of the Brethren**
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October 18, 2026 21st Sunday after Pentecost

## WELCOME & GREETING

**PRELUDE** *"Meditation"* from the opera *Thaís* Jules Massanet

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (One/Many)

Christ is calling us to be faithful disciples, moving us beyond the safety of our walls and into fields of risk-taking mission and service.

**Lord Jesus, where you lead us, we will follow. We step out of doubt and fear and into the active light of your love.**

The Spirit calls us out of our quiet routines to catch a vision of justice, giving our time, our hearts, and our resources to unchartered ministry.

**We are ready to serve the Lord with extravagant love and bold faith. Let us worship God together!**

* **PRAYER OF GATHERING** (in unison)

**God, we gather first and foremost this morning to offer our worship to you. We pray and trust that as we worship, we will continue to be transformed into the people you are calling us to be. Lead us and guide us as we share this time together. Amen.**

* **HYMN** *We are Marching* #793 VT

## THOUGHTS ON GIVING

**God, we thank you for the opportunity to joyfully contribute to your work in the world. May we offer our time, talents, and resources for your service in the church and in the world. Amen**

## MOMENTS OF WONDER

**HYMN** *10,000 Reasons /Bless the Lord* #111 VT

## PASTORAL PRAYER

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Matthew 25:31-40

**HYMN** *Open the Eyes of Our Hearts* #401 VT

**SERMON** "Risk Taking Mission & Service"

* **HYMN** *O God of Love, This Is a Time of Turning* Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

FINLANDIA 11.10.11.10.11.10 ("Be Still, My Soul")

1. O God of love, this is a time of turning —
a time of change, with conflict in the news.
For in our land, some mighty winds are churning;
There's much at stake that we could gain or lose.
Love sings out strong, yet fires of hate are burning;
O God of all, you call us all to choose.

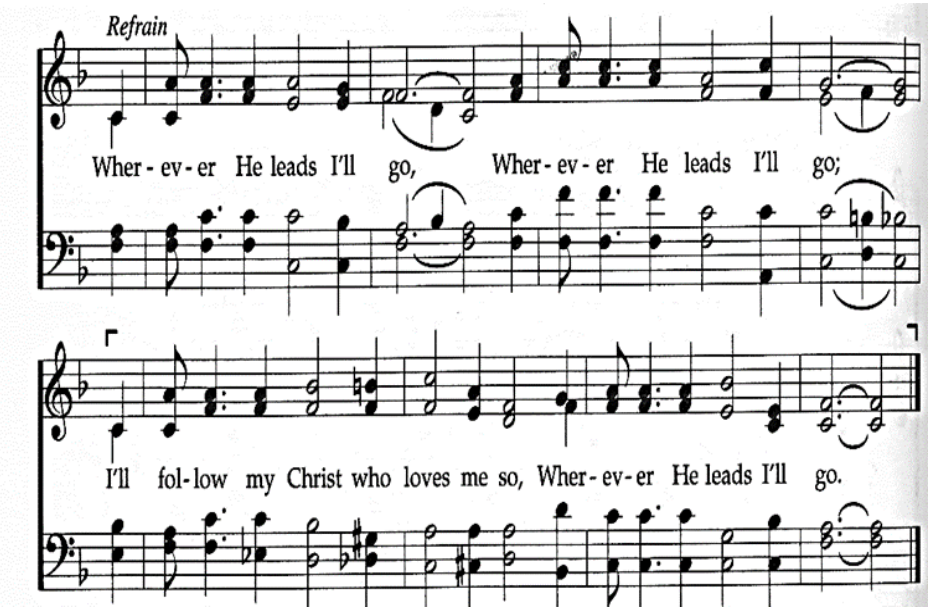
2. O God of peace, we hear your gracious promise:
Your love can heal the hearts of humankind.
May we stand firm for truth and peace and justice;
May we leave fear and hatred far behind.
May we sing out, and — singing — be a witness,
and show resolve to work for what is kind.

3. O God of all, of immigrant and neighbor,
of those in power — and of the refugee,
You give us all our common life and labor —
our common hope, the peace we long to see.
God, may we turn and be made strong together.
May we seek justice, love and unity.

4. O God of love, have mercy on your churches;
Take from our hearts our paralyzing fear.
Give us new faith! Make us courageous workers.
Help us to labor on from year to year.
When other voices call out to distract us,
May we choose well and seek your kingdom here.

**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL MEDITATION** *Wherever He Leads I'll Go* (refrain) B. B. McKinney




**POSTLUDE** *Wherever He Leads I'll Go* B. B. McKinney

** 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**
Interim Pastor ..... Tracy Hartman
Minister of Music ..... Vanessa Morton
Worship Leader ..... Laura Foster
Tech & Media Director ..... Kevin Beers