

## Attitude of Gratitude

What can we say about the attitude of gratitude that hasn't been said before? As I read Psalm 111, questions kept coming to mind. Why praise God? God is God, Creator of all, and does not need my praise. Why did the King James Version use the same English word, "praise," for three different Hebrew words? Scripture is not meant to be confusing. Why do I have to give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart in front of others? God calls us to work out our own salvation, in private, with fear and trembling.

Let's take the first two questions together. The first "praise" is the Hebrew word *halal*—to celebrate, praise, shine, and give light. The second "praise" is *yadah*—to revere, worship, cast, confess, and give thanks. The third "praise" is *tehillah*—laudation, specifically a hymn, a song that endures forever. We see that praise is not for God but for us, and encompasses more than any one word can convey.

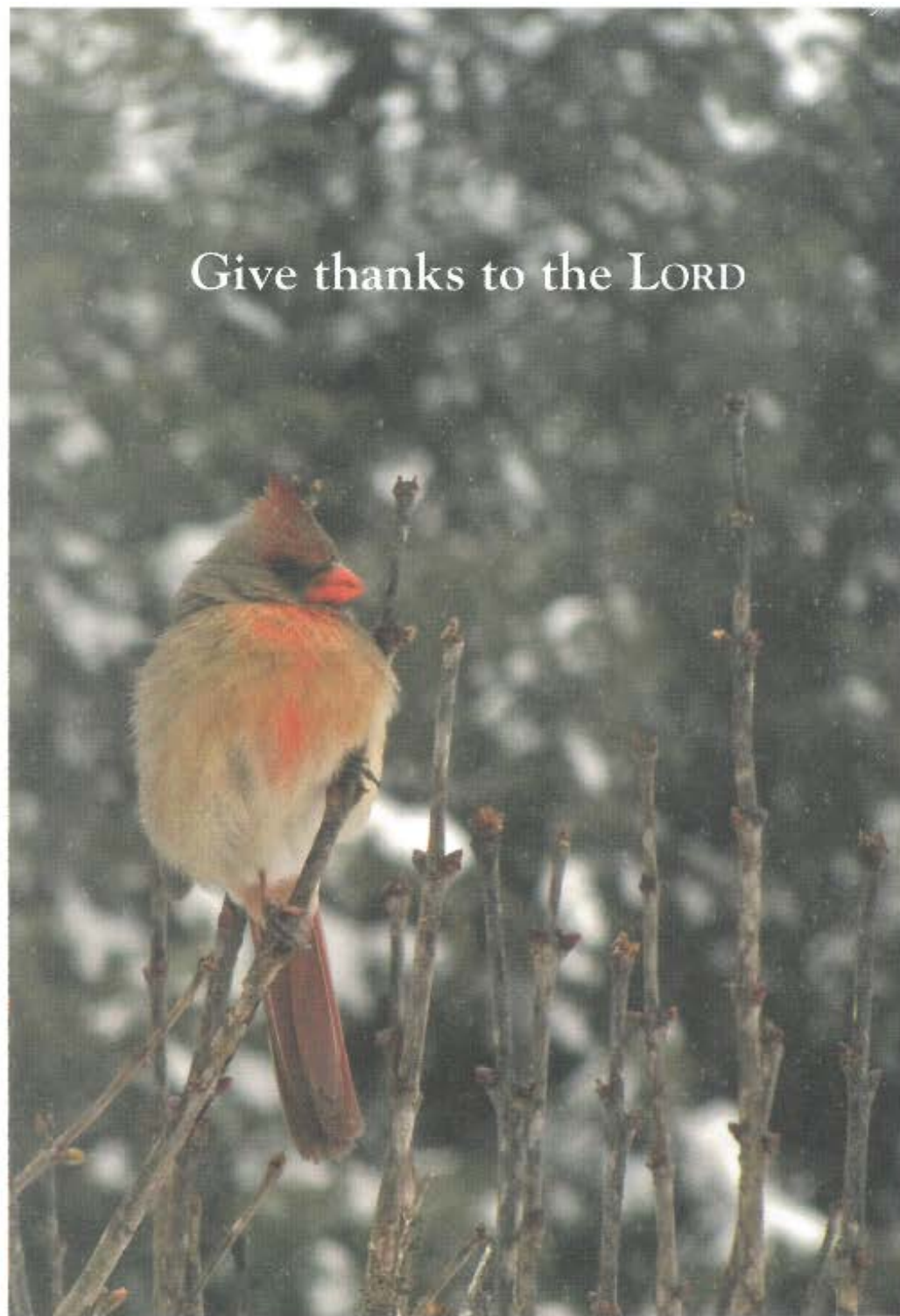
To satisfy the final question, we need to turn to our knowledge of God's will. 2 Peter informs us that God does not want any to perish, but that all will come to repentance (3:9). Romans tells us that others cannot believe without first hearing the good news proclaimed (10:13-15). Jesus in Matthew invites us to be light in the world and to let our light shine before others, that they may see God in our lives and give glory to the Father (5:14-16).

Praising God and giving thanks in the company of others develops a greater sense of community, of fellowship with our sisters and brothers. By praising God, we develop the proper attitude of gratitude, and the promise of life abundant becomes evident in our lives. The light of Christ also shines through us when we praise God and proclaim the good news to those around us. Doing so invites them to join us in song as we tell of God's great works forever.

—Mark Bausman, co-pastor  
Community Church of the Brethren  
Twin Falls, Idaho

**Text for today:** "Praise the Lord! I will *give thanks to the Lord* with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness" (Psalm 111:1-8, *NRSV*). **Bible readings for today:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111 (1); 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28.

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# BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

at Worship January 28, 2018 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

## GATHERING

**PRELUDE** (11:00) Prelude on Ave Verum Corpus W. A. Mozart  
(arr. E. P. Biggs)

**CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER** Jeff Carr

Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshipping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

**\*HYMN # 1** *What is this place* KOMT NU MET ZANG

## PROCLAIMING

**CHILDREN'S TIME** (11:00) Tony Stovall

Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions.

**ANTHEM** (11:00) O God, Our Help in Ages Past *John Helgen*

## RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**One:** God of life, you created the world and saw that it was good. Today we pray for wisdom and strength, to restore life for creation.

**All:** In your mercy, hear our prayer.

**One:** God of justice, you command us to establish justice for all.

**All:** Yet, because of self-centeredness and indifference, we increase the gap between rich and poor; we feel helpless seeing women and men trapped by oppression, bondage and captivity.

**One:** So we pray for wisdom and courage to strive for justice and share your abundance.

**All:** In your mercy, hear our prayer.

**One:** God of peace, you command us to love one another.

**All:** Yet, because of closed minds, prejudice and suspicion of difference, we frequently choose violence instead of peace.

**One:** We pray for wisdom and humility to walk peacefully together.

**All:** In your mercy, hear our prayer.

**One:** Tender and compassionate God, sustain in our hearts songs of peace and rhythms of justice.

**All:** In your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen

**SCRIPTURE READING** 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 *NRSV*

## PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

*Eternal God, in the reading of Scripture, may your Word be heard; in the mediation of our hearts, may your Word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. AMEN*

**SERMON** "God Food" Jeff Carr

## RESPONDING

**\*HYMN # 475** *Become to us the living Bread* GELOBT SEI GOTT

**REFLECTIONS** (8:30) ...a time for conversation.

## OFFERING

### Invitation

### Offertory

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

Largo e spiccato *Vivaldi-Bach*  
(from Concerto in D Minor)

## SERVICE OF EUCHARIST COMMUNION (SEE INSERT)

### Invitation

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

### Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

### Sharing of the Bread and Cup

### Prayer after Communion

**\*HYMN # 477** *For the bread* KINGDOM

## \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** (11:00) Communion Carillon *Jan Smit*

\* Rise as able in body and spirit.

## MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

**January 28-February 3, 2018** (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.  
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

<b>Today</b>	Noon	Deacon Lunch Meeting	Social Hall
<b>Wed.</b>	5:15	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	5:30	Wednesday Night Meal	Social Hall
	5:45	Carol Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	6:30	Yorffs Rehearsal	Room # 35
<b>Thurs.</b>	Noon	Interfaith Association	EMU
	6:00	Brethren Student Movement	Carter Center
	6:30	Puppets Rehearsal	Agape Room
	7:30	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
<b>Sat.</b>	6:00	VBMHC Annual Dinner	Social Hall

## NEXT SUNDAY– February 4, 2018 – *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany*

**Worship:** 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor Jeff Carr

Sermon: “Openings and Closings”

Scriptures: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; Isaiah 40:21-31; Mark 1:29-39

Children’s Worship during Worship at 11 – Agape Room

**Sunday School** – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

**Youth Fundraiser Lunch** – Noon – Social Hall

**Council** – 1p.m. – Social Hall

**Youth Super Bowl Party** – 6 p.m. – Home of the Zepps

## BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus  
and live the love of God.*

### ***Our Mission...***

*As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.*

### ***Our Values...***

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.  
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.  
Serving one another and our neighbor’s good.  
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

## PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

**Jeff Carr** – Senior Pastor

**Chris Zepp** – Associate Pastor

## ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

**Fortunato Correa** – Custodian

**Phil Flory** – Treasurer

**Karissa Hunt** – Interim Financial Secretary

**Shannon Puffenbarger** – Administrative Assistant

**Leon Rhodes** – Head Teller

**Glenna Wampler** – Business Manager

## PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

**Kathleen Arndt** – Child Care Center Administrator

**John Barr** – Organist

**Jim Benedict** – Bell Choir Director

**Jeanie Eye** – Christian Education Director

**Mary Beth Flory** – Pianist

**Marianne Houff** – Children’s Choir Director

**Ellsworth Neff** – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

**Curtis Nolley** – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

**Clarke & Hope Staton** – Youth Ministry Coordinators

## CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

www.bwco.org / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

## **SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS**

### **HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall**

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.**

*All Are Welcome* brochures, available in the pews and literature rack, list specific Christian Education opportunities and locations.

**PARKING ASSISTANCE:** 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

### **CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!**

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a "cry room" for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

**Fellowship Host** – Tim Kreps

**Pianist** (8:30) – Betty Caricofe

**Head Usher** – Palmer Lee Berry

**Sound & Light Technician** – Skip Eger

**Decorators** – Dwyann & Tony Stovall

**Deacon Caregiver** – Jan Flora

**Van Drivers** – Rick Fawley & David Lineweaver

**Worship Leader** – Amanda Zepp

### **TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: Isaac Watts, abr.; Psalm 190**

Please refer to Hymnal: A Worship Book, page 328.

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### **WORSHIP RESOURCES**

Today's communion and worship resources are adapted from "*Ecumenical Service of Worship and Holy Communion*" June 18, 2014.

## **NEW INTERIM FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

Karissa Hunt has begun her work with BWCOB as our Interim Financial Secretary. We are glad to welcome Karissa as a member of our staff.

Karissa has started to work with Glenna Wampler to make a smooth transition as Glenna begins her retirement.

### **2018 PRAYER CHAIN**

Persons interested in being included or removed from the PHONE prayer chain should contact Delores Simmons at 828-6040 or Janet Wampler at 828-6526 as soon as possible. If you are interested in being included on the email prayer chain please email churchoffice@bwcob.org or call the church office.

**2017 YEAR-END GIVING STATEMENTS** are available for pick-up this morning. Any that you can deliver to a neighbor to help save postage would be appreciated.

### **COUNCIL AGENDA**

The proposed council agenda for February 4, 2018 can be found online at [www.bwcob.org](http://www.bwcob.org) under "News and Announcements". Copies can also be obtained by contacting the church office.

### **ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP FOR SUNDAY: 1/21/18**

**Worship Attendance: 8:30 – 16 11:00 – 251 Sunday School: 157**

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$14,703.75
Loose Offering	608.00
Church User Fees	400.00
<i>Messenger</i> Subscriptions	29.00
John Kline Homestead	50.00
Altruistic Sunday School Class	161.00
Bob McFadden Memorial Fund	275.00

## SERVICE OF EUCHARIST COMMUNION (INSERT)

### Invitation

#### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: God be with you,

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God,

Leader: Let us give thanks to God most high.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise,

Leader: All praise to you, God our Creator, for by your Word and Spirit you made the heavens and the earth, filled them with life and declared everything good. All praise to you, God our Redeemer, for sending prophets, apostles, teachers, and martyrs, inspired by your Spirit to speak the word of life, and when the time was right, for becoming fully human in Jesus Christ. All praise to you, God our Helper; as wisdom, you inspire us to speak the truth; as power, you strengthen us to do justice. With your sons and daughters of faith, in all times and places, and with all the heavenly host, we praise you with joy.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of Lord. Hosanna is the highest.

Leader: Loving God, in gratitude we remember that on the night before the crucifixion, Jesus took bread and after giving thanks to you broke it and gave it to the disciples, saying: "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way after supper Jesus took the cup and after giving thanks, gave it to them and said: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." In gratitude for what Christ has done for us, we proclaim our hope.

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Leader: Holy God, send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts, that all who eat and drink at this table may be one body and one people, a living sacrifice in Jesus Christ. Through this meal unite us with the risen Christ so that we may give ourselves for the life of the world. Through us bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed. Give us the power to work for justice that all the world may be filled with peace and joy. This sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving we offer you, eternal God, through Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever. Now with the confidence of the children of God, let us pray as Jesus taught saying:

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup

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

All: We who are many are one body for we all share in the one bread.

Leader: The cup of blessing for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

All: We who are many are one body for we all share in the one cup.

### Sharing of the Bread and Cup

#### Prayer after Communion

All: God of glory, you nourish us. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, that through us your light may shine into all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.