

## Jesus loves the little children

We love children. They are so innocent and want nothing more than to be loved. In our international travels we observed that children are basically the same all over the world.

In today's passage from Mark's Gospel, we find that Jesus loved the little children too. When his disciples tried to prevent the children from coming to Jesus, he was upset with them and said, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Mark 10:14, NIV). This passage reminds us of two things: first, no matter what age we are, Jesus wants us to come to him with the innocence and wide-eyed admiration of a little child. And secondly, if we continue to approach Jesus like this, he says that we will belong to the kingdom of God. This is very simple and basic to our lives as Christ-followers.

Sometimes we try to make our Christianity too complex, when in fact, we need to explain the gospel in simple terms and encourage others to accept it like children. In Nigeria, the median age is 17 which means there are as many people under 17 as over 17 and there are children everywhere. (In comparison, the US median age is 39.)

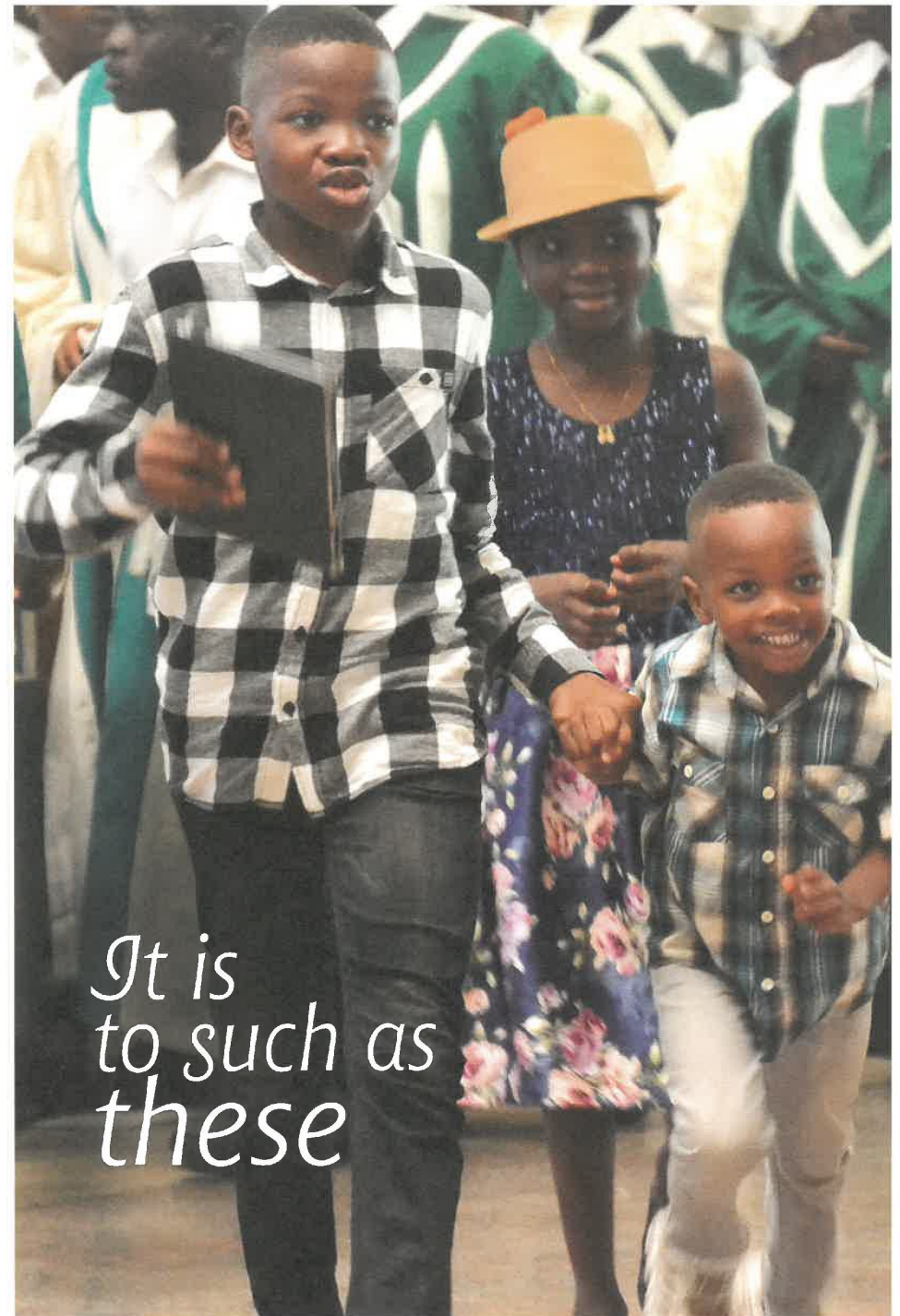
When we traveled through Nigeria, we encountered many beautiful children living in less than ideal circumstances (based on our American standards). It is certainly tragic to realize that the violence that takes place around the world impacts the very existence of so many children.

Take time to pray for all the children across the globe who are in harm's way and ask God to protect "such as these." Amen.

— Carl and Roxane Hill  
Potsdam, Ohio

"But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for *it is to such as these* that the kingdom of God belongs'" (Mark 10:14, *NRSVue*). **Today's Bible readings from the lectionary:** Job 1:1, 2:1-10 and Psalm 26; Genesis 2:18-24 and Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16.

October 6, 2024, World Communion Sunday. Photo of EYN Centenary by Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford © Church of the Brethren. Living Word Bulletin Series © 2024 Brethren Press. Printed in the USA.



It is  
to such as  
these

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
Hagerstown, Maryland

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**MORNING WORSHIP**

**10:45 AM**

October 6, 2024

World Communion Sunday – Love Feast

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rebecca Jackson, Worship Leader

**WHERE HAVE YOU SEEN GOD?**

**PRELUDE** “Bread of the world” (Martin)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: In the midst of struggle and strife, God is with us.

All: *Praise be to God for God's steadfast presence.*

One: Even though many things in life hurt and disappoint us, God is with us.

All: *We seek God's mercy and grace to heal our wounded souls.*

One: Come, bring your needs and wants to God, for God will hear your cries and restore your souls.

All: *Praise be to God for mercy, peace, and hope.*

**\*HYMN #17**

“We gather together”

[Verse 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.*

[Verse 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, wast at our side, all glory be thine!*

[Verse 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!*

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

Lord, we come to you today with so many things on our hearts. You call us to be in relationship of trust and love with you, and you offer healing to us for those portions of our lives that are broken and injured. Help us to be open to your mercy and healing love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. Amen.

**A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN**

**SERVICE OF GIVING**

**Call to Giving**

Look around you with a sense of awe and wonder. Even in the most difficult circumstances of life, we can find beauty and integrity and places where God's abiding glory is evident. Let us give thanks for God's imprint on our lives, for the sustaining word that gives purpose to our days, and for the ministry in which we are engaged together, as we present our offering.

We joyfully give as one body, both gathered in his house of worship and gathered through virtual technology. We give by placing our offerings in the plate, mailing to, or dropping off at the church, or using PayPal. Together, as we give, we declare our dedication to Jesus and our obedience to serve him.

**Offertory** “Jesus, Bread of Life, I Pray Thee” (Wagner)

**\*Doxology #119** “Praise God from whom”

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Let us pray. As long ago you spoke through the prophets, speak now through us and through the fruits of our labor which we share. We dedicate to your service all the good things we have received from your hand. May we proclaim your name to our brothers and sisters in this congregation. May our gifts carry the good news throughout our community, making a difference in the quality of life experienced by many, near and far. Amen.

**SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES**

*Please remember our worship is also on Facebook Live and our website.*

*Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.*

*An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Job 1:1, 2:1-10 OT 453

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it." The Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then Satan answered the Lord, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life." So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

**MESSAGE** "Suffering and Faithfulness" Pastor Twyla Rowe

**MORNING ANTHEM** "As We Gather at Your Table" (Daw)  
Temple Choir

**LOVE FEAST – Welcome to the Table**

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

Merciful Lord, you know that we are stubborn and willful. We believe that we know the right way to do everything and to heal all the troubles of the world. We resort to extraordinary means to provide healing only to find that we have not placed our trust in your redeeming love. Our efforts fall far short of the goal of reconciliation. Forgive us our stubbornness and arrogance. Heal our wounded souls and restore hope and compassion to our relationships with you and with each other. Lift us up and cause us to serve you by serving others in this world. Amen.

- The Symbol of Service – The Service of Handwashing**
- The Symbol of Community – The Service of Fellowship**
- The Symbol of Redemption – The Service of Holy Communion**

**Prayer of Blessing:**

**Declaration of Faith for the Bread:**

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

**Declaration of Faith for the Cup:**

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

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**\*HYMN #336** "When peace, like a river"

[Verse 1]

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

[Refrain]

*It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

[Verse 2]

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this bless'd assurance  
control, that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed his own  
blood for my soul.*

[Refrain]

*It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

[Verse 3]

*Redeemed! Oh, the bliss of this glorious thought, my sin not in part, but the  
whole is nailed to his cross, and I bear it no more, praise the Lord, praise the  
Lord, O my soul!*

[Refrain]

*It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

[Verse 4]

*And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as  
a scroll, the trumpet shall sound, and the Lord shall descend, "Even so," it is well  
with my soul.*

[Refrain]

*It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

*After the Benediction, you may be seated.*

*Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.*

**\*POSTLUDE** "Lord of Life" (Paxton)

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\*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship  
Thank you for joining us in worship today.

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Hagerstown  
Church of the Brethren  
15 S. Mulberry Street,  
Hagerstown, Maryland  
21740  
301-733-3565

Office: Tuesday—Friday  
Flexible hours  
(appointments welcome/  
call ahead)

Morning Praise Worship  
at 8:30 AM  
Sunday School at 9:30 AM  
Worship and Facebook Live  
at 10:45 AM

[www.hagerstowncob.org](http://www.hagerstowncob.org)

[www.facebook.com/  
hagerstowncob](http://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe  
Pastor

Allyson McPeak  
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young  
Director of  
Music Ministries

Don Rowe  
Interior Esthetics  
Technician

*We welcome you to our church and  
Rejoice in your participation with us in  
worship. It is our prayer that you will  
experience the presence of God's Spirit and  
that it will equip you for service and ministry  
in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and  
Cluster Leaders are available after worship  
and during the week to listen and assist you in  
your Christian pilgrimage.*

### **THE ANNOUNCER      October 6, 2024**

**If you placed someone** on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

**If you or a loved one** has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

**"Take a Moment"** Let this be our daily "Take a Moment" prayer beginning the Sunday of October 6 - God, I never can be absolutely sure of what each day will bring. I am always hopeful for days full of happy and fulfilling things. Yet, I know, that at any moment, something unexpected and out of my control can happen; or challenges that were present yesterday can continue today... tomorrow...and maybe longer. Remind me to live each moment of each and every day with the assurance that you are with me during the highs and lows of life. I know You are faithful and You walk with me through my challenges. I trust you to guide me and encourage me. I ask now, God, that you will guide, comfort, and heal those I am thinking about...those who may be feeling like Job, because of turmoil, illness and loss they are experiencing in their lives. Help me to be a good friend that offers Spirit led encouragement and support. This is my prayer, in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Our thanks** to Rebecca Jackson for being our worship leader today and to the Temple Choir for special music this morning.

**Today is our Non-Traditional Fall Love Feast.** All are welcome to the Lord's table.

**Attendance.** Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

**Would you like to place flowers on the altar** in honor or memory of a loved one or for a special event in a loved one's life? The Flower & Altar Committee has openings on October 20th and the 27th. If you are interested, please contact Ann Parker at 240-291-8521.

**The Flower & Altar Committee** is looking for one or two volunteers to help with Sunday flower sponsors and parament changes for the months of May and November. If you are interested, please contact Cinnamon Shay.

**Ministry Team CBM Report Deadline**—All Ministry Team Congregational Business Meeting reports are **due on or before October 15th** to the Administrative Assistant. Please email the report to me or place in my mailbox. Thank you!

**The Christian Education Team** will be meeting in the Mullendore room on Tuesday, October 15th at 6:30 pm, and will be a combined meeting with Sunday School and Junior Church Teachers. If you have any questions, please see Brenda Shane. Thank you!

**The Service & Outreach Team** will once again be having our large community event—**Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat—on Saturday, October 19th from 1-4 pm.** We need many helpers. We will have bingo, children's games, and crafts for the children. We will have hotdogs, chili, chips, popcorn, water, snow cones, and cotton candy. There will be a cake walk. We will have a costume parade for the kids and of course, Trunk or Treat. Do you love to meet new people and share the good news about our Lord and Savior? Here's your opportunity. We also need adult and children's prizes for bingo. If you have any appropriate items, you no longer use, please donate them for this event. We also need cakes for the cake walk, and cookies and candy. If you would like to participate in the Trunk or Treat, let us know. There are sign-up sheets available in the west entrance. If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Service & Outreach Team.

**Fellowship Time** will be held today in the Mullendore Room from 10:20 am until 10:40 am. Cookies and coffee are served. All are welcome!

**Today is Food Pantry Sunday.** Thanks to all for your gift(s) of non-perishable food items and your continued support of this ministry to our community. All items collected will be going to Holly Place.

**The Mid-Atlantic District Conference** will be held on October 11th and 12th at Brownsville Church of the Brethren.

**Junior Church will be held next Sunday, October 13th** for children ages Kindergarten through the sixth grade. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a special time together. (Parents may, of course, opt to keep their child in worship with them especially if the child is uncertain about going.) If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Brenda Shane. **Junior Church is held the second and fourth Sunday of each month.**

**Our November Congregational Business Meeting** will be held on Sunday, November 3rd in the Fellowship Hall, following the late service. We will have a covered dish carry-in meal. Spiritual Nurture will provide chicken, drinks, and paper products. Sign-up sheets have been placed in the west entrance and fellowship hall. Please sign up and bring a side dish to share. Thank you!

**Volunteers Needed**—The District Program & Arrangements team is reaching out to nearby congregations to ask for volunteers to help with childcare at this year's district conference October 11 and 12. Volunteers are required to have a background check, which the District Program & Arrangement Team will provide.

**Volunteers are needed for \*\*\*\*** 2 volunteers for approximately 1.5 to 2 hours early Friday evening during the Pastor and Spouse dinner, from about 5:30 or 6:00 to 7:15 pm, 3 children. Will be finished in time to attend the installation service for District Executive Minister Doug Veal, with a fellowship time after the service.

**\*\*\*1 to 4 volunteers during** the day Saturday from approximately 8 am to 4 pm. They have 1 volunteer who will be serving the entire day but also in need of someone else to serve with her for the day or needing to find several volunteers to take shorter shifts. There will be about 6 children. They'll have lunch with their parents so the volunteers can have lunch on their own. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office. Thank you!



**The grief journey after losing a loved one** is very painful, difficult, and lonely. Since everyone grieves in his or her own way and time, there is no magical endpoint to the grieving process. Fortunately, we have GriefShare, an encouraging seminar offering support after the death of a loved one, no matter how recent. It provides a safe, welcoming space where people understand the heavy emotions of grief. At this 13-week group, you will receive valuable tools to help you navigate your personal path, as well as support from others also on their grief journeys. If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, please share this information and consider attending. We encourage you to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become a greater support for you.

**Our fall session of GriefShare has begun and will continue each Monday through December 2, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Mullendore Room.** You may join the program at any time during the 13 weeks, but we ask that you commit to attend at least 3 weeks. Cost of the program is free, but we gladly will accept a \$10 donation toward materials. Register at [griefshare.org](http://griefshare.org). If you have any questions about the program, see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

## **CALENDAR**

### **Sunday, October 6**

Food Pantry Sunday/World Communion Sunday/Love Feast

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall

9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms

10:20 am Fellowship Time/Mullendore Room

10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

### **Monday, October 7**

Church Office Closed

6:30 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

### **Tuesday, October 8**

5:30 pm Service & Outreach Meeting/Mullendore Room

7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

### **Wednesday, October 9**

Administrative Assistant/Work from home

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

### **Thursday, October 10**

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall

6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room

7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

### **Friday, October 11**

Pastor Eddie Edmonds On Call/MAD District Conference

8:00 am Bulletin preparation time/Church office

1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

### **Saturday, October 12**

Pastor Eddie Edmonds On Call/MAD District Conference

Pastor Twyla's day off

8:00 am Community Breakfast/Fellowship Hall

### **Sunday, October 13**

Pastor Eddie Edmonds On Call/Junior Church

Pastor Eddie Edmonds/Guest Preacher

8:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall

9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms

10:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screening

10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live

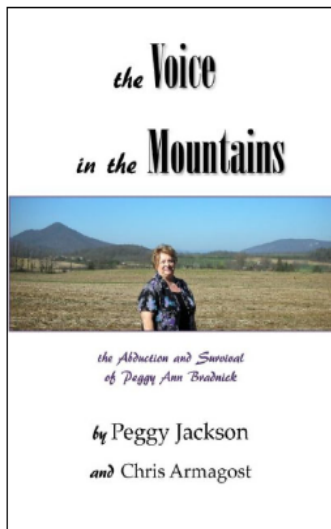
*Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.*

You may mail your offering to  
15 S. Mulberry Street,  
Hagerstown MD 21740  
OR  
you can make a secure offering  
donation on our website using  
PayPal [www.hagerstowncob.org](http://www.hagerstowncob.org)

The church calendar is online at  
[www.hagerstowncob.org](http://www.hagerstowncob.org).  
Click the calendar tab.

The Novel Bunch presents...

**the Voice in the Mountains**



In the spring of 1966, in Shade Gap, PA, 17-year old Peggy Ann Bradnick got off the school bus with her siblings, only to be abducted by a masked man with a shotgun. Her 8-day ordeal sparked a multi-state manhunt and made international headlines.

This is Peggy's story in her own words. It is one of forgiveness and grace. Peggy Ann Bradnick Jackson is a woman of great faith whose quiet strength will astound you.

Even though this book focuses on a horrible crime, it is not graphic or gory. But it is a compelling story of a former victim turned survivor. And after 50-plus years, Peggy Jackson received a commendation from the FBI last year.

In the words of Mr. Lloyd Dell, a radio broadcaster who covered the story at the time:

"Peggy, through her speaking engagements and her life, shows mature Christian love, exhibiting mercy and grace to all, even those like William Hollenbaugh who have wronged her through the years."

And the dedication page states:

*"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God."*

~Romans 8:28

**Peggy will be our guest author on Saturday, November 16, to discuss her book and answer your questions. We invite the congregation to meet Peggy Jackson and hear her story.**

**10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Fellowship Hall**

Luncheon to follow.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTE:** If you have any questions or need assistance acquiring the book, call Jenny Ferguson at 301-964-1779. Please return the section below if you plan to attend.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ I plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_ YES

Preferred contact information: Phone \_\_\_\_\_ OR

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Book Club Team: \*Jenny Ferguson, Kristal Bricker, Debbie Nycum, Kay Ogilvie, Jan Young

**\*\* If you are unable to read the book, there is also a movie on Amazon Prime called "Cry in the Wild: The Taking of Peggy Ann" that tells Peggy Jackson's story\*\***

**Please place in the designated basket in the west entrance once filled out.  
Thank you!**