

## Mighty mountains

Generations of Church of the Brethren members have encountered mighty mountains at National Youth Conference in Colorado. From a distance, the peaks inspire awe, standing majestic and scenic on the horizon. Up close, mountain roads, with their twists and sharp drop-offs, demand concentration and attentive driving, with a white-knuckle grip on the steering wheel. Hiking mountain trails requires effort and determination. You sweat. You take breaks. You gulp water.

The term “righteousness” in English doesn’t exactly match the original. In Greek and Hebrew, one word means both “righteousness” and “justice”: what is right both on a personal level and in communities, nations, and around the globe. God’s righteousness encompasses our individual actions and attitudes and also how we engage with the world around us. That wider version of righteousness-and-justice rises as the “mighty mountains” of Psalms.

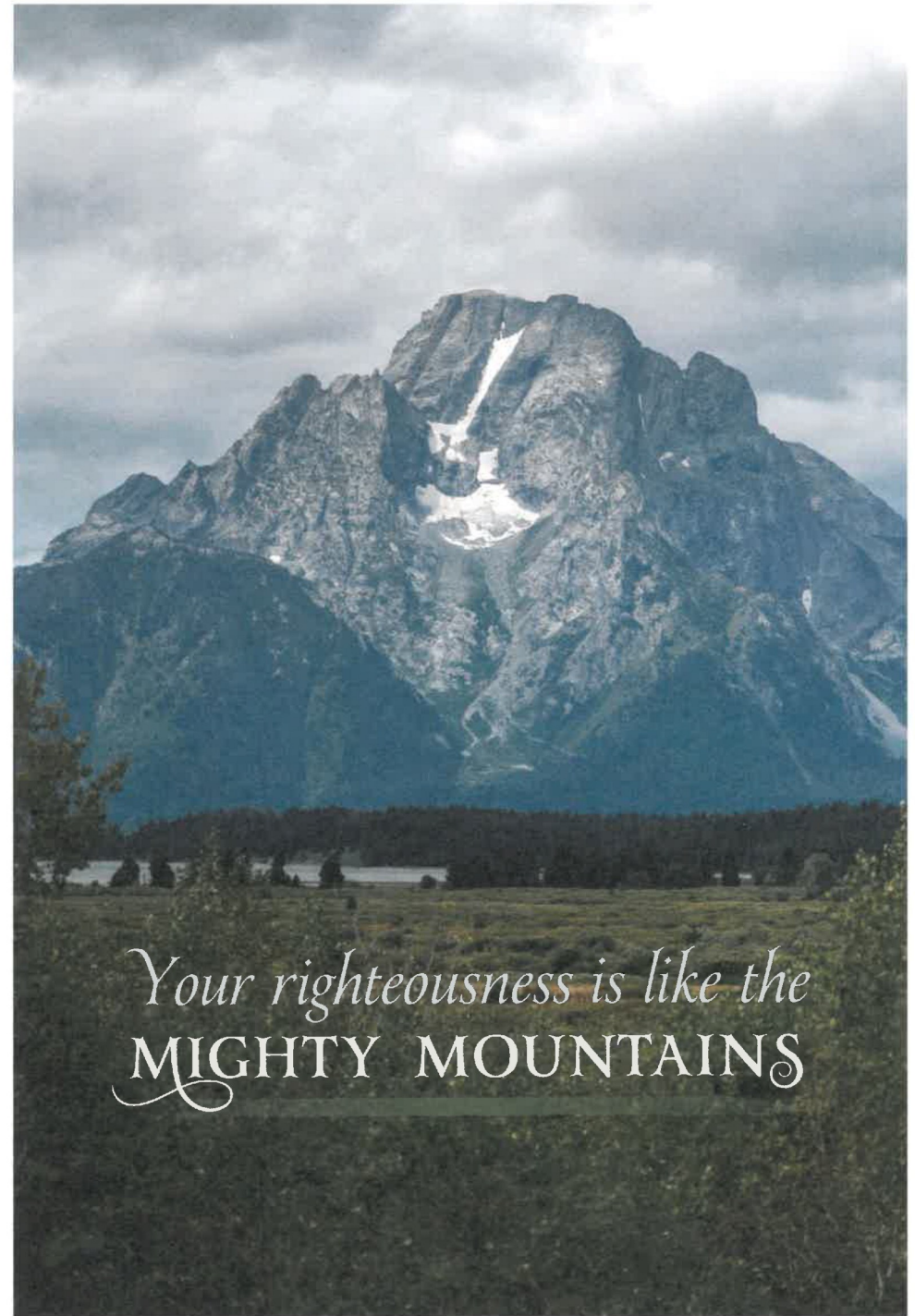
From a distance of years, the striving of someone like Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. looks as monumental as the Colorado mountains, huge and somehow inevitable. Trying to walk the path ourselves requires close, ongoing attention; we can’t address injustice if we don’t observe it. The righteousness-and-justice mountain trails include unexpected twists and turns. They can be exhausting and scary. The dangers are real: Dr. King was killed for his climb.

We don’t all walk the same trail. We don’t travel at the same speed. To avoid exhaustion and dehydration, we all need to constantly drink in the Living Water, Jesus. And hiking is always safer in groups. The “Week of prayer for Christian unity” reminds us that all followers of Jesus admire the mighty mountains of God’s righteousness at a distance and together face the struggle of reaching and climbing them.

—Jan Fischer Bachman  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

*“Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains; your judgments are like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD” (Psalm 36:6, NRSVue). Today’s Bible readings from the lectionary: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 36:5-10; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11; John 2:1-11.*

January 19, 2025, Martin Luther King Jr Day and Prayer for Christian Unity Week. Photo © Benjamin Hoffmann. Used by permission. Living Word Bulletin Series © 2025 Brethren Press. Printed in the USA.



*Your righteousness is like the*  
**MIGHTY MOUNTAINS**

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
Hagerstown, Maryland

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**MORNING WORSHIP** **10:45 AM**

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January 19, 2025

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Linda Baker, Worship Leader

**WHERE DID YOU SEE GOD LAST WEEK?**

**PRELUDE** "Mighty Are Thy Works, O Lord" (Davidson)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Jesus surprised the people at the wedding.  
*All: They were sure they would be disappointed.*  
One: They thought that their host wasn't prepared for their needs.  
*All: We aren't much different. We aren't sure God is prepared for our needs.*  
One: Lord, change our whining in to praising!  
*All: Change our moaning and complaining into celebrations of joy!*

**\*HYMN #106** "All hail the power of Jesus' name"

[Verse 1]

*All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall.  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!  
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all!*

[Verse 2]

*Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed of the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!  
Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!*

[Verse 3]

*Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, on this terrestrial ball,  
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!  
To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!*

[Verse 4]

*Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!  
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!*

**\*OPENING PRAYER**

Lord, open our hearts to the surprising ways in which you offer to us your love and your presence. Help us to truly believe in the wondrous ways that you work in our lives. Give us hearts and spirits for service to you. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

**MORNING ANTHEM** "Jesus, Come! For We Invite You" (Idle)  
Temple Choir

**SERVICE OF GIVING**

**Call to Giving**

What will we give in gratitude for God's forgiveness and healing grace? Who can repay the many gifts we have received with the miracle of life? Let us rejoice in the mission God entrusts to us.

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshiping with us on Facebook Live. We invite you to give by mailing your offering to the church or dropping it off at the church during the week, or by going to the Hagerstowncob webpage and using Paypal.

**Offertory** "O Love that Will Not Let Me Go" (Ritter)

**\*Doxology #119** "Praise God from whom"

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

God of our baptism, whose Holy Spirit fires our imagination and fills our lives with purpose, we rejoice to commit ourselves anew with our gifts. May what we share strengthen your children spiritually, inspiring each person to invest fully in the work you set before us. The varieties of gifts you entrust to us can be realized only if they are used. Thank you for granting us this joy. Amen.

**A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN**

**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**

**HYMN #143**

*“Amazing Grace”*

[Verse 1]

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.*

[Verse 2]

*’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.*

[Verse 3]

*Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.  
’Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.*

[Verse 4]

*Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess, within the veil, a life of joy and peace.*

[Verse 5]

*The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine;  
but God, who called me here below, will be forever mine.*

[Verse 6]

*When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’ve first begun.*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

John 2:1-11

NT 93

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

**MESSAGE**

*“Change”*

Pastor Twyla Rowe

**\*HYMN #389**

*“Take My Life”*

[Verse 1]

*Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee. Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise, let them flow in ceaseless praise.*

[Verse 2]

*Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love. Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.*

[Verse 3]

*Take my voice, and let me sing, always, only for my King. Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.*

[Verse 4]

*Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold. Take my intellect and use ev’ry pow’r as thou shalt choose, ev’ry pow’r as thou shalt choose.*

[Verse 5]

*Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine. Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne, it shall be thy royal throne.*

[Verse 6]

*Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

*After the Benediction, you may be seated.*

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

**\*POSTLUDE**

*“Sing a New Song”*

(Broughton)

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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 January 19, 2025**

**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, Sunday, January 19 - God, thank you for sending your Son as my Savior and my Guide. Through word and actions, Jesus has given me an example to follow for how to be faithful to your will. Thank you for the Holy Spirit that fills me and empowers me to use my gifts. I know that sometimes that means I need to make changes in my life; and I admit, that's not always easy to do. I don't always like the changes you require of me. Because I get quite comfortable in my ways, I don't always stop to think whether what I am doing or saying is obedient to Your will. Jesus asks me to change that which creates or advances voids and brokenness in my relationships...with you and with others. You call me to serve my neighbors and church family in new ways; which admittedly, I am not always excited to do. With Your mercy and saving grace, help me to take an open and honest look at myself; and reveal to me where I need to make changes in my life. Send Your Holy Spirit to help me make the changes that draw me closer to Your heart and Your mission. Thank you for loving me so very much that you are patient with me and willing to help me...and save me. Amen.

**Our thanks** to Linda Baker for being our worship leader today and to the Temple Choir for our morning anthem.

**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.

**The flowers on the altar this morning** are given in memory of D. Harold Winger and Helen Winger Huffer, given by daughter, Pamela Frusher and children.

**We regret to inform you that the elevator** is out of service until further notice. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause. The Property & Finance Team are hard at work to get this matter taken care of and to get the issues fixed. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Donnie Maas. Thank you for your understanding and patience. The church office and the P&F Team will keep you updated with any changes or progress.

**The Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screenings** will be held today. The screenings take place in the Fellowship Hall before the 8:30 AM Morning Praise Worship Service and in the Mullendore room before the 10:45 AM worship.

**Year-End Contribution Statements** can be found in the church mailboxes. If you do not have a church mailbox, the statements will be mailed. If you're new to HCOB and have been using an envelope and didn't get a statement, please email or call the church office.

**It's time to sign up for a Patron ad** for in the 2025 Mid-Atlantic Disaster Response auction booklet. Patron ads are for those individuals who want to support disaster relief. The annual auction is the district's largest fundraiser for this. Patron ads can be purchased for ten or more dollars. Please contact Daryl Long or Arn Platou to place your ad, but do it quickly. We have an early deadline this year and all checks and forms need to be in Elgin before **February 7th** to be included in the booklet. Checks need to be made out to HCOB.

**Prayer Walk**—The Service & Outreach Team will be having our annual Prayer Walk on Saturday, February 8, 2025. We will be preparing 160 bagged meals which we will be distributing to our neighbors in the downtown area. We are in need of hats, gloves, socks, blankets and small personal-care items. If you would like to donate any of these items, a box will be available in the west entrance.

**It's almost here!** Our week to staff the REACH Cold Weather Shelter is March 9-16, 2024. We need to cover all roles Sunday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday that week. The most important responsibility we have is providing an evening meal each of those days. The Tuesday meal and servers are covered, and the Thursday meal is covered. We need servers Thursday, and we still need meals/servers on Sunday and Saturday. Also looking for volunteers to assist with Search, Laundry, and Hospitality. At this time of the shelter season, supplies are getting low. You will find a list of REACH needs in this bulletin. Starting February 16, and through March 9, we will be collecting donations of items on this list. Donations will be taken to REACH during our week at the shelter. Any donations will be greatly appreciated! Please contact Sandy Clipp at 240-291-8753 if interested in serving at REACH or if you have any questions.

**Inclement Weather Policy—If inclement weather is forecasted, be sure to:**

- \* Check your email—we will send out a group email as quickly as possible if the decision to cancel in-person worship is made.
- \* Check our Facebook page—Hagerstown Church of the Brethren (facebook.com/hagerstowncob) we will post updates there as well.

If we do hold in-person worship, and if you are uncomfortable driving in bad weather, please join us on Facebook Live. Be safe first and check your email!

**A Friendly Reminder:** Meritus is encouraging the community to keep in mind that this is the season when the flu and viruses are easily spread. The hospital is currently seeing an influx of people with a very contagious virus. This reminder is not to alarm anyone, but to ask us all to keep in mind that if we become ill; or if we feel like we are coming down with something; or if you know you have been exposed to something contagious...please take care of yourself at home and worship with your church family on Sundays using Facebook Live. They also suggest avoiding hugs and handshakes during this season. Worshipping God is central to our life together. May we do so, even as we care for each other by following these preventative guidelines.

**Because winter weather is here,** we'd like to pass along a gentle reminder to drive slowly in our parking lot, especially when it's snow-covered or icy. Always be on alert for children, pedestrians, dogs, cats, and those less mindful than you are of the pavement surface conditions.

**Cash for Causes/Martin's Gift Card Program.** Purchase Martin's gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution. To purchase a card, please contact Larry Kees, Jr. (301-331-0107). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

**Deadline for bulletins and newsletters.** Announcements for the weekly bulletin need to be given to the administrative assistant before noon on Wednesday. Announcements for the monthly newsletters need to be given to the administrative assistant before the 15th of each month. Let's help her out by meeting deadlines, and also by not asking for special exceptions. Announcements should continue to be emailed to [secretaryhcob@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryhcob@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Please remember** to keep the administrative assistant updated on when and where meetings/events are being held. Please email or call the Administrative Assistant with information that needs added to the church calendar. **301-733-3565 or [secretaryhcob@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryhcob@gmail.com)**. Thank you!

**CALENDAR**

**Sunday, January 19**

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

**Monday, January 20**

Church Office Closed/Martin Luther King Jr. Day

**Tuesday, January 21**

12:00 pm Mary Martha Group/Mullendore Room  
5:30 pm P&F Meeting/Mullendore Room  
6:30 pm CE Meeting/Room 302  
7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, January 22**

Administrative Assistant/Work from home  
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions  
5:30 pm Spiritual Nurture Meeting/Mullendore Room

**Thursday, January 23**

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall  
6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room  
7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

**Friday, January 24**

8:00 am Bulletin preparation time/Church office  
1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

**Saturday, January 25**

Pastor Twyla's day off

**Sunday, January 26**

Junior Church  
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall  
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms  
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.

## 2024/2025 Reach's Cold Weather Shelter Needs List

*Donations are accepted Monday-Thursday, 9am-4pm.  
Thank you for your generous support!*

### Personal Care

Women's Underwear (sm-med)

Mens Boxers (M-XL)

Belts (of any size)

Deodorant

Flip-Flops (For Showers)

Hand Warmers

Ponchos

Shaving Razors

Individual Sized Hygiene Items  
(Shampoo, Toothpaste, Conditioner,  
Lotion)

### Miscellaneous

XL Food Storage (Plastic containers or  
Tupperware - can be new or slightly  
used!)

Twin or Twin XL Comforters

### Cleaning Supplies

39 Gallon Trash Bags

13 Gallon Trash Bags

Napkins

Laundry Pods

Toilet Paper

Tissues

Paper Towels

Mold & Mildew Cleaner Spray

### Food & Drink

Coffee & Tea Bags

Sugar

Creamer

Cereal

Granola/ Snack Bars

Pop-Tarts

Oatmeal (Single Packs)

(Items in **BOLD** are those which we are in greater need!)

\*Due to an abundance of supply: No bar soap or feminine pads please ☺

\*\*Due to limited storage space, we cannot accept clothing donations unless specifically noted on the list. Please take clothing donations to Trinity Lutheran Clothing Bank (Potomac & Randolph).