



Worship for March 19, 2023 10:00 a.m.
The Bellbrook Presbyterian Church
72 West Franklin Street
Bellbrook, Ohio 45305
937-848-2378 www.bellbrookpc.com

Our mission: Embracing the Community with God's Love, Providing a Home for Spiritual Nurture & Worship, Reaching Out to Those in Need, Growing through Service to Others

⁴ *‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’ Revelation 21:4*

We Prepare

The Life of the Church

Prelude

Lighting of the Candles

One: Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.”

All: We welcome the light of Christ into our worship.

Sung Prayer of Preparation “How Great Thou Art” Purple #625 v. 1

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

***Call to Worship** (Responsive – please rise in body or spirit)

One: Search me, O God, and know my heart;

All: try me and know my thoughts!

One: See if there is any wicked way in me,

All: and lead me in the way everlasting.

***Hymn of Praise** “Come, Worship God” Purple # 386 v. 1, 4

v. 1 Come, worship God, who is worthy of honor; enter God’s presence with thanks and a song! You are the rock of your people’s salvation to whom our jubilant praises belong.

v. 4 Now let us listen for you speak among us; open our hearts to receive what you say. Peace be to all who remember your goodness, trust in your word, and rejoice in your way!

***Call to Confession** (Please rise in body or spirit.)

Because we trust in God's covenant faithfulness, we are free to make our confession to God and call for his compassion. Let us, therefore, confess our sins that we may be renewed in his grace.

***Prayer of Confession** (responsive) Adapted from Daniel 9 in *The Message*

One: O Master, great and awesome God.

You never waver in your covenant commitment,
never give up on those who love you and do what you say.

**All: Yet we have sinned in every way imaginable.
We've done evil things, rebelled, dodged
and taken detours around your clearly marked paths.**

One: Compassion is our only hope,
the compassion of you, the Master, our God,
since in our rebellion we've forfeited our rights.

**All: Master, you are our God, for you delivered your people
from the land of Egypt in such a show of power that
people are still talking about it! We confess that we have sinned,
that we have lived bad lives.**

One: Turn your ears our way, God, and listen.
Open your eyes and take a long look at us,
your people named after you.

**All: We know that we don't deserve a hearing from you. Our appeal is to your
compassion. This prayer is our last and only hope: Master, listen to us!
Master, forgive us! Through Christ, your Lamb, our Lord. Amen.**

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon** (responsive)

One: Scripture speaks to us of the pardon we may have through the finished work
of Jesus Christ. Jesus came that we may have life and have it abundantly.
In Him, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Congregational Response** "Gloria Patri"

Red # 622

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be;
World without end. Amen. Amen.***

***Declaration of Trust and the Peace**

One: Congregation of Jesus Christ, in whom are you trusting?

All: Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

One: Grace, mercy, and peace to you in the name of the Father, the Son,
and the Holy Spirit.

All: And also with you.

(Please take a moment to greet your neighbor.)

Pew Conversation

- What does it mean to entrust someone with something?
- What gifts, talents, and Good News have you been entrusted with?
- What have we as a congregation been entrusted with?

Sung Response

“Jesus, Tell A Story”

J. L. Salt(er)

♩ = 115 soft and gentle

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It features a 4/4 time signature and a tempo of 115 beats per minute. The music is marked 'soft and gentle'. The first system includes the lyrics: 'Je - sus, tell a sto - ry a - bout how we all should live. Tell us tales of gen - 'rous hearts, and tal - ents, wed - dings, too.' The second system is labeled 'introduction' and includes the lyrics: 'Tell us how to be like you, to share and love and give. O Lord Je sus, teach us to for - give and serve like you.' The score includes chord symbols (F, C/E, Dm, G7, C, G/F, Em, Am, Dm, G, C) and a 'with pedal' instruction.

Je - sus, tell a sto - ry a - bout how we all should live.
Tell us tales of gen - 'rous hearts, and tal - ents, wed - dings, too.

with pedal

introduction

Tell us how to be like you, to share and love and give.
O Lord Je sus, teach us to for - give and serve like you.

We Hear

Anthem

“Blessed Assurance”

Fanny Crosby

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

O Lord, you have written this Word by your Holy Spirit, and you have given it to us today for our benefit. Now speak clearly through this Word, and cause our ears to be open that we may hear what you have to say to us, and cause our hearts to be responsive that we may obey you. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Psalm 45:6-7

3 O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

4 Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:1-13

25 “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷ Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other young women came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹² But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Message

“Don’t Grow Weary”

Rev. Diane Ziegler

Hymn of Affirmation “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning” Purple # 350

*v. 1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burning; keep your lamps trimmed and burning;
keep your lamps trimmed and burning, for the time is drawing nigh.*

**REFRAIN: Sisters don’t grow weary; brothers, don’t grow weary, children, don’t
grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.**

*v. 2 It’s our faith makes us happy; it’s our faith makes us happy; it’s our faith makes us
happy, for the time is drawing nigh. REFRAIN*

*v. 3 We are climbing Jacob’s ladder; we are climbing Jacob’s ladder; we are climbing
Jacob’s ladder, for the time is drawing nigh. REFRAIN*

v. 4 Every round goes higher, higher; every round goes higher, higher; every round goes higher, higher, for the time is drawing nigh. REFRAIN

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy
Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth
at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge
the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

Sung Response to Prayer

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Purple # 834

v. 1 Precious Lord, take my hand; lead me on, help me stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light; take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

v. 2 When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near; when my life is almost gone, hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall, take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

***Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication/Offering** (unison)

Everlasting Father, thank you that you are the light of the world, guiding our steps on your path. Your word says that the earth is yours, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to you. We recognize everything we have belongs to you. We acknowledge that our very lives belong to you. We now offer back to you a portion of what you have given us. May God the Father prepare our journey, Jesus the Son guide our footsteps and the Holy Spirit watch over us, on every path that we follow. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

We Go

***Parting Hymn**

“Be Thou My Vision”

Purple # 450 v. 1, 4

v. 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art; thou my best thought, by day or by night, waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

v. 4 High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

***Carrying the Light**

One: As we go forth to serve,

All: We carry the light of Christ into the world.

***Benediction**

*** Sung Benediction**

“What A Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

Purple # 837 v. 3

v. 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Postlude

(Sanctuary worshippers, please be seated for the postlude.)

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Online Giving: Access online giving by using the bar code to the left.

We are grateful to have Rita serving as accompanist this morning!

Office Hours this Week: Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Session/Deacons Retreat – Thursday, March 23rd

Supper- March 23rd – 6:00p.m. A time for food and fellowship. Sign-up in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone Welcome!

Engineering is Elementary- Grades 1-5- March 27th-31st. Daily from 1-4 p.m.- If you would like to learn more or volunteer please let Sally in the office know.

Please pick up your Lenten devotional booklet if you have not already done so. Pocket “Grace and Peace” coins are also available to carry throughout the season. Both are located at the entrances to the sanctuary.

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering assists people in need and distress across the nation and around the world. We will be collecting for the One Great Hour of Sharing now through April 2. Please pick up a fish bank (located at both entrances to the sanctuary) and place offerings into the bank. Bring your bank back to church on Palm Sunday (April 2) when we will dedicate the offering.

Holy Week is the first week of April! There are LOTS of worship and fellowship opportunities. See your Wednesday email for details. Please consider inviting others to join into the life of our community during this season.

Don't miss important news and notes about the life of the community in our email newsletter which is sent out each Wednesday. If you haven't subscribed already and would like to do so, please email Sally or Diane.

Prayer Concerns: Loy and Ed Boncek, Ali, Molly Barber, Family of John Myron, Gary Smith, Toby Boedecker, Barb Wagner and family at loss of Barb's sister Phyllis, family and friends of Stuart Holoman (Al Evan's brother-in-law), Allene Rader; those who are sick; earthquake victims; peace.