

*Growing together ...in Faith...Reason...Service...and Love*



*Let  
Our  
Light  
Shine*

**Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian U.S.A.)**

**25 October 2026 -- Order of Worship  
Reformation Sunay**

Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian USA)  
Order for Worship ~ Reformation Sunday ~ 25 October 2026

Preparation for Worship:

*"Let the great world spin forever down the ringing grooves of change."*

~Alfred Lord Tennyson

**Prelude**

*Reverie*

Vierne

*During the prelude, we encourage you to quiet your mind and prepare your heart for worship.*

**Introit 413**

*Come into God's Presence*

*During the prelude, we encourage you to quiet your mind and prepare your heart for worship.*

**Call to Worship:**

Leader: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

**People: In you, we come home—to rest, to discover, to love and be loved. We dwell in you.**

Leader: Before the mountains were brought forth, from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

**People: In you, we are home—we dream, we flourish, we fade, we rejoice. We dwell in you.**

**Prayer of Adoration:**

Loving God, not only do you welcome us, you receive us to yourself. Give us courage to be so open to others, sharing your love and our lives with them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

**\*Hymn 275**

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

**Call to Prayer**

Our spirits are like the new grass. At dawn they spring up fresh, but in time they grow old and wither. Let us confess our changefulness and frailty to God. Together let us say:

**Prayer of Confession**

**Lord, we confess: We do not live as those worthy to be messengers of the good news of your grace; we pay little heed to the gospel's call upon our lives. Our worship is often hollow, our prayers are frequently rote, our service to others is not always heartfelt. Apathy besets us even in tasks that ought to bring us joy. Renew in us an awareness of our life in you, and give us strength to live it faithfully. Amn. [Silent prayers]**

**Words of Assurance**

In Christ we are accepted just as we are. In Christ we are called, renewed, and transformed. Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ: in him we are forgiven. Amen.

**\*The Gloria: Hymn 583**

*Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest. Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia.*

### **\*The Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

### **Prayer for Illumination**

O God, in ages past, you called the faithful to reform the church by reading and hearing the Scriptures in new ways. And now, five-hundred years later, we too need new ways of hearing your voice, so that we might change and grow into all that you call us to be in our age. Give us ears to hear what you say to us today in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Scripture Reading**

Mark 12:28-34

Pew Bible Page 49

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **A Thought to Carry**

We take this time to speak directly and briefly to our children and youth, leaving them with a thought to discuss with their families. Children and youth may head to their Sunday School classrooms during the hymn that follows.

### **Psalter: Hymn 687**

*Our God, Our Help in Ages Past  
Remain seated for the singing of the Psalms.*

**Psalm 90**

### **Anthem**

*Lean on Me*

Pepper Choplin

### **Sermon**

**“Not Far from the Kingdom”**

Rev. Jeff Tindall

Rev. Tindall is the newest member of the Company of Pastors, the former senior pastor of John McMillan Presbyterian Church and formerly the Stated Clerk of Pittsburgh Presbytery.

### **Response 571**

*Amen*

### **\*Affirmation of Faith**

“Credo for Christians”

**I worship and adore God, source, essence, and aim of all things,  
Spirit that enlivens all beings.**

**I follow the way of Jesus, who found God in himself  
and shared a way for others to find God in themselves.**

**He was born through love,**

**He lived for love,**

**He suffered for love,**

**He died for love,**

**But love never dies.**

**I submit myself to the leading of the love that is God,  
that I may be compassionate toward all beings,  
that I may live and serve in community with others,  
that I may ask for and offer forgiveness,  
that I may praise and enjoy God forever. Amen.**

**Pastoral Prayer 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.  
\*Or “Mother” or “Parent”

**Welcome and Next Steps**

**Minute for Stewardship**                      *Cheerful Giving Stewardship Drive*                      Sarah Neusius

**Minute for Mission**                      *Hearts United with Haiti*                      Crystal Funk

**Offerings and Gifts of Self**

**Offertory**

**\*The Doxology: Hymn 606, 607**    *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow\**                      Old Hundredth  
                                                 *Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below!*  
                                                 *Praise God above, ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.*  
                                                 \*For a gender-neutral version, use hymn 607.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Closing Hymn 624**                      *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Extroit 542**                      *God Be with You Till We Meet Again*

**Postlude**                      *Holy God, We Praise Your Name*                      Paul Manz  
                                         *Feel free to exit during the postlude, mindful of those who wish to stay and listen*

*If you have a prayer request, please write it on the white prayer request card located in your pew.  
You may place it in the offering plate located in the narthex to be printed next week.  
Prayer concerns will remain in the bulletin for three weeks unless otherwise requested.*

**Prayers are requested for:**

Gloria Child, Nancy Green, Nick Helmer, Jamie, Connie May, Cathy Morgan  
Barb Oram, Curt Philson, Brody Polk, Kathy Repko, Resa Walsh, Adam Vance