

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



*Let  
Our  
Light  
Shine*

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

**19 April 2026 ~ Order of Worship  
3rd Sunday of Easter – Confirmation Sunday**

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Order for Worship ~ 3rd Sunday of Easter ~ Confirmation Sunday ~ 19 April 2026

Preparation for Worship:

*"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."*  
~Franklin D. Roosevelt

**Prelude**

*Morning Song*

David Schelat

**Introit**

*May I Be Empty*

**Call to Worship:**

Leader: How should we come into God's presence?

**People: God has shown us what is right.**

Leader: And what does the Lord require of us?

**People: To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.**

**Prayer of Adoration:**

Eternal God: all people are yours and all the seasons of our lives. Thank you for the old, whose experience and maturity keep us anchored. Thank you, too, for the young, whose sincerity and passion call us to seek you in new ways. Let this hour of worship bring us closer to you and to each other; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

**\*Hymn 488**

*I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry*

**Call to Prayer**

Our calling is to justice, compassion, and humility. But our daily tasks and worries cause us to forget that calling and to chase after other things. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin. Together let us say:

**Prayer of Confession**

**See into our hearts today, O God. Sometimes we do our best, but often we do not. We waste time, energy, and skills on selfish pursuits, while ignoring those in need. We worry about little things, like appearances and gain, while overlooking big things, like compassion and gratitude. We forget that we are loved, and so neglect to love each other. Help us to do better. Keep us mindful of things that matter, and let us live in your grace. Amen.** [Silent prayers]

**Words of Assurance**

"Those who make peace sow the seeds of justice by their peaceful acts." 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.

*All children from preschool through fourth grade are invited to meet their teachers in the Narthex and go to their classes.*

## **Prayer of Illumination**

Bless the words we read today. Let them become your Word for us, guiding us into the ways of hospitality, wisdom, justice, compassion, unity, humility, gratitude and grace. Amen.

## **First Scripture Reading**

Luke 24:13-27

Pew Bible Page 90

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word..

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **\*Hymn 69**

*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

## **Second Scripture Reading**

Luke 24:28-35

Pew Bible Page 90

## **Anthem**

*With Songs of Rejoicing*

Hal Hopson

## **Sermon**

**“With Eyes Wide Open”**

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

## **Response 601**

*Amen*

## **Service of Confirmation**

*Abigail Boisvert, Barrett Bruce, Teagan Bruce, Elise Gibbs, Autumn Grella, Addie Ivey,  
Calvin Kocher, Lilly Philson, Drake Robbins, Leah Smith*

## **\*Affirmation of Faith**

### **The Apostles' Creed**

**I Believe in God the Father\* Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;**

**and in Jesus Christ, God's 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,  
from there he shall come to judge the living 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.**

## **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

## 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 547** *Go, My Children, with My Blessing*

## \*Charge and Benediction

## Extroit

**Postlude** *Fugue in C Major* Dietrich Buxtehude  
*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:**

William Casey, Katyana Diaz, Vicki Fischer, Nancy Green, Amy Jones, Alex Lorber  
Joan McAnulty, Dave McVay, Barb Oram, Nancy Starr, Resa Walsh, Owen Wagner