Growing together …in Faith…Reason…Service…and Love

Let Our Light Shine

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

8 March 2026 ~ Order of Worship
Third Sunday in Lent

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Order for Worship ~ Third Sunday in Lent ~ 8 March 2026

Preparation for Worship:
"*It is strange to be known so universally and yet to be so lonely*."
~Albert Einstein

Prelude *Cross of Jesus* Charles Callahan

Choral Introit *May I Be Empty*

Call to Worship:

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down;
People: let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.
Leader: The hour is coming and is now here.
People: In spirit and in truth, let us worship God.

Prayer of Adoration
Eternal God, you are living water. As we worship you this day, show us who we are: channels of your love and vessels of your grace; 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 386** *Come, Worship God* Psalm 95

Call to Prayer
God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Trusting in God's overflowing grace, together let us confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession

God, you know who we are. You know all that we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O God, and give us this living water always, that we may never thirst again. Amen. [Silent prayers]

Words of Assurance
"Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Friends, hear and believe the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ: in him we are forgiven. Amen.

***Response: Hymn 227** *Jesus, Remember Me*

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.
(Sing two times.)

***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 for Illumination
Living God, through the reading of the Scriptures and by the power of your Spirit, may we hear for ourselves the good news, and believe, because of your Word, that you in Christ are for us today. Amen.

First Scripture Reading John 4:5-26 Pew Bible Page 94

Leader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.
People: Thanks be to God.

***Hymn 438** *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

Second Scripture Reading John 4:27-42 Pew Bible Page 95

Choral Anthem *Fear Not, For I Have Redeemed You* Diane Hannibal

Sermon **"Everything I've Ever Done"** Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

Response 601 *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

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 749** *Come, Live in the Light*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude *Toccata from Suite Gothique* Léon Boëllmann
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, Nancy Green, Amy Jones, Alex Lorber
Joan McAnulty, Barb Oram, Chloe Snyder, Greg Stoupe, Resa Walsh