

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

⁸**BOWER HILL**

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



21 September 2025 -- Order of Worship
15th Sunday after Pentecost ~Jean Barker Celebration Sunday

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Order for Worship

Preparation for Worship:

"The world needs strong women. Women who will lift and build others, who will love and be loved, women who live bravely, both tender and fierce, women of indomitable will."
~Amy Tenney.

Prelude	<i>Prayer in Bb Major</i>	Alex Guilmant
Choral Introit	<i>May I Be Empty</i>	

Call to Worship:

Leader: Who is like the Lord our God, high above the heavens in glory?

People: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Leader: Who raises up the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ashes?

People: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Leader: Who makes light shine in darkness, gives joy in sorrow, and brings life out of death?

People: Blessed be the name of the Lord.

Prayer of Adoration

Mighty God, to whom all honor belongs, you have gathered people from every tribe and language to praise your name eternally. Let our voices be united to that deathless song, which forever rises from heaven and earth; 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 263**

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Call to Prayer

God is present to guide our journey and eager to forgive us when we go astray; therefore, in humility and faith, let us confess our sins against God and neighbor.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we have strayed from your paths of right relationship and peace, and we have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation. Surrounded by the beauty of your world, and the daily evidence of your care, still we remain focused on ourselves and our desires. Free our hearts to change. Forgive us, as we learn to forgive others, and guide our feet into the way of peace. Amen. [Silent prayers]

Words of Assurance

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. 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.

Time with the Children

Children 4th grade and under are invited to the front steps for the children's sermon.

Prayer for Illumination

Shepherd of Souls, you call us to an abundant feast at the table of your word; open our hearts to feed on your goodness, that by the power of the Holy Spirit we might dwell evermore deeply in you. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Pew Bible Page 208

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

*Hymn 462

I Love to Tell the Story

Second Scripture Reading

Luke 16:1-13

Pew Bible Page 79

Anthem

Be Not Afraid

Bob Dufford, Douglas Wagner

Sermon

“Faithful in Little, Faithful in Much”

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

Response

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.

Remembering Jean Barker

Ellen Bruitsch

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 Mission

Offering and Gifts of Self

Response: The Doxology *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 Doxology, use Hymn 607.

*Prayer of Dedication

***Closing Hymn 324** *For All the Faithful Women*

*Charge and Benediction

***Choral Response** *Alleluia*

Postlude *Menuet* Leon Boellmann
Feel free to exit during the postlude, mindful of those who wish to remain 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:

Family of Kathy Armstrong, Matt Arner, Kim Bonnaure, Nancy Green,
Jett, Sam Levine, Alex Lorber, John Michalec, Robert Olinger, Curt Philson
Antoinette Shanahan, Family of Angel Stazer, Resa Walsh, Lynne Wohleber