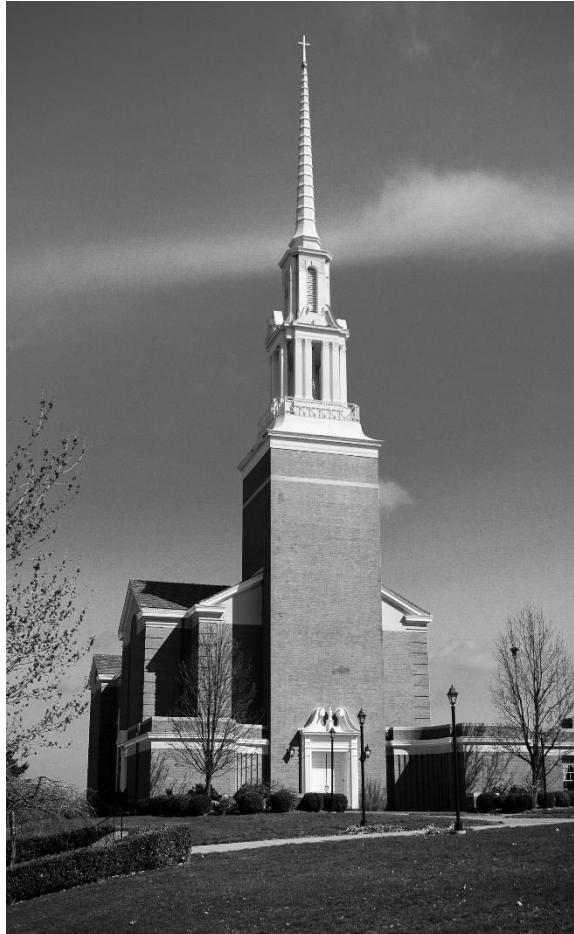


*Growing together ...in Faith...Reason...Service...and Love*

<sup>8</sup>**BOWER HILL**

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



**28 September 2025 -- Order of Worship  
16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian USA)  
16th Sunday after Pentecost ~ 28 September 2025 ~ Order for Worship

Preparation for Worship:

*“Receive wealth or prosperity without arrogance, and be ready to let it go.”*  
~Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor and Stoic Philosopher

**Prelude** *Be Still, My Soul* Harold DeCou, arr.

**Choral Introit** *May I Be Empty*

**Call to Worship:**

Leader: When they call to me, I will answer them, says the Lord.

**People: I will be with them in trouble.**

Leader: I will rescue and honor them.

**People: With thanksgiving and praise, let us worship God.**

**Prayer of Adoration**

Loving God, giver of all good gifts, you have created us for life together, and in Christ you have revealed to us that the true riches of faith are good works, generosity, and the humility to serve. Strengthen us in our daily lives to pursue the things that truly matter, that we may take hold of the life that really is life; 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*

**Call to Prayer**

When we call out in need, the Lord will answer. Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor, trusting in the one who breaks the shackles to set prisoners free. Together, let us say:

**Prayer of Confession**

**We have sinned, O God, hoarding what we have, grasping for more, ignoring those who stand in need. We stay with our own kind. We are complacent in the face of systems that oppress. Forgive us; change us; remake us, so that we may love as you love. Amen.** [Silent prayers]

**Words of Assurance**

The Lord welcomes all who return from the exile of greed, self-interest, and every manner of wrong. Be at peace, for Christ is our way home to forgiveness, love, and restoration. 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

Nurturing God, you give life to all things and satisfy the needs of your children for healing and wholeness. Send your Spirit upon us this day, that we may encounter Christ in the hearing of your Word, the One in whom all thirsts are satisfied. Amen.

## First Scripture Reading

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Pew Bible Page 210

Lector: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: Thanks be to God.

## Psalter: Hymn 43

*You Who Dwell in the Shelter of the Lord (On Eagle's Wings)*

Psalm 91

Remain seated to sing the Psalter.

## Second Scripture Reading

Luke 16:19-31

Pew Bible Page 79

## Anthem

*Be Thou My Vision*

Bob Chilcott

## Sermon

**"The Money Test"**

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

### 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 697      *Take My Life and Let it Be*

### \*Charge and Benediction

\*Choral Response 587      *Alleluia*

Postlude      *Allegro, from Trio Sonata in Eb*      J.S. Bach  
*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