

Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian USA)
18th Sunday after Pentecost ~ 12 October 2025 ~ Order for Worship

Preparation for Worship:

“Absolutely nothing that is meant for me will require me to compromise my integrity, lower my energy, or abandon my values and boundaries to receive it.”

~Anonymous

Prelude

Peace

Harold DeCou, arr.

Choral Introit

May I Be Empty

Call to Worship:

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

People: Sing the glory of God's name.

Leader: Come and see what God has done.

People: God's might rules forever. God keeps watch over the nations.

Leader: Come and listen, all you who honor God,

People: and I will tell you what God has done for me.

Psalm 66

Prayer of Adoration

Past, Present, and Future God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer: help us to remember home and to hope in the promised land, that we might know you, Alpha and Omega, Three in One. Amen.

***Hymn 20**

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Call to Prayer

Even when we are faithless, Christ remains faithful. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins. Together, let us say:

Prayer of Confession

Jesus, Savior, have mercy on us. We keep our distance from you, for we are broken and sick with sin. Yet, you see us and call us. You cleanse us and make us whole. Forgive us when we forget to return to you. Have mercy when we fail to be grateful. Help us to remain grounded in the faith that makes us well. Amen. [Silent prayers]

Words of Assurance

Your call has been answered. Christ heals you and makes you whole. With glad hearts, return to give praise to God. 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

These are your words, O God. Humble us to speak their weight. Strengthen us to hear their truth. Unbind us to live their call. Your Spirit is not chained. Free us by your Word. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Lector: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalter: Hymn 54	<i>Make a Joyful Noise to God</i> Remain seated to sing the Psalter.	Psalm 66
Second Scripture Reading	Luke 17:11-19	
Anthem	<i>Autumn Carol</i>	Russell Schultz-Widmar
Sermon	"From the Margin"	Rev. Dr. Fred Leasure
Response 601	<i>Amen</i>	
*Affirmation of Faith	"Credo for Christians"	
<p>I worship and adore God, source, essence, and aim of all things, Spirit that enlivens all beings.</p> <p>I follow the way of Jesus, who found God in himself and shared a way for others to find God in themselves.</p> <p>He was born through love, He lived for love, He suffered for love, He died for love, But love never dies.</p> <p>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.</p>		
Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer		
<p>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.</p>		
	*or Mother or Parent	
Welcome and Next Steps		
Minute for Mission		
Offering and Gifts of Self		
Response: The Doxology	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*</i>	Old Hundredth
	<i>Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below!</i>	
	<i>Praise God above, ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.</i>	
	*For a gender-neutral Doxology, use Hymn 607.	
*Prayer of Dedication		
*Closing Hymn 716	<i>God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending</i>	
*Charge and Benediction		
*Choral Response	page #	<i>Alleluia</i>
Postlude	<i>Movement 1, Allegro, from Trio Sonata in eb</i>	J.S. Bach
	<i>Feel free to exit during the postlude, mindful of those who wish to remain and listen.</i>	