

**ORDER FOR WORSHIP ~ SUMMER
BOWER HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH**

*“How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts...a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.”
~Psalm 84*

Please return this sheet to the table in the narthex. We will reuse these bulletins each week in the summer.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

-----> WEEK A:

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always.

People: Let us say it again: **Rejoice.**

Leader: Whatever is true, just, and pleasing, think about these things,

People: and the God of peace will be with you.

WEEK B:

Leader: Come, let us worship and bow down.

People: Let us call upon God and listen for God’s voice.

Leader: The Lord declares:

People: Be still and know that I am God.

WEEK C:

Leader: Cry out with joy to God, all the earth.

People: Come into God’s presence with singing.

Leader: Worship the Eternal One in the beauty of holiness.

People: God draws near to the humble.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN 634

To God Be the Glory

Please stand as you are able when the hymn is announced.

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen. [Silent prayers]

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUNG RESPONSE (“GLORIA”): HYMN 583

Please stand as you are able.

THE PEACE

Please greet your neighbors, saying, “Peace be with you.”

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 9:35-10:8

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages,
teaching in their synagogues
and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom
and curing every disease and every sickness.

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them
because they were harassed and helpless,
like sheep without a shepherd.

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;
therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples
and gave them authority over unclean spirits,
to cast them out,
and to cure every disease and every sickness.

These are the names of the twelve apostles:

first, Simon, also known as Peter,
and his brother Andrew;

James son of Zebedee and his brother John;

Philip and Bartholomew;

Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;

James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus;

Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot,
the one who betrayed him.

These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions:

"Do not take a road leading to gentiles,
and do not enter a Samaritan town,
but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'

Cure the sick;

raise the dead;

cleanse those with a skin disease;

cast out demons.

You received without payment; give without payment.

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-6

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre,
as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day.

He looked up and saw three men standing near him.

When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them
and bowed down to the ground.

He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant.

Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet,
and rest yourselves under the tree.

Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves,
and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant."

So they said, "Do as you have said."

And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said,

"Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes."

Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good,
and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it.

Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared
and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.
They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return
to you in due season,
and your wife Sarah shall have a son."
And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.
Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age;
it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women.
So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old,
my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?"
The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say,
'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?'
Is anything too wonderful for the Lord?
At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son."
But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid.
He said, "Yes, you did laugh."
The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said,
and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised.
Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age,
at the time of which God had spoken to him.
Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.
And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old,
as God had commanded him.
Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him.
Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me;
everyone who hears will laugh with me."

Reader: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 630

Fairest Lord Jesus

Please stand as you are able when the hymn is announced.

SERMON

"Laugh with Me"

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

THE APOSTLES' CREED: PAGE 35 in the hymnal. *Please stand as you are able.*

I Believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ, his 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 sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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 & THE LORD’S PRAYER: PAGE 35 in the hymnal.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM: Westley Thompson Kunkle

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please return your worship bulletin to the basket in the narthex.

Let us know what hymns you’d like to sing!

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERINGS & GIFTS OF SELF

OFFERTORY / SPECIAL MUSIC

SUNG RESPONSE (“DOXOLOGY”):

HYMN 606 (gendered) or 607 (non-gendered) *Please stand as you are able.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING HYMN 370

This Is My Father’s World

Please stand as you are able when the hymn is announced.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE