

Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian USA)
Second Sunday of Easter ~ 24 April 2022 ~ Order for Worship

Preparation for Worship:

"The greater the artist, the greater the doubt. Perfect confidence is granted to the less talented as a consolation prize."
~Robert Hughes, art critic

Prelude

Prière à Notre Dame

Boëllmann

Choral Introit

This Is the Day

Call to Worship:

Leader: God has been our strength and protection.

People: God has answered us and become our salvation.

Leader: Praise God with drum and dance!

People: Praise God with strings and pipe!

Leader: Let us praise God, for God is good.

People: God's faithful love endures forever.

Prayer of Adoration

Alpha and Omega, you who call us to be made new, you who love us and bless us with your presence—give us the faith of our ancestors, who struggled with doubt and endured trials for the sake of your kingdom. Breathe your Spirit upon us so that we can live out our calling to share your peace with the world. Amen.

***Hymn 113**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

- 1) *Christ the Lord is risen today! Alleluia! All creation join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high. Alleluia! Sing, O heavens, and earth reply. Alleluia!*
- 2) *Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise. Alleluia! Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!*
- 3) *Lives again our glorious King. Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save. Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!*
- 4) *Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! Alleluia! Praise to you by both be given. Alleluia!
Every knee to you shall bow. Alleluia! Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!*

Call to Prayer

Jesus comes to us even in our doubts and fears, saying: Peace be with you. With confidence in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we have not been faithful witnesses to the resurrection. Jesus stands among us in word, sacrament, and neighbor, but we fail to recognize him. Jesus reigns over us as the risen Lord of all, but we fail to honor him. Jesus moves within us through the work of your Spirit, but we fail to respond. Forgive us, God of grace. Keep us in your presence, guide us by your Word, and fill us with your Spirit so that we may proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, who is risen indeed! [Silent prayers]

Words of Assurance

Jesus gathers us in to receive the Holy Spirit and sends us out to share in his reconciling work. Receive this gift of new life: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

***The Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.*

***The Peace**

*Please practice **contact-free** passing of 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

Prayer for Illumination

Come, Holy Spirit, speak to us in our own language about God's mighty works. Give us power to proclaim the coming of a new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Revelation 1:4-8

The Psalter: Psalm 150

Please remain seated. Sing to the tune of "For All the Saints"

Michael Morgan

- 1) *Let ev'ry heart lift up God's name in praise; each voice a song within this temple raise
To God whose goodness follows all our days: Alleluia, alleluia!*
- 2) *The trumpet sounds the power of God's might; the pipe and strings put all despair to flight;
And spirits dance with cymbals clear and bright: Alleluia, alleluia!*
- 3) *Praise be to God in anthems strong and sure, with bold assurance, confidence secure,
Though breath shall cease, God's love will long endure: Alleluia, alleluia!*

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

Gospel Response

Glory be to Thee, Lord Christ

Sermon

"Seeing and Believing"

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

Congregational Response

*Christ Is Risen, Shout Hosanna! Verse 3
Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.
Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"
God the first and last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!*

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.**

Choral Amen

Welcome and Next Steps

Invitation to Offering

Offering and Choral Anthem

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today, The Strife Is O'er

The Bell Choir

***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! Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Closing Hymn 108**

Christ Is Alive

- 1) *Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*
- 2) *Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now,
And touching every place and time.*
- 3) *Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains, but daily in the midst of life,
Our Savior in the Godhead reigns.*
- 4) *In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
And lives where even hope has died.*
- 5) *Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring
With joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

***Charge and Benediction**

***Choral Response**

Sevenfold Amen

Postlude

Menuet

Boëllmann

Feel free to exit during the postlude, mindful of those who wish to remain and listen.