

Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian USA)  
19th Sunday after Pentecost ~ 19 October 2025 ~ Order for Worship

Preparation for Worship:  
"The future belongs to those who give the next generation reason for hope."  
~Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

**Prelude**

*ST. AGNES*

Peter Crisafulli

**Choral Introit**

*May I Be Empty*

**Call to Worship:**

Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

**People: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: The Lord is your keeper, the shade on your right hand.

**People: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in  
from this time forth and forevermore.**

**Prayer of Adoration**

Eternal God, be present to us today. You remain constant amid all the changes of our lives and our world. We come seeking your wisdom, your guidance, your blessing and peace for the living of the days that you have entrusted to us. Let this hour of worship give us strength to serve the world you love; 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 26**

*Earth and All Stars*

**Call to Prayer**

In spite of our best efforts to live faithfully, we fall short of what God intends for us and for all humanity. But God's promise is mercy, so we do not hesitate to tell the truth about our lives. Together, let us say:

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of grace: for failing to love others as you have loved us; for wasting your gifts and hoarding our goods; for losing heart and causing others to do the same; for all the ways we turn from you and choose the things that bring harm to ourselves and others, O Lord, forgive us and heal us. Amen.** [Silent prayers]

**Words of Assurance**

"Grace flows like a river, mercy like a never-ending stream, whose waters do not fail." 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.

**Prayer for Illumination**

Speak to us in these readings from sacred Scripture. May they become to us your Word for the days in which we live. Let them guide our lives in the ways of peace, faith, and compassion; through Jesus Christ, your living Word. Amen.

**First Scripture Reading**

Luke 18:1-8

Lector: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Psalter: Hymn 45**

*I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes*  
Remain seated to sing the Psalter.

**Psalm 121**

**Second Scripture Reading**

Jeremiah 31:27-34

**Anthem**

*Draw the Circle Wide*

Mark Miller

**Sermon**

**“The Days Are Surely Coming”**

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 69**

*I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Choral Response**

**Postlude**

*Carillon*

Louis Vierne

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