

# BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday March 3, 2024

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

“Air Tendre”

Jean-Baptiste Lully

GREETING, WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

This is the day the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

One Great Hour of Sharing

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP and OPENING PRAYER**

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

**The decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple.**

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

**The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.**

The ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

**They are more desirable than gold and sweeter than honey.**

**In keeping them is great reward.**

The message of the cross sounds foolish to the world;

**But to us it is the power of God!**

We proclaim the scandal of Christ crucified.

**The foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom,**

**and the weakness of God is stronger than our faith.**

Let us worship God!

Let us pray:

**Gracious God, whose power is made perfect in weakness, whose wisdom appears as foolishness in this world, we thank you for the scandal of the cross. In Jesus Christ, you overturn all our usual ways of behaving and believing. You scatter our false notions of discipleship as easily as coins are spilled from a box. You correct our notions of piety and order with fierce passion. Do not let your church become content or contained as an institution. Raze to ruins what is distorted in us, and raise us to new life as a community so that we may be the body of Christ in and for the world. With fear and joy we ask this in Christ's name. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

#20

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of righteousness, we confess that we have not kept your commandments. We bow down before idols, declaring our allegiance to other powers and principalities. We take your name in vain, using it to justify our own prejudices and opinions. We do not make adequate time to rest and remember your goodness, nor to revel in the delight of family and friends. We look the other way in the face of violence and oppression, misogyny and sexual assault, land grabs and unjust economic practices. Our dishonesty and greed get the better of us. Yet you gave us commandments not for condemnation, but so that we might live in justice and joy. Purify us by your righteousness and enfold us in your grace. Sanctify our intentions and actions, that our lives may begin to reflect your Beloved Community. Amen.

(Silence is observed.)

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Brothers and sisters, in Jesus Christ, crucified, risen, and coming again, we are forgiven and set free to live in faithfulness with God and with one another!

**Yes, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

## **\*THE PEACE**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

## **ANTHEM**

“You Are My All in All”

Dennis Jernigan

# **ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD**

## **A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN**

*(Children are invited to participate in activities at the Playground area in front of the pulpit for the remainder of the service.)*

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

May the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. **Amen.**

## **SCRIPTURE**

1<sup>st</sup> Lesson Exodus 20:1-17

2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

3<sup>rd</sup> Lesson John 2:13-22

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

“The Message of the Cross”

Pastor Bill Owens

## **RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles’ Creed)**

**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 on 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.**

### **\*Hymn**

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

#223

### **CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

#### **Invitation to the Table**

#### **Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer**

May the God of holy words be with you.

**May the Meditation of our hearts be with you.**

People of God, open yourselves to the One who is your rock.

**God fills us with foolishness, so we may be wise.**

Children of God, sing songs of thanksgiving with all creation.

**Our voices are lifted to the One who makes all things.**

....

**“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.**

#### **Sharing of the Bread and the Cup**

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.

You have fed us with the bread of life and renewed us for your service. We give ourselves to you and ask that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom.

May our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **OFFERING**

#### **Call for the Offering**

#### **Offertory**

#### **\*Celebrating God’s Generosity**

Hymn #606

*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.*

#### **\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**O Lord our God, we want to follow all your commandments – to love only you, not worshiping the things of this world; to love our neighbor freely, not desiring for**

ourselves something they possess. Accept these offerings, we pray, and teach us to be generous, giving fully of ourselves that we may truly be the body of Christ in this world. Amen.

## **GOING IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*Hymn**

“Lift High the Cross”

#826

**\*CHARGE and BLESSING**

In the Lenten week ahead, find time and space to listen for God's glory  
as it is spoken in the world around you.

May God shine upon you, Christ fill you with true wisdom and strength,  
and the Holy Spirit guide you into all faithfulness, now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

“Postlude in G Minor”

Lani Smith

*Go in Peace*

*A special word of thanks to all those who helped make this worship service possible.*

*It is good to be together!*

*Remember in Prayer*

*Susan Rock, Jim & Terri Watson, Alice Braasch, Bill Kyle, Ron Vaughn, Beth Biller,  
Suzi Criscoe, Bill Anderson, Verna Williams, Rev. Don Seeger, Jake Mohn, Jeffrey Schmidt,  
and all Service Personnel and their families.*

*All those who are Care Givers, and all those affected by tragic world events.*

*CCLI#20544224 & 20544*

## **Welcome! We warmly greet all who have come to worship God.**

**We are so glad that you are here.** We hope that joining us for worship today will nurture your heart and transform your mind. Here at Beulah our mission is transforming lives through the love of Jesus Christ – that simple and that challenging. We realize we need each other and commit to pray for each other. We reach out in love and compassion to a world in need, and we know we are a work in progress. If you are new to Beulah, we hope you will join us again and consider attending any of our mission, fellowship, and education opportunities. God's peace to you today.

**Membership** ~ If you are interested in becoming a member or you have any questions about membership, see Pastor Bill or one of the Greeters, call the church office at 502-239-3231 or email [carol@beulahpres.org](mailto:carol@beulahpres.org).

**Learn more** by visiting us on our website at [www.beulahpres.org](http://www.beulahpres.org), and on our Facebook page at Beulah Presbyterian Church.

**Assisting in worship** ~ Pastor Bill Owens; Music Director/Accompanist Kim Karchenes; Liturgist Barb Harris; Chancel Choir; and Sound Crew, Brent Dellacoletta and Jim Harris.

**Virtual Ministry** ~ Please follow us on our Website [www.beulahpres.org](http://www.beulahpres.org), Facebook, Instagram@beulah\_pres, and YouTube to stay up to date on upcoming events, view previous worship services, live stream services, and see what's happening in the life and ministry of Beulah!

**Listening Devices** ~ The Sanctuary is equipped with Listening Devices for persons with hearing difficulty. Please ask an usher for assistance.

**Electronic Devices** ~ In the hustle and bustle of getting ourselves ready for church it is easy to forget to turn off our cell phones. We offer this gentle reminder to please power off cell phones and other electronic devices so that the worship service is not disrupted by them.

**Large Print Worship Bulletin** ~ If you or someone you know needs a large print bulletin of today's service, please ask one of the ushers and they will assist you.



**Beulah**  
PRESBYTERIAN  
**Church**

6704 Bardstown Road  
P.O. Box 91072  
Louisville, KY 40291  
[www.beulahpres.org](http://www.beulahpres.org) ~ 502.239.3231

**156 Years of Faith & Service**