

# BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, April 28, 2024

5th Sunday of Easter

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

“How Great Thou Art”

arr. Dave Coleman

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.**

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

We gather this day in joy and Christian fellowship,

**for we are the church of Jesus Christ!**

We pray for the Holy Spirit to be among us,

**opening our hearts and minds to the worship of God!**

Let us pray: **Wondrous Vinegrower, you make all things new in water and Word,**

**feeding your people with love, joy, and peace. Lead us today and every day to the font of**

**new beginnings. Teach us to love what you have commanded and to prune what does not**

**nourish your creation, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, one God,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

“God of the Sparrow”

#22

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Gracious God, our hearts are restless until they find their home in you. Forgive our pursuit of things that separate us from you. We pursue success, realizing it will never be enough. We desire more possessions, knowing they are empty. We turn toward the world and hope we will find peace, knowing the world cannot provide it. Forgive us, we pray, and may our wandering hearts find their rest in you alone. Amen.**

(Silence is observed.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Hear the good news! In Christ, we are new creations.

The old life is gone, thank God! A new life has begun.

God's love is alive, beating, breathing – in you!

**Because God abides in us, we can live for others,**

**allowing God's love to bear fruit in us.**

**Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

## **\*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**

“When in Our Music God is Glorified”  
(Chancel Choir - See Insert)

arr. Harriet Ziegenhals

## **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**

Gracious God, may your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your words of love and grace this day that we may be guided into the love of God for all the world. **Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE**

1<sup>st</sup> Lesson 1 John 4:7-21

2<sup>nd</sup> Lesson John 15:1-8

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

## **SERMON**

“On Being Pruned”

Pastor Bill Owens

## **RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

### **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (adapted from Belonging to God: A First Catechism)

**We are the church: the people who believe the good news about Jesus, who are baptized, and who share in the Lord’s Supper. Through these means of grace, the Spirit renews us so that we may serve God in love. We believe the good news that gives us comfort that we belong to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ, who died and rose again for our sake, so that nothing will ever separate us from God’s love. We know this good news through reading the Bible and hearing it taught and preached. The Holy Spirit inspired those who wrote the Bible and helps us rely on its promises today.**

### **\*Hymn**

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

#36

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.**

### **OFFERING**

Call for the Offering

**Offertory**

**\*Celebrating God's Generosity**

Hymn #609

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!*

*Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**Gracious God, please accept these gifts and use them for the coming of your kingdom in this time and place. In gratitude for all we have and for your love for us, we pray with thanksgiving. Amen.**

**GOING IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*Hymn**

"Be Thou My Vision"

#450

**\*CHARGE and BLESSING**

As Jesus entered into human life, his life is still alive in you.

Go now, in the love of our God.

**We will live for others through our God.**

Go now, in the grace of Jesus.

**We will forgive others, just as we have been forgiven.**

Go now, in the community of the Spirit.

**We will serve others in every need, in every place, in every heart.**

The blessing of Almighty God be upon you today and always. **Amen.**

**\*POSTLUDE**

"Every Time I Feel the Spirit"

arr. David Kidwell

*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*

*Brook Seymour, Ron Vaughn, 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 Kyle Dreher; 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**

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**156 Years of Faith & Service**