

BEULAH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, April 7, 2024

2nd Sunday of Easter

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

“Adagio”

Camille Saint-Saëns

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**

Into our fears and through our locked doors,

Come, Almighty God.

When we think ‘peace be with you,’ means no change or disruption,

Come, Lord Jesus.

Amidst our lives that confuse religious entertainment with Easter fulfillment,

Come, Holy Spirit.

For the sake of a community meant to be its best during crisis,

Come Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Let us pray: **Breathe in this place, O Lord, by the power of your Holy Spirit, to open our minds, unlock our hearts, and enliven our faith so that we may welcome the risen one among us. Amen.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Presbyterian Women Birthday Offering

***Hymn**

“Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!”

#239

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God, we think our best should happen when we are in control. Forgive us for not expecting the risen Christ to show up when we are anxious, content to lock the doors of your house for fear of all that is outside. Forgive us for thinking that church mainly happens inside these walls and not into the world you so love and into which we are sent. Forgive us for looking for your power in all the conventional places but never in places of brokenness, crisis and defeat. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, repair what we are, and by the power of Christ's resurrection, raise us up to serve others for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(Silence is observed.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This is the good news we have to declare:

God leads us out of the shadows to walk in the light of Christ.

This is the word we have heard: our faithful God forgives our sins and raises us to new life. Thanks be to God. 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

“Ordinary People”

(Chancel Choir)

Danniebelle Hall/arr. John Purifoy

ENCOUNTERING GOD’S WORD

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of all who doubt and believe, by the gift of your Spirit enable us to hear with our ears, to see with our eyes, and to touch with our hands your Word of life - Jesus Christ - our Lord and our God. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

1st Lesson Acts 4:32-35

2nd Lesson 1 John 1:1-2:1

3rd Lesson John 20:19-31

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

SERMON

“Finding Faith”

Pastor Bill Owens

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from The Study Catechism, Questions 43 and 46)

What do you affirm when you say that he was “crucified, dead, and buried”? That when our Lord passed through the door of real human death, he showed us that there is no sorrow that he has not known, no grief he has not borne, and no price he was unwilling to pay in order to reconcile us to God. What do you affirm when you say that ‘on the third day he rose again from the dead’? That our Lord could not be held by the power of death. Having died on the cross, he appeared to his followers, triumphant from the grave, in a new, exalted kind of life. In showing them his hands and his feet, the one who was crucified revealed himself to them as the Lord and Savior of the world.

***Hymn**

“Faith Begins by Letting Go”

#684

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**

Good and gracious God, help us to say thank you, to live with gratitude, to look for the best in each other, and to live charitably with all. May your resurrection never stop surprising us, disrupting us and transforming us, until Christ’s kingdom comes. Amen.

GOING IN GOD’S NAME

***Hymn**

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

#817

***CHARGE and BLESSING**

Jesus says: ‘As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ The work of church is not over; it has just begun. Go with joy where the crucified and risen Christ is sending you. And as you go, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, go with you, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

***POSTLUDE**

“Celebration for Trumpet”

Robert Thygerson

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, 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.

Learn more by visiting us on our website at www.beulahpres.org, and on our Facebook page at Beulah Presbyterian Church.

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

Virtual Ministry ~ Please follow us on our Website 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