



**PEACE
BE WITH
YOU**

Jesus came and stood
among them and said
to them,

JOHN 20:19, ESV

The Service for the Lord's Day
Bethel Presbyterian Church Outdoor & Online
2nd Sunday of Easter
April 11, 2021 – 11:00 AM

Congregational responses indicated in bold.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: The bread of life opens our eyes.

P: The word of life opens our ears.

L: The Risen One shows us God's own brokenness,

P: and by those wounds we are healed.

L: Peace be with you.

P: And also with you.

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

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.

Hymn **"IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE"**

ST. DENIO

*Im-mor-tal, in-vis-i-ble, God on-ly wise,
in light in-ac-ces-si-ble hid from our eyes,
most bless-ed, most glo-rious, the An-cient of Days,
al-might-y, vic-to-rious, thy great name we praise.*

*Un-rest-ing, un-hast-ing, and si-lent as light,
nor want-ing, nor wast-ing, thou rul-est in might:
thy jus-tice, like moun-tains high soar-ing a-bove;
thy clouds, which are foun-tains of good-ness and love.*

*To all, life thou giv-est, to both great and small.
In all life thou liv-est, the true life of all.
We blos-som and flour-ish like leaves on the tree,
then with-er and per-ish; but naught chang-eth thee.*

*Thou reign-est in glo-ry; thou dwell-est in light.
Thine an-gels a-dore thee, all veil-ing their sight.
All praise we would ren-der; O help us to see
'tis on-ly the spen-dor of light hid-eth thee!*

Call to Confession

If we say that we have no sin,
we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
But we can confess our sins, because God who is faithful and just
forgives us our sins and cleanses us from all unrighteousness.
Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

**You have shown yourself to us, O God, by Word and Spirit,
with signs and wonders, in flesh and blood,
yet we still struggle to live and believe
the good news of Jesus Christ.**

Have mercy on us; forgive us.

**Enter into our lives and cast out our fear
so that we may come to trust in you
and have life in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Sung Response

“LORD, HAVE MERCY”

LAND OF REST

Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy;

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy;

Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

Declaration of Forgiveness

We have an advocate with God—Jesus Christ, the righteous one—
who offered his life in love to save the world from sin.

This is the good news of the gospel:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

Sung Response

“ALLELUIA!”

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

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.

Responsive Reading – Psalm 133 (*The Blessedness of Unity*)

L: How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!

**P: It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron,
running down over the collar of his robes.**

L: It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion.

P: For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

Readings from Scripture

Gospel John 20:19-31 (*Jesus Appears to the Disciples*)

Sermon: “Moving Beyond Fear”

The Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff

Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God whose love is the source of all life
and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face
in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil
that waits to enslave us all and whose love,
defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.**

**Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt,
in God we trust; and, in the name of Jesus Christ,
we commit ourselves, in the service of others,
to seek justice and to live in peace, to care for the earth
and to share the commonwealth of God’s goodness,
to live in the freedom of forgiveness and the power
of the spirit of love, and in the company of the faithful
so to be the church, for the glory of God. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

*With the words "Pour out your blessing, O Lord,"
you are invited to respond: "send us your Spirit of peace."*

Living God, giver of life, hear us as we pray, saying,
Pour out your blessing, O Lord; **send us your Spirit of peace.**

We pray for the church. . . .

Let your church be a living sign
of the woundedness and healing of Christ,
sharing the gift of forgiveness and the gospel of reconciliation.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord; **send us your Spirit of peace.**

We pray for the earth. . . .

Help us to see the scars of death that mark your good creation,
and to seek the blessing of life that you offer to all creatures.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord; **send us your Spirit of peace.**

We pray for all nations. . . .

Show us how good and pleasant it is
when people live together in unity,
and anoint us with your wisdom
so that we may seek the ways of life.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord; **send us your Spirit of peace.**

We pray for this community. . . .

Give us a vision of the common good:
not clinging to our own possessions
but seeking the fullness of life for all
as a testimony to Christ's resurrection.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord; **send us your Spirit of peace.**

We pray for loved ones. . . .

Be near to those who walk in darkness
and lead us all into Christ's light
so that our fellowship may be true and our joy may be complete.
Pour out your blessing, O Lord; **send us your Spirit of peace.**

By the blessing of your Spirit, help us to live as we pray
so that the world may come to know
the gift of life in Christ our Lord. Amen.

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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

Remember the first believers—who shared one heart and soul,
held their possessions in common,
and distributed them to all in need.

In that same spirit,

let us present our offerings at the feet of the risen Lord.

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, we give you thanks and praise
for light and life and love, and—above all—
the presence of the living Lord among us.

By your Spirit who breathes within us, strengthen our faith,
use our gifts, and work in our lives to bear witness
to the resurrection of Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray.

Amen.

Hymn **“CHRIST HAS RISEN WHILE EARTH SLUMBERS”** Holy Manna

*Christ has ris-en while earth slum-bers;
Christ has ris-en where hope died,
as he said and as he prom-ised,
as we doubt-ed and de-nied.
Let the moon em-brace the bless-ing;
let the sun sus-tain the cheer;
let the world con-firm the ru-mor:
Christ is ris-en! God is here!*

*Christ has ris-en for the peo-ple
whom he died to love and save;
Christ has ris-en for the wom-en
bring-ing flowers to grace his grave.
Christ has ris-en for dis-ci-ples
hud-dled in an up-stairs room.
He whose word in-spired cre-a-tion
can't be si-lenced by the tomb.*

*Christ has ri-sen, and for ev-er
lives to chal-lenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or man-gled,
all who find re-li-gion strange.
Christ is ris-en, Christ is pres-ent
mak-ing us what he has been:
ev-i-dence of trans-for-ma-tion
in which God is known and seen.*

Benediction

Let your life be a sign of Christ's life
so that others may come to believe that the Lord is risen indeed.
This is the blessing of the Lord: life forevermore. Alleluia!

Sung Response

“BE NOT AFRAID”

*Be not a-fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le-lu-ia!
Be not a-fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le-lu-ia!*

(Repeat)

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Pianist: Judy Moyer

Sound: Adam Badger

Video: Jake Horton

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867, alt.

Music: Welsh folk melody; arr. Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

Music: American folk melody; arr. Richard Proulx, 1984

Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

“Alleluia!”

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

Music: Fintan O’Carroll, 1981; harm. Christopher Walker, 1985

Music © 1985 Fintan O’Carroll and Christopher Walker

(Published by OCP)

“Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers”

Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1988

Music: Welsh melody; arr. Alfred V. Fedak, 2011

Text © 1988 WGRG, Iona Community

(admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Music Arr. © 2011 Alfred V. Fedak

“Be Not Afraid”

Text: Taizé Community, 1998

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1998

Text and Music © 1998 Les Presses de Taizé

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