



“STOP DOUBTING AND  
**BELIEVE!**”

JOHN 20:27, NIV

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS:**

We extend a warm welcome from Bethel Presbyterian Church!  
We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders adding your name and address and if you desire a church newsletter or a pastoral call.

When we pray the Lord’s Prayer, we say “sins...sin against us”  
rather than “debts...” or “trespasses...”

Prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks  
and placed in the offering plate.

**The Service for the Lord's Day**  
**Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**April 16, 2023 - 11:00 AM**

*\* Indicates congregation standing if able.*  
*Congregational responses indicated in bold.*

**GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

*Please sign the Friendship Pad found in your pew, passing it down the pew then back.*

Prelude

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

L: Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

**P: God has given us a new birth in the living hope  
of the resurrection.**

L: God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

**P: In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.**

L: For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him;  
and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

**P: For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls.**

Prayer of Invocation:

Let us pray:

God of signs and wonders,

you have revealed to us that Jesus Christ is your son and our Savior.

Strengthen our faith,

that we may have life in Christ's name. Amen.

*Joy-ful, joy-ful, we a-dore thee,  
God of glo-ry, Lord of love!  
Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee,  
o-pening to the sun a-bove.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness;  
drive the dark of doubt a-way.  
Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness,  
fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy sur-round thee;  
earth and heaven re-flect thy rays;  
stars and an-gels sing a-round thee,  
cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.  
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain,  
flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,  
chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain,  
call us to re-joice in thee*

*Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus  
which the morn-ing stars be-gan.  
Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us,  
join-ing all in heav-en's plan.  
Ev-er sing-ing, march we on-ward,  
vic-tors in the midst of strife.  
Joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward  
in the tri-umph song of life.*

\* Call to Confession

God has been made known to us in deeds of power, signs, and wonders,  
and will not abandon us if we confess the truth about our lives.

\* Corporate Prayer of Confession

**God, you have made known to us the ways of life.**

**Yet, too often, we put other things above you**

**and turn away from the ways of life and toward the ways of death.**

**Forgive us and guide us back into your presence,**

**that we may know the fullness of joy. Amen.**

\* Sung Response No. 573 “**CHRIST HAS DIED; CHRIST IS RISEN**”

*Christ has died; Christ is ris-en; Christ will come a-gain.*

\* Declaration of Forgiveness

My friends, God is our refuge and will not abandon us.

In Jesus Christ, we are reconciled to God.

That is a promise of peace and joy; share that peace with one another.

\* Sung Response No. 591 “**HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH!**” (*Refrain*)

*Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!*

*Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!*

*Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!*

*Hal-le-lu-yah! Hal-le-lu-yah!*

## THE WORD

Children’s Moment

Choral Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

Guiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon the reading of your Word

that it may serve to show us the path of life

and lead us into your presence where there is fullness of joy. Amen.

Readings from Holy Scripture

Psalter	Psalm 16	<i>(Song of Trust and Security in God)</i>	Pg. 469
Epistle	1 Peter 1:3-9	<i>(A Living Hope)</i>	Pg. 218
Gospel	John 20:19-31	<i>(Jesus Appears to the Disciples)</i>	Pg. 108

Sermon

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

- \* Affirmation of Faith Hymnal Pg. 37, Sections 1-2  
*Jesus portion of The Brief Statement of Faith, 1991,*  
*The Book of Confessions, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

**In life and death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**We trust in Jesus Christ,  
fully human, fully God.**

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
preaching good news to the poor  
and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed  
and blessing the children,  
healing the sick  
and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts,  
forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified,  
suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.**

**God raised Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*(With the words "Keep us in faith"  
you are invited to respond "that we may have life.")*

Resurrecting God, in a doubting world,  
keep us in faith **that we may have life.**

We pray for the church universal.  
Breathe on us your Holy Spirit,  
that we may honor and pass on  
the great inheritance we have received.  
Keep us in faith **that we may have life.**

We pray for Mother Earth,  
that we may touch her wounds  
with healing care and love.  
Keep us in faith **that we may have life.**

We pray for the whole world,  
its nations, its leaders, and its people,  
that your wisdom and peace may prevail.  
Keep us in faith **that we may have life.**

We pray for all those in need,  
the suffering, the oppressed, the ill, the dying,  
and all those who care for them.  
Keep us in faith **that we may have life.**

We pray for ourselves, our families, and those we love.  
Keep us in faith **that we may have life.**

Blessed are you, O God,  
who through Jesus Christ, crucified and risen,  
and in the community of the Holy Spirit,  
gives us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading,  
now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (*sins / sin against us*)

Hymnal, Pg 35

**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.**

Call to Offering

Sisters and brothers, we have no good apart from God.  
Therefore let us keep God at the forefront of our minds  
and give generously from all that we have been given,  
that others may also receive from the fullness of God.

Offertory

\* Hymn No. 606 **“PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW”**

*Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow;  
praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;  
praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host;  
praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men.*

\* Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray:  
Generous God, you are our portion and our cup.  
In you our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest.  
Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges  
that they may bring the joy of your presence  
more deeply into the world. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

\* Hymn No. 253

“ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS ARISEN”

SANTO DOMINGO

*Al-le-lu-ia! Christ is a-ris-en  
Bright is the dawn-ing of the Lord’s day.*

*Run, faith-ful wom-en to the grave-side.  
Mar-vel, the stone is rolled a-way!  
Hear from the an-gel, “He is ris-en.”  
Christ goes be-fore you all the way.*

*Al-le-lu-ia! Christ is a-ris-en  
Bright is the dawn-ing of the Lord’s day.*

*Rise Mag-da-le-na, from your weep-ing;  
Christ stands be-fore your ver-y eyes.  
Quick-ly re-turn to the dis-ci-ples;  
bear the good news:He is a-live.”*

*Al-le-lu-ia! Christ is a-ris-en  
Bright is the dawn-ing of the Lord’s day.*

*Gath-er, dis-ci-ples, in the eve-ning:  
sud-den-ly Christ your Lord ap-pears.  
“Look, it is I, your wound-ed Sav-ior.  
Peace be with you, and do not fear.”*

*Al-le-lu-ia! Christ is a-ris-en  
Bright is the dawn-ing of the Lord’s day.*

*Thom-as, where were you on that eve-ning?  
“I’ll not be-lieve un-less I see.”  
Christ comes a-gain, and ev-ery Lord’s day:  
“Touch me and see; have faith in me.”*

*Al-le-lu-ia! Christ is a-ris-en  
Bright is the dawn-ing of the Lord’s day.*



\* Charge and Benediction

Trust and love the Christ you cannot see  
and let that bring you joy,  
for that faith will bring the salvation of your soul.

May the God who loves and resurrects us  
give you a goodly portion of the Holy Spirit  
and new birth into a living hope.

\* Sung Response No. 591    **“HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH!”** (*Verse 1*)

*O God, to whom shall we go?*

*You a-lone have the words of life.*

*Let your words be our prayer and the song we sing:*

*hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah!*

\* Postlude

## MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen”

Text: Trad. liturgical text

Music: Thomas Pavlecho, 2006

Music © 2006 Augsburg Fortress

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!”

Text: Ref. trad. Liturgical text; Marty Haugen, 1990

Music: Caribbean melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1990; stanzas, Marty Haugen, 1990

Text and Music © 1990 WGRG, Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

Music Arr. © 1993 GIA Publications, Inc.

“Alleluia! Christ Is Arisen”

Text: Luis Bojos, 1974; English trans. Martin A. Seltz, 2000

Music: Luis Bojos, 1974

Text & Music © 2001 Luis Bojos (Published by OCP)

### PUBLIC DOMAIN

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow (Doxology)