



Jesus said...

**“DO NOT FEAR,
ONLY BELIEVE.”**

MARK 5:36

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff
ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Pianist: Judy Moyer

Sound: Adam Badger

Video: Jake Horton

The Service for the Lord's Day
Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
5th Sunday after Pentecost
June 27, 2021 – 11:00 AM

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

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

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

L: I wait for the Lord,

P: my soul waits, and in God's word I hope.

L: My soul waits for the Lord

more than those who watch for the morning.

P: more than those who watch for the morning.

L: In faith, let us turn to our God, whose love is sure.

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you show us

the breadth of your power and the depth of your love.

You listen to our cries of pain and hear our laments.

You see the fear in our eyes and know the secrets of our hearts.

You do not turn from our distress,

but stretch out your hand to heal, to comfort, and to save.

All thanks and praise be to you, O God;

your steadfast love endures forever. Amen.

* Hymn **“SING PRAISE TO GOD, WHO REIGNS ABOVE”**

Sing praise to God who reigns a-bove,

the God of all cre-a-tion,

the God of power, the God of love,

the God of our sal-va-tion.

With heal-ing balm my soul is filled,

and ev-ery faith-less mur-mur stilled:

to God all praise and glo-ry.

*What God's al-might-y power has made,
God's gra-cious mercy keep-eth;
by morn-ing glow or eve-ning shade
God's watch-ful eye ne'er sleep-eth.
With-in the king-dom of God's might,
Lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glo-ry.*

*The Lord is nev-er far a-way,
but, through all grief dis-tress-ing,
an ev-er-pres-ent help and stay,
our peace and joy and bless-ing,
as with a moth-er's ten-der hand
God gent-ly leads the cho-sen band:
to God all praise and glo-ry.*

*Thus all my toil-some way a-long
I sing a-loud thy praises,
that all may hear the grate-ful song
my voice un-wea-ried rais-es.
Be joy-ful in the Lord, my heart;
both soul and bod-y, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!*

* Call to Confession

Because of such great mercy, God is ready to forgive
all the ways we fail to live in faithfulness.

Relying on that mercy,

let us confess our sin before God and one another.

* Corporate Prayer of Confession

Trusting you, O God, does not always come easy

when each day we are faced with the ugliness of the world.

We do not believe that love conquers fear.

We are not convinced that power comes through weakness.

We cannot conceive how you could heal us.

**Forgive our lack of faith, O God, and renew our trust in you,
for we would be disciples of Jesus, in whose name we pray.**

... (silent and personal confession) Amen.

* Sung Response **“SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD”** LIVING GOD
Spir-it of the liv-ing God, fall a-fresh on me.
Spir-it of the liv-ing God, fall a-fresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spir-it of the liv-ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

* Declaration of Forgiveness
L: If the Lord kept count of all our sins, who could stand?
But with God there is forgiveness; Christ gives us peace.
P: Thanks be to God!

* Sung Response **“HELELUYAN”** NATIVE AMERICAN
He-le-lu-yan, he-le-lu-yan: he-le, he-le-lu-yan;
He-le-lu-yan, he-le-lu-yan; he-le, he-le-lu-yan.

Prayer for Illumination

Open our eyes that we may see, our ears that we may hear, our
minds that we may understand, and our hearts that we may love
your word read and proclaimed this day. Amen.

Readings from Scripture

History 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 (*David Mourns for Saul ...*)
Gospel Mark 5:21-43 (*A Girl Restored to Life ...*)

Sermon “Grace Transforming Grief”
The Rev. Dr. Wendy Neff

* Affirmation of Faith
(*Taken from The Brief Statement of Faith, 1991,*
The Book of Confessions, Presbyterian Church U.S.A.)

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,

**claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

In a broken and fearful world

the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,

praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

*With the words "Merciful God"
you are invited to respond "hear our prayer".*

Knowing that God hears our prayers,
and trusting in the Spirit who intercedes
with sighs too deep for words,
let us pray together,
Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Death is all around us, Lord; the world groans with the weight of it.
Hear our prayers for your warring world. ...
Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

The rulers of the nations need your wisdom, Lord;
oppression and injustice prevail.
Hear our prayers for the leaders of the world. ...
Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

The church is divided, Lord; we fight and splinter.
Hear our prayers for the peace and unity of the church. ...
Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Your children suffer, Lord; they are hungry and can find no rest.
Hear our prayers for those who are poor or have no homes. ...
Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We are sick, Lord, and some of us are dying.
Hear our prayers for healing and peace. ...
Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Our hearts are troubles, Lord;
guide us until we find our rest in you.
Hear our secret prayers. ...
Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks, O God,
for you are faithful and your love never ends.
Gather our prayers and conform them to your will,
we pray in Jesus' name.
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

You know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor,
so that by his poverty we might become rich.
Sisters and brothers,
let us give generously of our goods and our lives
in imitation of our Lord and Savior.

Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray:

Most holy God, who hears our prayers and answers them
and gives us more than we can ask or imagine,
accept these offerings and use them to your glory,
that even now we might imitate your coming reign
of justice, peace, and love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

* Hymn

“THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE”

*The church of Christ in ev-ery age,
be-set by change but Spir-it led,
must claim and test its her-i-tage
and keep on ris-ing from the dead.*

*A-cross the world, a-cross the street,
the vic-tims of in-jus-tice cry
for shel-ter and for bread to eat,
and nev-er live be-fore they die.*

*Then let the ser-vant church a-rise,
a car-ing church that longs to be
a part-ner in Christ’s sac-ri-fice,
and clothed in Christ’s hu-man-i-ty.*

*For Christ a-lone, whose blood was shed,
can cure the fe-ver in our blood,
and teach us how to share our bread
and feed the starv-ing mul-ti-tude.*

*We have no mis-sion but to serve
in full o-be-dience to our Lord:
to care for all, with-out re-serve,
and spread Christ’s lib-er-at-ing word.*

* Benediction

Go in peace, trusting even where you have not seen.
May God our Guardian protect you,
Christ the Healer restore you,
and the Holy Spirit sustain you this day and forevermore.

* Sung Response **“COME O HOLY SPIRIT, COME”**

*Come, O Ho-ly Spir-it, come;
Come, al-might-y Spir-it, come;
Come, come, come.*

Postlude

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

Text: Johann Jakob Schütz, 1675;

trans. Francis Elizabeth Cox, 1864, alt.

Music: Bohemian Brethren’s Kirchengesang, 1566;

harm. Maurice F. Bell, 1906, alt.

“Spirit of the Living God”

Text: Daniel Iverson, 1926

Music: Daniel Iverson, 1926

Text & Music © 1935 Birdwing Music

(admin. EMICMGPublishing.com)

“Heleluyan”

Text: Native American (Muscogee)

Transcribed by Charles Webb, 1989

Music: Transcription © 1989

by The United Methodist Publishing House

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1969

Music: William Knapp, 1738

Text © 1971 Hope Publishing Company

“Come, O Holy Spirit, Come”

Text: Nigerian song; English trans. I-to Loh, 1986

Music: Nigerian melody, taught by Samuel Solanke;

transcr. I-to Loh, 1986

English Trans. and Music Transcr. © 1995

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