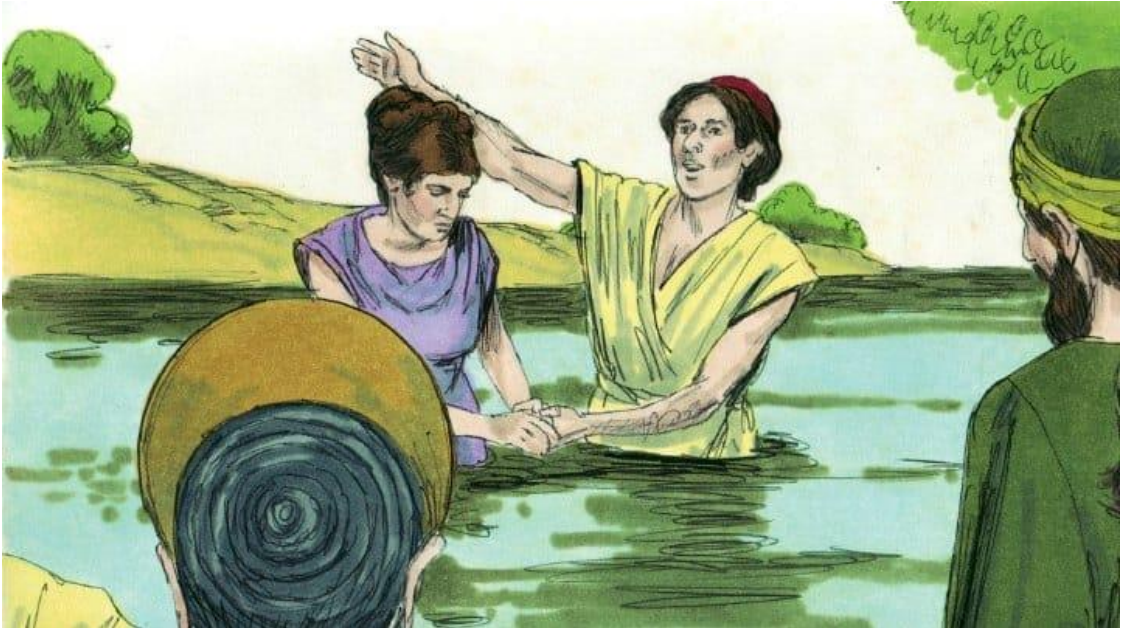


# Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

~ a community of faith coming together,  
for fellowship, study and service . . .  
seeking God's peace, justice and love ~



## **Lydia and her household are baptized. (Acts 16:15)**

### **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.)**  
**6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter**  
**May 22, 2022 - 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:** Alleluia, Christ is risen.

**P: The Lord is risen indeed, alleluia.**

**L:** Let the peoples praise you, O God.

**P: Let all the peoples praise you.**

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

Astonishing God,

you give us a vision of the heavenly city,

the new Jerusalem, your home among mortals on earth.

All people and nations will stream to your city

where they will find nourishment, healing, and peace.

Even now your blessing shines upon all the earth

to help us see a larger vision

of your loving care for all creation.

And so you call us to move beyond our comfortable circles,

and into unfamiliar places, as we seek to share your dream

of a world made new in Christ. Amen.

*Shall we gath-er at the riv-er,  
where bright an-gel feet have trod,  
with its crys-tal tide for-ev-er  
flow-ing by the throne of God?*

*Refrain:*

*Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv-er,  
the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv-er;  
gath-er with the saints at the riv-er  
that flows by the throne of God.*

*On the mar-gin of the riv-er,  
wash-ing up its sil-ver spray,  
we will walk and wor-ship ev-er,  
all the hap-py gold-en day.*

*[Refrain]*

*Ere we reach the shin-ing riv-er,  
lay we ev'ery bur-den down;  
grace our spir-its will de-liv-er,  
and pro-vide a robe and crown.*

*[Refrain]*

*Soon we'll reach the shin-ing river;  
soon our pil-grim-age will cease;  
soon our hap-py hearts will quiv-er  
with the mel-o-dy of peace.*

*[Refrain]*

\* Call to Confession

Do not let your hearts be troubled,  
but confess your sins and God will give you peace.

\* Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, we confess that we are an anxious people  
who deny your blessing and fail to keep your word.  
Forgive us, we pray, for these and all our sins,  
that we might live in peace and reflect your love in the world;  
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

\* Declaration of Forgiveness

Let your hearts be still,  
for God loves you and forgives all your wrongdoing.  
Beloved, receive the peace of Christ.

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

*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

“ADORAMUS TE CHRISTE”

by Palestrina

*Translation: We adore you, oh Christ, and we bless you,  
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.*

Prayer for Illumination

Living God, you sent your apostle to preach the gospel  
to women gathered by a river, in a secluded place of prayer.  
There a businesswoman named Lydia  
was led by the Spirit to hear your word as truth.  
You opened her heart in love,  
and she opened her home for the spreading of the gospel.

By the power of your Holy Spirit,  
fling wide the doors of our hearts this day  
as we hear your word of life,  
that we too may open our lives to serve your world in love.  
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

#### Readings from Scripture

Wisdom	Psalm 67	<i>(The Nations Called to Praise God)</i>	Pg. 550
Gospel	John 14:23-29	<i>(The Promise of the Holy Spirit)</i>	Pg. 103
History	Acts 16:9-15	<i>(Paul's Vision of the Man of Macedonia)</i>	Pg. 127

#### Sermon

### RESPONSE TO THE WORD

\* Affirmation of Faith Hymnal Pg. 38, Section 4  
*Holy Spirit portion of 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 "Lord, send out your Spirit"  
you are invited to respond **"and renew the face of the earth."***

In this season of the Spirit

let us offer our prayers and thanksgivings for the world, saying,  
Lord, send out your Spirit **and renew the face of the earth.**

All creation lives to praise you, O God.

As the earth yields its blessing,

may we honor and protect the precious gifts of nature  
and give thanks for the beauty, healing, and sustenance  
it provides for all.

Lord, send out your Spirit **and renew the face of the earth.**

You bless your church throughout all the ages

with leaders like Paul and Lydia

to share in the spreading of the gospel.

Give to your church this day a profound sense of the mission  
to which you now call us for the life and health of the world.

Lord, send out your Spirit **and renew the face of the earth.**

You judge the people with equity and guide the nations of the earth.

Give to all leaders and people the gift of wisdom and the spirit of peace,  
that we may walk by your light as we serve the common good.

Lord, send out your Spirit **and renew the face of the earth.**

You promise to be with us always  
through the comfort of your Holy Spirit.  
Give to all who suffer violence, grief, or pain  
an enduring trust in Jesus that joy will rise again.  
Lord, send out your Spirit **and renew the face of the earth.**

We give thanks for the many blessings of our lives,  
that as we follow Jesus, he journeys with us day by day  
through the presence of your Holy Spirit, our Advocate and teacher.  
Lord, send out your Spirit **and renew the face of the earth.**

You are alpha and omega, the beginning and the end.  
Be with all who are born this day, and those who will die,  
that your will for them may be fulfilled;  
and may we all come to share  
in your heavenly city with voices of unending praise.  
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.**

Invitation to the Offering

The earth has yielded its increase and God has richly blessed us.  
Therefore bring your tithes and offerings  
and come into God's courts with praise.

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 of Gifts and Self

Let us pray:

Giving God,

as spring bursts forth its blossoms in witness to your love,  
you bless us from generation to generation  
with the new life of Easter faith.

All that we have and all that we are come from you, O God,  
so we gladly share this offering, that others too may be blessed,  
for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

### THE SENDING FORTH

\* Hymn No. 353 **“MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS”**

SOLID ROCK

*My hope is built on noth-ing less  
than Je-sus’ blood and righ-teous-ness;  
I dare not trust the sweet-est frame,  
but whol-ly lean on Je-sus’ name.*

*[Refrain]*

*On Christ, the sol-id Rock, I stand;  
all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand;  
all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.*

*When dark-ness seems to hide his face,  
I rest on his un-chang-ing grace;  
in ev-ery high and storm-y gale,  
my an-chor holds with-in the veil.*



*[Refrain]*

*On Christ, the sol-id Rock, I stand;  
all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand;  
all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.*

*His oath, his cov-e-nant, his blood  
sup-port me in the whelm-ing flood;  
when all a-round my soul gives way,  
he then is all my hope and stay.*

*[Refrain]*

*When he shall come with trum-pet sound,  
O may I then in him be found,  
dressed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone,  
fault-less to stand be-fore the throne.*

*[Refrain]*

\* Charge and Blessing

Live in love, abide in peace,  
and serve the Lord, for God is ever present.

May the Lord be gracious and bless you  
that you may live a life of praise forever in God's light.

\* Sung Response No. 554                      "AMEN" (THREEFOLD AMEN)      LAND OF REST

*A-men, a-men, a---men.*

\* Postlude

## MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“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.

“Amen”

Text: Trad. Liturgical text

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

Music Arr. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc.

### Public Domain

“Shall We Gather at the River”

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

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