



I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that all of you agree with one another  
in what you say and that there be no  
divisions among you, but that you be  
perfectly united in mind and thought.

**1 Corinthians 1:10**

DailyVerses.net

**April 28, 2024**

**The Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**10:00 a.m.**

**The Bellbrook Presbyterian Church**

**72 West Franklin Street**

**Bellbrook, Ohio 45305**

**937-848-2378**

**[www.bellbrookpc.com](http://www.bellbrookpc.com)**

***Our mission: Embracing the Community with God's Love, Providing a  
Home for Spiritual Nurture & Worship, Reaching Out to Those in Need,  
Growing through Service to Others***

*Holy Lord, within your church, your followers have often allowed their disagreements to get in the way of being faithful to your word. Remove any barriers our communities face that prevent us from sharing your word and building up your church. Amen.*

The *Prelude* offers time for us to focus on preparing our hearts and minds for worship – God is here; we need to bring ourselves to worship as God already has.

The *light of the candles* symbolizes the presence of God and Jesus as light of the world.

## **We Gather**

### **The Life of the Church**

#### **Prelude**

#### **Lighting of the Candles**

One: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

**All: We welcome the light of Christ into our worship.**

#### **Sung Prayer of Preparation**

"Christ is Alive!"

Purple #246 v. 1

*Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

\* Indicates please rise in body or spirit

The *Call to Worship* invites us to begin worshipping God.

#### **\*Call to Worship** (responsive)

Isa. 9:2; Matt. 4:16

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of darkness – on them light has shined.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

#### **\*Hymn of Praise**

"God Is Here!"

Purple # 409

#### **\*Call to Confession**

Let us confess our sins before God, the source of freedom and forgiveness.

#### **\*Prayer of Confession** (unison)

1 Cor. 1:10

**Almighty God, we confess that we have not been faithful to you in our thoughts and actions. We have been selfish in our desires and quarrelsome in our relationships. We have allowed fear to divide us from those who seem different, and let distrust**

No one is perfect. God knows that. God asks us to admit our faults. We do this using the *Prayer of Confession*

separate us from our brothers and sisters. Shine your light into our darkened hearts. Save us from our divisive ways. Unite us in the same mind as Jesus Christ who dwells with you and the Holy Spirit in perfect harmony. Amen.

*Silent Confession* is a time to tell God anything else you are sorry for.

**\*Silent Confession**

**\*Assurance of Pardon** (responsive)

One: God offers forgiveness to those who turn to God in true repentance. Therefore, trust in God, who breaks the bonds of our oppression, and covers us in mercy.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

**\*Sung Response**

“Gloria Patri”

Red # 622

***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be; World without end. Amen. Amen.***

**\*Declaration of Trust and the Peace**

One: Congregation of Jesus Christ, in whom are you trusting?

All: **Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.**

One: Grace, mercy, and peace to you in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All: **And also with you.**

*(As we have received peace from Christ, let us also pass that peace to each other.)*

## ***We Hear the Word***

### **Special Music**

#### **Pew Conversation**

Can you think of a time when you had a conflict with someone? Did you resolve it? What did you do? If you did not resolve it, what happened to your relationship?

#### **Sung Response**

“Jesus Sends Us”

Pew Insert

*Jesus sends us to all people, And like Peter, spread the news.*

*Let us be like Paul and tell them all Of God’s love for all of us.*

*We are all to be examples Of how God wants us to be.*

*Let us use the gifts we’ve all received So we serve God’s people’s needs.*

**Prayer for Illumination (unison)**

**Holy One, true and living God, through the message of the gospel and the power of your Spirit make us imitators of the Lord: Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

In the *Prayer for Illumination*, we ask the Holy Spirit to help us understand God’s Word. “Illumination” means “turning the lights on”.  
  
*Scripture* is God’s Word to us. We listen carefully and study God’s word.

**Scripture Reading**

Mark 9:34-35

**Scripture Reading**

Acts 18:1-4

**Drama**

Priscilla and Acquila

**Scripture Reading**

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

**One:** The Word of the Lord.

**All:** Thanks be to God!

**Message**

Rev. Diane Ziegler

***We Respond***

**Hymn of Affirmation**

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

Purple # 727

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

**The Apostle’s Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

**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,**

*The Lord’s Prayer* is the prayer Jesus taught us.

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.

**Sung Response to Prayer**

“Be Not Afraid”

Purple # 243

*Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!*

*Be not afraid; sing out for joy! Christ is risen, alleluia!*

**Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God**

God, the source of all good things, has given us what we need. In joyful response, let us offer our gifts, the fruit of our labors, and the dedication of our hearts for loving service in the name of Christ.

**Offertory**

*Doxology means “to give God glory.”*

We pray God will use our gifts for God’s work through us and others in the *Prayer of Dedication*.

**\*Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!*

*Praise God all creatures here below*

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication/Offering (unison)**

**God of our salvation, receive these gifts we offer and bless them for the work of your kingdom, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

***We Are Sent***

**\*Parting Hymn**

“Now Go In Joy”

Purple #745

**\*Charge**

Mark 9:34-35

God calls us to be citizens of Christ’s Kingdom and no other. In humility, may we go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**\*Carrying the Light**

One: As we go forth to serve,

**All: We carry the light of Christ into the world.**

**\*Benediction**

May the grace of Christ who calls us go with you. May the power of the Holy Spirit who empowers us sustain you. May the salvation of God who love us give you peace.

**\* Sung Benediction**

“Christ is Alive!”

Purple # 246 v. 5

*Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love and praise.*

**Postlude**

*(Sanctuary worshippers, please be seated for the postlude.)*

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**Welcome to those Visiting Today!**

We invite you to join us for a brief time of fellowship in Fellowship Hall following worship! If you have children, we offer a preschool classroom for ages up to the age of 7. Enter through the door at the front of the sanctuary and follow the classroom signs.

**Prayer Concerns** Kathy Beleny, Family of Mary Gregg, Anji Erikson, Cindy Rogers, Sheila Henry

and family, Luke Smallwood, Sue Pledger, Luceia, Family of Harry Crowe, Family of Claudia Anderson, Owen (Robin’s grandson), Norma Smith, Nola (Kelly’s step-mother), Jonathan Berryhill, Leslie Clements, Bently, Loy and Ed Boncek, Toby Boedecker, those who are sick and their caregivers, those who hunger, those recovering from storms, those grieving, PEACE.

**Announcements**

**Have a Heart!** Lovingly prepared heart ornaments have been crafted out of the curtains that adorned the sanctuary walls for over 60 years. These heart ornaments are available for a suggested donation of \$ 10.00 or more, with all proceeds going to the refurbishment of the bell. Hearts are available in Fellowship Hall this morning.

PLEASE sign up for **summer t-shirts** outside the office. They are going to be COOL! Cost is \$ 20 per shirt.

**Plan to be in worship Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate Pentecost!** Worship will be filled with special sights and sounds, and we will take a congregational picture together. Please wear your summer t-shirt or the color red on that Sunday.

**Diane will be on Study Leave and vacation the next two Sundays.** Worship on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> will be led by Charles Truesdell and Larry White, with Larry White preaching. Sue Seiler will officiate communion. (Sue has taken special training through the Presbytery to do this and is authorized to officiate communion in this congregation.) On Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, worship will be led by Larry White and Bethany Stewart, with Bethany Stewart preaching. *Please support these courageous leaders of the congregation as they use their gifts to serve all of us.*

If you need assistance with a pastoral care need the week of May 6<sup>th</sup>, please contact Larry White or one of our Deacons.

### **Office Hours –**

THIS WEEK: Monday- 10-5, Wednesday- 1-5, Friday 10-3

WEEK OF MAY 6<sup>TH</sup> – Office CLOSED (Diane is on study leave, Sally is on vacation.)

WEEK OF MAY 13<sup>TH</sup> - Monday- 10-5, Wednesday- 1-5, Friday 10-3

**Simple Supper this Thursday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** Dana Beane will be our hostess. Please contact her with any questions or to help. You can sign up in the fellowship hall.

**Toddler Time has moved** to once a month for the months of May, June and July. It will be held the first Thursday morning of each month at 10:30 a.m. This is a free craft time for children ages 3-5 with their parents. Registration is suggested. See Kimmie for more information.

**A Design for Discipleship** is a series that prayerfully will help folks to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Developing a deep and abiding relationship with God and putting into practice what it means to be a disciple. This is a new outreach to the community as well as the church family. Small group or one-on-one home studies available. For more information please see Larry White.

**We are looking for help with summer VBS.** Specifically, we are looking for someone to plan the crafts, run crafts during the week and someone to plan our final night party in the courtyard. If you are interested in any of these roles, please reach out to Drew, Bethany or Sally.

### **Suggestion for at home this week**

- Continue conversations with your family or others about your tent-making calling.
- Practice creating unity when you are in conflict.

- Read Acts 18:1-4 and 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 with your family or with a prayer partner, and think about how you can be a witness to the resurrection.

### **Bible Studies**

- Monday at 10:00 a.m. at Winans Coffee and Chocolates on Feedwire Rd. *New study beginning April 29<sup>th</sup>. – The Grumbler’s Guide to Giving Thanks* See Robin for more information.
- Monday at 6:30 p.m. Board Room. Sunday Scriptures.
- Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Board Room. New study beginning on It Takes a Church to Raise a Christian by Tod Bolsinger.

### **Opportunities to Serve**

- Help with Wednesday evening food pick-up for the food ministry from 4:45 p.m.-6:45 p.m. Sign up in Fellowship Hall. See Susan Seiler for more information.
- Online/Credit card Giving: Access by using the QR code to the right or make a credit card donation using the Clover machine located in the sanctuary.
- Vacation Bible School volunteers are needed to help with decorations, crafts, teaching, games and snacks. See Bethany if you would like to help or fill out a volunteer form (located outside the office and in the weekly e-news).

