



# Bellflower UMC & Mt Vernon UMC

April 24, 2022

Holy Humor Sunday

## CHARGE & BLESSING

Go forth in joy!

The communion of the Holy Spirit,

The love of God,

And the abundant joy of our Lord Jesus Christ

Be with you all.



## POSTLUDE

**He Is Lord, he is Lord!**

**He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!**

**Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess**

**That Jesus Christ is Lord. (2x)**

## HOLY COMMUNION



## DOXOLOGY - #95 (Bellflower UMC)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise him, all creatures here below;**

**praise him above, ye heavenly host;**

**praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Amen.**



## DOXOLOGY - #95 (Mt Vernon UMC)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**praise God, all creatures here below;**

**praise God for all that love has done;**

**Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass 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.**

## **OFFERING & PEACE**



### **CONFESSION & PARDON**

**Lord Jesus, the source of our joy,  
we confess that we have not received your joy with our  
whole heart.**

**You gave us your command to love each other so that  
our joy may be full, but we did not obey your  
command and we wonder why our joy is incomplete.**

**We have not shared your joy with our neighbors.**

**We have not shared your joy with those who mourn.**

**We have not shared the joy of victory with the  
oppressed.**

**We have not shared the joy of freedom with the  
imprisoned.**

**We have not shared the joy of presence with the lonely.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the  
sake of the joy that was set before him endured the  
cross, disregarding its shame, died for our sins.**

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**Glory to God. Amen.**



## HYMN

### 378. Amazing Grace

## SERMON



## GOSPEL - John 20:19-31 (NRSV)

### **Jesus Appears to the Disciples**

19 When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 20 After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

### **Jesus and Thomas**

24 But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

26 A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” 27 Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out

your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” 28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” 29 Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”



## INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

### MISSION MINUTE

### CHILDREN'S SERMON



## PSALM

### 862. Psalm 150



## HYMN

### 261. Lord of the Dance

### 617 I Come with Joy



## OT READING - Zephaniah 3:14-20 (NRSV)

### A Song of Joy

14 Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter Jerusalem!

15 The Lord has taken away the judgments against  
you,  
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;  
you shall fear disaster no more.

16 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
Do not fear, O Zion;  
do not let your hands grow weak.

17 The Lord, your God, is in your midst,  
a warrior who gives victory;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness,  
he will renew you[a] in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing  
as on a day of festival.  
I will remove disaster from you,  
so that you will not bear reproach for it.  
19 I will deal with all your oppressors  
at that time.  
And I will save the lame  
and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.  
20 At that time I will bring you home,  
at the time when I gather you;  
for I will make you renowned and praised  
among all the peoples of the earth,  
when I restore your fortunes  
before your eyes, says the Lord.

## OPENING PRAYER<sup>1</sup>

Holy God, as you have taken what we call an absurdity  
and turned it into a possibility, as you have coaxed us to  
sing springtime alleluias where once there was a gray  
dawn, as you have called us out of the tombs we inhabit  
into an undreamed of tomorrow, we praise you for this  
day!

Come, Risen Christ, in newness and hope on this  
Easter tide day. **Amen.**

## CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>2</sup>

Sing a new song!

**A joyful melody of springtime glory and rebirth**

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<sup>1</sup> from *Still Laughing God: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday of Easter*,  
posted on the United Church of Christ's *Worship Ways* website.  
<http://www.ucc.org/worship/worship-ways/year-a/le/eas.html>

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

Sing praise to our Still-Laughing Easter God,  
**Who has rolled away the bindings of yesterday**

Immerse your anxiety and despair in the fountain of new birth.

**We place our visions and hopes on the table of wine and wheat.**

For God has taken ordinary things.  
**And made them extraordinary.**

**Sing a new song!**

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING  
BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
GREETINGS<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Cover art from Tabor Mennonite Church,  
<https://tabormennonite.org/2020/04/17/april-19-bulletin-sermon-transcript-and-additional-attachments/>

Bellflower UMC spreads God's love within our church family and throughout our communities and world using our prayers, our gifts and our service; thus to become a shelter of love and a community of compassion..

To learn more, visit <http://facebook.com/Bellflower.UMC>

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God calls Mt Vernon UMC to:

- Love God & neighbor as Jesus taught
- Learn together of God's love and grace
- Serve others by using our God given gifts and talents
- Be witnesses of our faith in God through Jesus Christ to all the world!.

To learn more, visit <http://facebook.com/MtVChamp>

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If you would like a prayer, a visit, a meal, to have Holy Communion brought to your home, or have any other need, please contact any church member or Pastor Rob.