

# **Bellflower UMC**

February 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday After The Epiphany

## GREETINGS<sup>1</sup>

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

#### PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING

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

Come and learn the ways of life.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Love your enemies, and do good to those who hate you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Come and learn the ways of life.

PSALM - Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

**HYMNS** 

Freely, Freely 389
The Gift of Love 408

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER

DOXOLOGY - #95

NT READING - 1 Timothy 3:14-16

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Cover art by John Stuart, www.stushieart.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> B.J. Beu. *WORSHIP ELEMENTS: FEBRUARY 20, 2022.* Ministry Matters. https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/9488/worship-elements-february-2 4-2019

# GOSPEL - Luke 6:27-38 SERMON

### CONFESSION & PARDON<sup>3</sup>

Teacher of hard truths,

it is difficult to let go of our anger toward those who prosper through deceit and unscrupulous ways;

it is not easy to make ourselves believe that the meek will inherit the earth, when they are being crushed by the unjust systems stacked against them.

We long to see the vindication of the righteous and the prosperity of those who work selflessly to bring your realm here on earth.

We yearn for the day when all people will treat one another as they wish to be treated.

Help us live into that day, Holy One, even when it is difficult, that your love might shine like the sun through our lives and our ministries. Amen.

When we treat others as we would have them treat us, Jesus calls us beloved children of the Most High.

If God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked, how much more will God be kind to those who love the Lord and seek to live the Golden Rule?

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

OFFERING & PEACE HOLY COMMUNION

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### BENEDICTION<sup>4</sup>

Go with God's blessings.

As followers of Jesus, we will love our enemies and do good to those who hate us.

Go with God's blessings.

As followers of Jesus, we will bless those who curse us and pray for those who persecute us.

Go with God's blessings.

As followers of Jesus, we will do unto others as we would have them do unto us.

Go with God's blessings.

### POSTLUDE - Go Now In Peace

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 facebook.com/Bellflower.UMC

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 (309-722-1500, pastor@bellflower-umc.org).

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.