



## Bellflower UMC

May 14, 2023

Sixth Sunday of Easter

GREETINGS<sup>1</sup>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING 

**Here I am to worship**

**Here I am to bow down**

**Here I am to say that You're my God**

**You're altogether lovely**

**Altogether worthy**

**Altogether wonderful to me (2x)**

CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>2</sup>

Bless the Lord, O people, sing!

**Let the sound of praise ring out.**

Come and hear what the Lord has done,

**the Lord who has made everything!**

HYMN 

302. Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

304. Easter People, Raise Your Voices

SCRIPTURE

1 Peter 3:13-22

TESTIMONIES

PSALM

Psalms 66:8-20

NOISY OFFERING

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

---

<sup>1</sup> Covert art by Martin Vorel. CC0/Public Domain. <https://libreshot.com/>

<sup>2</sup> Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2013.

## LORD'S PRAYER - #895

**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.**

## RESPONSE

**Hear our prayer, O Lord.  
Hear our prayer, O Lord.  
Incline Thine ear to us,  
and grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE

John 14:15-21

## SERMON

## HYMN

2223. They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

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

Brother and sisters,  
God not only asks us to repent,  
but also assures us of forgiveness.  
Therefore, let us confess our sins  
to the one who is steadfast love.  
**Loving God,**

---

<sup>3</sup> Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2013.

**we do not always keep your commandments;  
we fail to love you;  
our conscience is not clear.**

**Wash us in the water of life  
that we may live again  
through the grace and mercy of Jesus,  
our resurrected Savior. Amen.**

God forgives, restores, and strengthens us through the  
risen Christ.

Know that you are forgiven  
and be at peace.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

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

**Glory to God. Amen.**

## OFFERING 🎵🎵

2065. More Precious Than Silver.

## DOXOLOGY - #95 🎵🎵

## HOLY COMMUNION

## 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.**

## SENDING FORTH<sup>4</sup>

God, who loves us as a mother loves her children,  
gave us birth,

---

<sup>4</sup> Portions reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2013.

gives us every breath,  
and will hold us when we die.

Sisters and brothers, as you serve Christ, always be eager  
to do what is good, and always be prepared to answer  
the question: why do you have hope?

May God, who creates, redeems, and sustains,  
keep you steadfast in faith,  
buoyant in hope,  
and abounding in love.

And the blessing of God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

## 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](https://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, [rob@methodist.cc](mailto:rob@methodist.cc)).