

12-8

© 2005 Bil Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com

**“Hear that? People in heaven have
ever-laughing life.”**

Bellflower UMC

April 7, 2024

Holy Humor Sunday

ENTRANCE

GREETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

↑CALL TO WORSHIP^{1 2}

L The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P And also with you.

L Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her.

P All you who love her; rejoice with her in joy.

HUMOR INTERLUDE

↑PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING 

657. This Is the Day

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loving God, glorious Creator, we praise and thank you
and rejoice before on this day that you have made.

With Israel upon hearing your promises of salvation, we
rejoice in what you are about; with Jerusalem upon
hearing of her coming restoration, we shout for joy.


Oh Father, on this our Holy Sabbath we remember not
only the cross, but the resurrection; and we sing of
Christ's victory and praise you for bringing life out of
death, hope out of despair, and laughter out of sorrow --
and granting them to us as part of our eternal inheritance
in him.

We pray you attend our praise and restore our hearts with
your love, both now and evermore. **Amen.**

¹ ↑ == Please stand in body or spirit.

² This, and other elements, are copyright - Rev. Richard J. Fairchild - Spirit
Networks, 2002 - 2006. <http://spirit-net.ca/sermons/abc-laughtersunday.php>

PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

↑HYMN  89. Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

↑HYMN  God of Grace and God of Laughter³

God of grace and God of laughter,
singing worlds from nought to be--
sun and stars and all thereafter
joined in cosmic harmony:
give us songs of joy and wonder,
music making hearts rejoice;
let our praises swell like thunder,
echoing our Maker's voice.

When our lives are torn by sadness,
heal our wounds with tuneful balm;
when all seems discordant madness,
help us find a measured calm.
Steady us with music's anchor
when the storms of life increase:
in the midst of hurt and rancor,
make us instruments of peace.

Turn our sighing into singing,
music born of hope restored:
set our souls and voices ringing,
tune our hearts in true accord:
till we form a mighty chorus
joining angel-choirs above,
with all those who went before us,
in eternal hymns of love.

³ WORDS BY CARL P. DAW, JR., Words © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

SCRIPTURE⁴

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-6

HUMOR INTERLUDE

HYMN

Down By the Riverside

1 Going to lay down my sword and shield,
Down by the riverside, (3x)
Going to lay down my sword and shield,
Down by the riverside, (2x)
Going to study war no more. (7x)

2 Going to lay down my burden, ...
3 Going to meet my loving Jesus, ...
Going to study war no more. [Chorus]

HYMN

Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Give me oil in my lamp, Keep me burning,
Give me oil in my lamp I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, Keep me burning.
Keep me burning 'til the break of day.
Sing Hosanna, Sing Hosanna,
Sing Hosanna to the King of Kings.
Sing Hosanna, Sing Hosanna,
Sing Hosanna to the King.
Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising...
Give me love in my heart, keep me serving...
Give me peace in my heart, keep me resting...
Give me faith in my heart, keep me trusting...
Hide your word in my heart, keep me learning...
Make me a fisher of men, keep me seeking...
Give me fuel in my engine, Keep me flyin' like a
Christian.
Give me gas for my Ford, keep me truckin' for the Lord...

⁴ New International Reader's Version

Give me umption in my gumption, Let me function,
function, function.

Give me wax for my board, keep me surfin' for the
Lord...

Give me wax for my skis, keep me bombin' through the
trees...

Give me batteries for my torch keep me shining...

Ever Ready, Ever Ready, Ever Ready for the king of
Kings...

SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 3:1-4

Proverbs 17:22

DISCUSSION

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

RESPONSE 🎵🎵

HUMOR INTERLUDE

THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION

OFFERING & PEACE

DOXOLOGY - #95 🎵🎵

HOLY COMMUNION 617. I Come with Joy

SENDING FORTH

BLESSING

May God's Creation bring you joy.

May God's Salvation bring you hope.

May God's Spirit bring you laughter.

Go into the world, sharing your joy in Christ Jesus with all
whom you meet.

Amen

POSTLUDE 🎵🎵

657. This Is the Day

Every Day With Jesus

This year we follow a Bible reading plan called “Every Day With Jesus”. With four short readings each day, by the end of the year, we will have read the entire Bible.



2024-04-07	Deuteronomy 2:1–3:29	Psalms 39:7–13	Proverbs 10:3–5	Luke 5:1–20
2024-04-08	Deuteronomy 4:1–49	Psalms 40:1–5	Proverbs 10:6–8	Luke 5:21–6:11
2024-04-09	Deuteronomy 5:1–6:25	Psalms 40:6–10	Proverbs 10:9–11	Luke 6:12–36
2024-04-10	Deuteronomy 7:1–8:20	Psalms 40:11–17	Proverbs 10:12–14	Luke 6:37–7:10
2024-04-11	Deuteronomy 9:1–10:22	Psalms 41:1–6	Proverbs 10:15–17	Luke 7:11–35
2024-04-12	Deuteronomy 11:1–12:19	Psalms 41:7–13	Proverbs 10:18–21	Luke 7:36–8:3
2024-04-13	Deuteronomy 12:20–14:21	Psalms 42:1–11	Proverbs 10:22–25	Luke 8:4–25

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, rob@methodist.cc)