

Filii Israel choreas ducunt coram vitulo



Bellflower UMC

October 15, 2023

GREETINGS¹

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE & CANDLE LIGHTING² 

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 WORSHIP³

Come! Now is the time to worship!

We come to worship God who invites us.

When the Israelites worshiped the golden calf, God

listened to Moses and chose to correct instead of destroy.

God persistently invites us to return to God.

Jesus tells a story of a wedding banquet where the guests

dismissed the invitation and harmed the messengers, so

the king invited people off the streets and welcomed all

who received the invitation in earnest.

God persistently invites us to return to God.

Too often we turn from God's ways, choosing our

stiff-necked insistence that we know what is best instead

of trusting God's provision, love, and guidance.

When we turn away and our love fails, God continues

to offer us opportunities to return to God and join in

the celebration of God's abundant love and life.

Come! Now is the time to worship!

¹ Cover art: Herrad, of Landsberg. ca 1130-1195. The Dance of the Golden Calf from the *Hortus Deliciarum*.

² Tim Hughes. © 2000 Thankyou Music. CCLI 3266032 / 21891763

³ Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2023

We come to worship God who keeps inviting us for the long haul.

SCRIPTURE

Exodus 32:1-14

☐⁴HYMN 

352. It's Me, It's Me, O Lord

☐HYMN 

3104. Amazing Grace

PSALM

Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23

DISCUSSION

CHILDREN'S SERMON

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

LORD'S PRAYER - #895

RESPONSE 

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Incline Thine ear to us,

and grant us Thy peace. Amen.

OFFERING 

DOXOLOGY - #95 

HOLY COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH⁵

May you go knowing that God invites to partake in the abundant life and love God has for you. So may we receive, honor, and celebrate the grace that softens our stubbornness and opens our hearts to share God's love with one another. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE 

Go Now In Peace

⁴ ☐ Please stand as you are able.

⁵ Lisa Hancock, Discipleship Ministries, April 2023

Week 42 Reading Plan:

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Matthew 9-10	Matt. 14 Luke 9:1-17 Mark 6	John 6	Matt. 15 Mark 7	Matt. 16 Luke 9:18-27 Mark 8	Luke 9:28-62 Matt. 17 Mark 9	Matt. 18

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).