



Bellflower UMC

July 23, 2023

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

GREETINGS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

OPENING PRAYER

PRELUDE² & 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)

¹ Wenceslaus Hollar (1607-1677). *Jacob's Ladder*.

https://hollar.library.utoronto.ca/islandora/object/hollar%3AHollar_k_0062.

² “Here I Am” by Tim Hughes. © 2000 Thankyou Music. Used by Permission.
CCLI License #5077147.

CALL TO WORSHIP³

One: Despite hardship, our ancestors dared to dream
God-sized dreams.

Many: Praise God for hope-filled dreams.

One: Do it again, Lord. Dream big dreams through us
today!

Many: Praise God for new dreams for our generation.

One: Invisible God, be visible through our faith today.

Many: Praise God who empowers us with faith to see
what others miss.

One: Will we stop building a better future because of evil?

Many: No! Our God will deliver us from evil!

One: Will we concede our neighborhoods because evil
walks the streets?

Many: No! God will judge all evildoers!

All: Come now, Lord, and fulfill your dreams in us today!

HYMN 

418. Climbing Jacob's Ladder

Psalm

854. Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24

DISCUSSION & CURRENT EVENTS

“You know when I sit down and when I rise up” Does God
know you? Does your life reflect God’s presence?

What does God’s constant presence in your life mean for
VBS this year?

³ Written by Kwasi I. Kena, *The Africana Worship Book, Year A* (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2006), 70.

“Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely.” How has God helped you speak? How has God helped you remain quiet?

How has God appeared to you in a surprising way?

“Where can I flee from your presence?” Where can you hide from God? Why might you want to?

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.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 28:10-19a

SERMON

OFFERING & PEACE

DOXOLOGY - #95

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH⁴

As we go from here, hear again the promises of God,
made long ago to our ancestor Jacob, and still true for us
today:

*I am the Lord your God,
the God of Abraham and Isaac.*

Know that I am with you,

⁴ From the *re:Worship* web site. Unattributed.

and will keep you wherever you go.

I will not leave you

until I have done everything that I have promised.

Let's go from here in the assurance that our faithful God
goes with us.

POSTLUDE 🎵🎵

Go Now In Peace

Week 30 Reading Plan

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Isaiah 35-36	Isaiah 37-39 Psalm 76	Isaiah 40-43	Isaiah 44-48	2 Kings 18:9-37 2 Kings 19 Psalms 46,80, 135	Isaiah 49-53	Isaiah 54-58

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).