



balmoral presbyterian church



service of worship

May 4, 2025

3rd Sunday of Easter

11:00am

Chiming of the Hour

Bells of Balmoral

Easter Declaration

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Mark Howland

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

"Prayer"

Charles Gounod

Linda Warren, pianist

(from "Ave Verum" & "Send Out Thy Light")

***Call to Worship**

Robin Van Nortwick, Liturgist

Leader: Lord, you have changed my sadness into a joyful dance.

People: **You have taken away my sorrow and surrounded me with joy.**

Leader: I will not be silent; I will sing praises to you.

People: **Lord, you are my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

Leader: Let us praise the Lord.

***Gathering Song**

"Come! Live In The Light!"

WE ARE CALLED

Prayer of Confession

God of life, you turn mourning into dancing, the dark night of weeping into the bright morning of gladness. Your light has shined upon us, claiming us as witnesses to your saving power. Yet we keep silent, and hide your light. Forgive our meager witness to the glad news of your light breaking into our world, in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus; empower us by your Spirit to proclaim this Gospel to all.

(Time of silence to lift personal confessions)

Assurance of Pardon

***Congregational Response Hymn**

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost!

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever will be,

World without end. Amen. Amen

Share the Peace of Christ

Musical Offering

"Heavenly Light"

A. Kopylov

HEARING THE WORD

Children's Message

Invitation to Centering Silence

Be still. Prepare yourself to hear the Word of God.

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from the Psalms

Psalm 30 (*responsively*)

Leader: Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

**People: Their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night**

Leader: They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

**People: It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

Leader: Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

**People: For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

Reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 9:1-6

Sermon See the Light

Silent Reflection *In the silence, attend to what the Spirit has given you.*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith** *Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering

Please place tithes and offerings in the brass plates. Children will collect quarters to provide funds to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Fund. Place Pennies for Hunger in the glass jar near the sanctuary doors for our Food Pantry. Pass the Friendship Pads along the row, then pass it back down the row and greet those in your row after worship.

Offertory

"How Firm a Foundation"

Linda Warren, pianist

American Folk Melody

arr. John Purifoy

*Hymn 710

"We Lift Our Voices"

OFFERING

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord use our voices; Lord use our hands; Lord use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you:
we are an offering; we are an offering.

Prayer to Dedicate the Gifts

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Rev. Mark Howland

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Blessed are you, strong and faithful God...

So now, with all the powers of heaven and earth,
we sing the ageless hymn of your glory:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: All holy God,... Great is the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Leader: Eternal God, let your Holy Spirit move in power over us...
almighty God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.**

Communion of God's People

We participate in Holy Communion by intinction. At the usher's invitation, please come forward down the center aisle, form a semi-circle in front of the pastor and ruling elder. The ruling elder will offer you the bread, take a piece and hold it. Pastor will then come to you with the chalice of grape juice, dip the bread in the chalice and eat the bread. When all in your group have received the elements, join hands and remain at the table together for silent prayer. Return to your seats via the outer aisles when the prayer has ended.

Prayer following Communion

***Sending Song (vss 1 and 3)**

"Jesus, Light of Joy"

LAUDA ANIMA

Charge and Blessing

***Benediction Response**

"Lord Let Us Leave Now"

OLD ENGLISH TUNE

**Lord, let us leave now, filled with You anew, and pledged to Your service in all that we do.
Though we have some questions, our faith in You is sure.
We know You are with us, Your way will endure.**

Lord, let us leave now, filled with You anew, and pledged to Your service in all that we do.

Postlude

"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

John Hatton

Linda Warren, pianist

arr. Sid Richardson

- Permission to stream the music and print words and music in this worship service are obtained from ONE LICENSE A-732788 and CCLI License 1725833.
- All responsive readings are shown with normal type for the leader and the bold portions are read in unison by all.
- * indicates those who are able, please stand

OUR MISSION:

***We are an open community who believes God is love and
who lives our belief through praise and service.***

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**CONTACTS: REV. MARK HOWLAND: pastormark@balmoralpc.com;
REV. ELIZABETH DICK: elizabethdick2@gmail.com**

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Fran Shannon (6); Dee McGuire (7); Jessica Orians (12);
Clinton Bailey (23); Casey Gurlen (26); Phil Shannon (30)

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

John and Robin Van Nortwick (20)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **WE THANK OUR WORSHIP LEADERS** for enhancing our worship this morning! Thank you to the Balmoral choir, directed by Ben Legett, Guest director Fran Addicott, Linda Warren, pianist, and Robin Van Nortwick, Liturgist. We also thank Mary Schmitz and John and Robin Van Nortwick for our Communion preparations.
- **EARTH CARE TIP of the MONTH for May:** turn off dishwasher after wash cycle and let air dry
- **CREATION STATION:** BPC loves the children to be a part of our worship service. We invite families to allow children to join at our Creation Station which is located in the back of the sanctuary. We ask that a responsible adult sit in the back row in case a need arises.
- **BALMORAL'S COMMUNITY PICNIC** is today, May 4th after worship. Join with us in welcoming our siblings from Covenant Presbyterian Church, Germantown.
- **ACOUSTIC EIDOLON** will be presenting a concert on Sunday, May 18 @ 3:00pm in our sanctuary. This year, the Balmoral Presbyterian Church Choir will be joining with them on some pieces. Invite friends, neighbors, and coworkers to this wonderful musical event in our building.
- **FAIR TRADE COFFEE:** The Fellowship Team is taking orders for Don Justo Coffee. Please have your orders in to Paul Below by today, May 4. Order forms are found on the fellowship table in the narthex. For more information, contact Paul Below.
- **COFFEE-TIME SNACKS:** Don't forget to sign up for coffee-time snacks!
- **SEE WHAT PASTOR IS READING-** If you would like to receive emails containing articles and other informational items which Pastor Mark finds thought provoking, please send a request to be added to the email group by sending an email to pastormark@balmoralpc.com.
- **PASTOR MARK WILL BE ON VACATION** May 7 -21. You may contact Rev. Elizabeth Dick for any Pastoral Care needs.
- **GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:** We are collecting much needed items for our community; Please don't forget to bring your donations for:
 - The Food Pantry needs staples from our Food Cart!
 - Supplies for the Hospitality bags
 - Place used toothbrushes & empty toothpaste in the box in the Food Cart for recycling.

- **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES ON THE CALENDAR: *(see the BPC website for more information!)***
 - **TUESDAYS with TED** meets every Tuesday, 8:00am. at Cracker Barrel on Hacks Cross Rd.
 - **CHAIR YOGA** meets every Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30pm in Classroom A
 - **CHOIR REHEARSAL** every Wednesday, 7:00pm in the Choir room
 - **WORSHIP TEAM MEETING, May 4**, 12:15pm in Classroom A
 - **COMMUNITY PICNIC with COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Sunday, May 4**, after worship at BPC
 - **WRITER'S CIRCLE, Monday, May 5**, 1:00pm in Classroom A
 - **OPERATIONS TEAM MEETING, Wednesday, May 7**, 4:30pm in Classroom A
 - **PW BIBLE STUDY, Wednesday, May 7**, 10:30am in Classroom A
 - **SPRING ADULT STUDIES, Sunday, May 11**, 9:30am in Classroom A
 - **WORSHIP, Sunday, May 11**, 11:00am
 - **BOOK CLUB, Tuesday, May 13**, 1:45pm in Classroom A
 - **THURSDAY SMALL GROUP, Thursday May 15**, 10:15am in Classroom A
 - **BPC SISTERS TEA PARTY, Friday, May 16**, 5:00pm at Amerigo Italian Restaurant
 - **MUSIC REHEARSAL, Saturday, May 17**, 3:30pm in the sanctuary
 - **SPRING ADULT STUDIES, Sunday, May 18**, 9:30am in Classroom A
 - **WORSHIP, Sunday, May 18**, 11:00am
 - **ACOUSTIC EIDOLON CONCERT, Sunday, May 18**, 3:00pm in the sanctuary
 - **WRITER'S CIRCLE, Monday, May 19**, 1:00pm in Classroom A
 - **WORSHIP, Sunday, May 25**, 11:00am *(NOTE: Sunday Studies will be off until Fall)*
 - **SANDWICH MAKING PROJECT, May 25**, right after Worship in Classroom A
 - **OFFICE CLOSED for MEMORIAL DAY, Monday, May 26** all day
 - **FAITH FORMATION TEAM, Friday, May 30**, 3:00pm in Classroom A

PLEASE REMEMBER to WEAR YOUR NAMETAGS!