

## 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter – May 7, 2023 – 9:15 AM

Gathering Music & Announcements

Organist, Jeff Beyers

### Call to Worship

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn\*

*Christ Is Alive*

UMH 318

### Opening Prayer\* (Unison, Episcopal Prayer)

**Grant, O merciful God, that your church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Affirmation of Faith\*

The Apostles' Creed

UMH 881

Anthem

*Ha-la-lelujah* (Pepper Choplin)

Chancel Choir

Sacrament of Baptism

Enzo, Emma & Isla Tomasi,  
children of Michael & Jordan Tomasi

Moment for Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Cathy Bowden

### Prayer of Confession

Mike Wolf

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **Amen**

### Silent Prayers of Confession

#### Words of Assurance

Thanks be to our God, who forgives all our sins,

**Thanks be to our God, who offers healing and life.**

Thanks be to our God, who snatches us from death's dark grip.

**Thanks be to our God, who enfolds us in tender care.**

Thanks be to God, who fills our lives with richness, and lifts us up on eagle's wings.

**Thanks be to God, who declares victory over sin and death! Amen!**

### The Peace

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you always. **And also, with you. Amen.**

Hymn Response

*There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

UMH 334

Gospel Reading\*

John 21:1-14

Mike Wolf

Hymn\*

*He Is Lord* (2X)

UMH 177

Sermon

"Miracles and Faith"

Rev. Byron E. Brought

## Offering Our Gifts

*This moment of reflection is an opportunity to consider your response to God. How will you demonstrate your love for God? How will you give of your time, your talents, and your treasures? Please consider giving electronically; ask us how. Thank you.*



## Communion & The Lord's Prayer

### Hymn during Communion      *How Deep the Father's Love for Us* (Stuart Townend)

How deep the Father's love for us, how vast beyond all measure  
That he should give his only Son to make a wretch his treasure  
How great the pain of searing loss the Father turns his face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many souls to glory

Behold the man upon a cross, my sin upon his shoulders  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers  
It was my sin that held him there, until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life; I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything, no gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection  
Why should I gain from his reward? I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart; his wounds have paid my ransom

### Closing Hymn\*

*Christ is Risen*

UMH 307

### Benediction & Organ Postlude\*



**Altar Flower Dedication** – The flowers on the altar table are dedicated to the Glory of God, by the Flower Mart Group.

**Fellowship Brunch Today – McComas Hall, 10:15 am – Please join us!**

### Church 101 – A New Introductory Class on Christianity and the Bible

Hello Sunday School parents, young couples, and baptism families! If you're relatively new to the faith, and would like to go over some basics, this class is for you. Please join us on Sunday mornings, 10:30-11:30 am, May 7 & 14. Room 101.

**Mother's Day Women's Choir** - ALL women of faith are invited to come sing in a women's choir on Mother's Day. Practice TODAY, May 7 at 10:15 am.

**Retirement Luncheon** for Lee and Deanna Stielper, Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 am in McComas Hall. All are invited. RSVP to [food.services@baumc.com](mailto:food.services@baumc.com) – Deadline is Monday at 11:00 am.

**Prayer Shawl Ministry Celebration of Caring and Sharing May 10 at 6 pm in Room 202.** This is a special invitation to all volunteers, supporters and interested individuals. Our intent is to sincerely thank everyone who has been supporting our efforts in recent years.

**Vacation Bible School July 24 -27, 9:00 am – 12 Noon. Register NOW on the website!**

**Bel Air United Methodist Church  
21 Linwood Ave., Bel Air, MD 21014  
410-838-5181 <belairumc.org>**

### ***Christ Is Alive***

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, he comes to claim the here and now and dwell in every place and time.

Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains, but daily in the midst of life, our Savior in the Godhead reigns.

In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide, he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and all creation ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

***There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit***

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord. Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise, without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.

***He Is Lord***

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

***Christ is Risen***

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days. Christ is risen! Hush in wonder; all creation is amazed. In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair. Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare. Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend; Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven never more shall be the same. Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain. Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!" God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna every one!