

## Order of Worship

May 21, 2023  
7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

### Gathering

*As the congregation gathers, please take a moment to speak to people sitting around you whom you may not know. Hebrews 13:2 (KJV) says, "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers; for thereby some have entertained Angels unaware."*

### Prelude

Holly Slice, pianist

*As the prelude begins let us turn our thoughts and hearts to God in prayer and preparation for worship.*

### Welcome and Announcements

### Invocation

#### \*Hymn of Praise

My Hope Is Built

UMH No. 368

#### \*The Responsive Reading~

Psalm 46: 1-11

UMH No. 780

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

**Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

though the waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

God is in the midst of the city which shall not be moved;  
God will help it at the dawn of the day.

**The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;  
God's voice resounds, the earth melts.**

The Lord of hosts is with us;  
**the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Come, behold the works of the Lord,  
who has wrought desolations in the earth;  
**who makes wars cease to the end of the earth,  
breaks the bow, shatters the spear,  
and burns the shields with fire!**

"Be still, and know that I am God.  
I am exalted among the nations,

I am exalted in the earth!"

**The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

#### \*Gloria Patri

### Congregational Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.*

*Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.*

*Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.*

*And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever. Amen.*

#### Offertory

Declare Your Maker's Praise

Spell Ensemble

### The Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

#### \*Doxology

UMH No. 95

#### Scripture Lesson

The Word of God for the people of God.

*Thanks be to God.*

Luke 24: 44-53

#### Sermon

Mission Accomplished (or is it?) Rev. Michael Ritter

#### \*Hymn of Dedication

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

UMH No. 569

#### \*Benediction

#### \*Benediction Response

**Irish Blessing**

**May the road rise to meet you, May the wind blow at your back,  
May the sun shine warmly on your face, May the rain fall softly on your  
field; And until we meet again, until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the palm of his hand. Amen.**

#### \*Postlude

\* Please stand

*The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God.*

## Announcements

### Love Offering for Rev. Narcie & Mike Jeter

As you know, BUMC is losing two huge members of our leadership team with Narcie's appointment to Disciples UMC in Greenville. Over the last 7 years, the Jeter Family has been representative of the heartbeat of Bethany in many roles. Narcie's last Sunday at Bethany will be June 11. We are preparing to have a reception for the family after the combined 10 am service. We are asking the congregation to share their memories of the Jeter Family on note cards that will be presented at the reception. The blank cards are located at several locations around the church. We are also accepting donations for a love offering that will be presented to the family as they move to the Upstate. You may drop either by the Business Office or leave in the collection plate.

### VBS Decorating

We will begin decorating for VBS this week! Even if you only have an hour, we can use you. All decorations and instructions are provided, we just need lots of hands to get it all put up. Come Monday – Thursday between 9:30 – 3:30, or let us know if you need to come after hours. There are doors, wall, ceilings, really everything to decorate. There are still things on the Amazon Wishlist we need, mainly for our mission project. You can find the Wishlist on the Bethany website.

### Time and Talent Form

The 2024 Time and Talent form is now available. We are asking everyone to please take the time to complete one. Hard copies can be found after service in the Narthex, in the Business Office, Sunday school classrooms and around the church. **Please turn completed forms in to the Business Office at your earliest convenience!** Forms can also be completed online by visiting [www.bethany-umc.com](http://www.bethany-umc.com).

### Stephen Ministers- Paving the Way

We all have times when a kind, non-judgmental listener would be a blessing. Many friends and fellow Bethany members have found encouragement, strength, and support from a Stephen Minister. Please be mindful when someone you know is facing challenges, then help pave the way by sharing about Stephen Ministry and asking permission to refer him or her. For more info contact (for women): Marti Johnson 843.442.1675 or Leah Martin 404.408.5457 and (for men): Denis Tsukalas 843.729.5348 or Pastor Mark Barnes 843.873.1230.

### Scan to Give Option

It's easier than ever to give now! Simply scan this QR Code and you will be directed to PushPay, our online giving platform.



You can also text 833.245.8417 and give right from your phone!



*Bethany United Methodist Church  
Spell Chapel ~ 8 o'clock a.m.*

May 21, 2023

*118 West 3rd South Street, Summerville, SC 29483*

*[www.bethany-umc.com](http://www.bethany-umc.com)*

*843-873-1230*

