### WE GATHER TOGETHER PRAISING GOD

Prelude Greeting Introit Video Announcements Welcome

Call to Worship Martin Saunders

One: What is it like to begin again?

All: It is like flowers in the spring that push through frozen ground. It is like babies learning to walk, one clumsy step at a time. It is like Nicodemus in the night, asking Jesus for guidance. It is like a Sunday morning, starting our week anew.

One: May we find God in our seeking.

All: May we learn as we go.

One: May we be brave enough to begin again. **All: Let us worship the God of new beginnings.** 

\*Opening Hymn "Revive Us Again"

We praise Thee, O God, for the Son of Thy love – For Jesus, who died and is now gone above.

Refrain:

Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Hallelujah! Amen! Hallelujah! Thine the glory! Revive us again.

We praise Thee, O God, for Thy Spirit of Light, Who has shown us our Savior and scattered our night. Repeat refrain

Revive us again; fill each heart with Thy love. May each soul be rekindled with fire from above. Repeat refrain

Call to Confession Martin Saunders

Prayer of Confession

One: God of new life, you call us into unknown places,

**All: and we bury our heads in the sand.** One: You promise all the stars in the sky,

All: and we doubt it can be true.

\*Please stand as you are able

Credit for liturgical elements: Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed / A Sanctified Art LLC / sanctifiedart.org; Abingdon Worship Annual 2023

One: You speak of new life in the Spirit,

All: and we tell ourselves we've missed our chance.

One: Over and over and over again, you invite us closer to you.

All: Show us the way. Forgive our mistakes. Give us the courage to begin again with you.

Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

**Martin Saunders** 

One: Family of faith, hear and believe this good news:

There is a grace to God's love that is bigger than we can imagine. No matter what we did or didn't do yesterday, we have been forgiven. Today, the slate is wiped clean. Today, we are made new. Join me in saying:

All: We belong to God. We are held in God's love. We are made new. Amen.

\*Sharing the Peace of Christ #657

"This Is the Day"

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made, that the Lord hath made.

Let us rejoice, let us rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.

This is the day that the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the day, this is the day that the Lord hath made.

## WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

Children's Time Vicki Trimble

Music to Lift Our Spirits

Scripture: Genesis 12:1-4a; John 3:1-17 Martin Saunders Message: How Do We Begin Again? Rev. Lori Leopold

# WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in a God who meets us in the shadows, who welcomes our questions, who invites us to begin again. We believe that Jesus showed us a new way, a deeper faith, a more compassionate existence. We believe that all of our beginnings should return us to this foundation, and that no matter how many times we lose our way, God always welcomes us home. Amen.

Song of Prayer # 381

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" Vs 4

Congregation with Choir:

Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will:

Blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

\*Doxology

\*Please stand as you are able

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Gladly we praise you and bless you, Creator, O God of life.

Christ, we adore you and thank you, Compassion of God, our light.

Great Holy Spirit, by you we are born from above.

Alleluia! Praise the God of blessing!

Alleluia! Bless the God of love!

# \*Prayer of Dedication

**Martin Saunders** 

God, our help and our hope, bless these gifts, that they may bring help to the needy and hope to the despairing. Bless us this day, that our very lives may be gifts of help and hope for your world. Amen.

**Holy Communion** 

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.** One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.** One: It is right, and a good and joyful thing...

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All: 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.

One: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

All: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit...Through your son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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

\*Closing Hymn #364

"Because He Lives" Vs 1, refrain

God sent his Son, they called him Jesus;

He came to love, heal, and forgive:

He lived and died to buy my pardon,

An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.

Refrain: sing twice

Because he lives, I can face tomorrow;

\*Please stand as you are able

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Because he lives, all fear is gone; Because I know he holds the future, And life is worth the living just because he lives.

\*Benediction

\*Eagle's Wings

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, Make you to shine like the sun, And hold you in the palm of God's hand.



Thank you for worshipping with PBUMC today! You make this gathering richer, brighter, and better by your participation. *All* are welcome at PBUMC!

Today's altar flowers are a gift of love. Please consider donating flowers to celebrate or honor a loved one. Please contact the church office to donate.

For pastoral support or spiritual conversation, please contact Pastor Lori at the church office or via the <u>website</u>. Want to know what's happening at PB UMC? Sign up for our weekly emails! We have several different categories you can sign up for: there's the weekly news with a rundown of that week's sermon and events happening soon, a



weekly email with prayer requests, a monthly email with a link to our Beach Breeze newsletter, as well as youth/Sunday school emails and memorial notifications. Whether you'd like to sign up for one or sign up for all, visit <a href="https://pbumc.flocknote.com/">https://pbumc.flocknote.com/</a>!

To financially support the ministries of PBUMC in this community and beyond, please go to <a href="mailto:pbumc.org/give">pbumc.org/give</a> or scan the QR code.

#### **PBUMC Staff**

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