

Order of Worship  
Third Sunday of Easter  
*Traditional Worship ~ Communion*  
*Pre-School Sunday*  
May 4, 2025, 9:00am

**\*\* PRELUDE**                      *Andante espressivo, Op.85, No. 1*                      *Mendelssohn*  
Marva Doucet

WELCOME Pastor Leo Tyler

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Howard Hill

Leader: In the quiet, behind locked doors, Christ breathes upon us,  
saying, "Peace be with you."

**All: We breathe deeply, receiving the Holy Spirit within our very bodies.**

Leader: From our first breath, we are sacred vessels, filled with the presence of God's life-giving Spirit.

**All:** We honor our bodies as holy temples, spaces where God dwells.

Leader: Let us reclaim the mystery, listening with our hearts, our guts, and our minds.

**All: With each breath, we embody God's love, justice, and peace in this world.**

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit. Fill us anew. Breathe your life through us today.

**All:** With openness and gratitude, we welcome Your presence within and among us. Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN                      *Holy, Holy, Holy*                      UMH 64

## ANNOUNCEMENTS/GREETING

# BEAR CREEK UMC PRE-SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Jacqueline Gwin, Pre-School Director

**PASTORAL PRAYER** Pastor Kristi Garner

**OFFERING** Pastor Leo Tyler

(Place your offering in the offering plate as it is handed down the pew. You can also give electronically using the QR Code at the check-in table or text “give” to 281-377-3665)

**OFFERING ANTHEM** *In Christ Alone* Hayes  
BCUMC Chancel Choir

**\* SCRIPTURE**

John 20:19-23 (CEB)

Read by Howard Hill

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you." Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone's sins, they are forgiven; if you don't forgive them, they aren't forgiven."

**The Word of God for the People of God.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Pastor Leo Tyler

*The Embodied Presence of the Holy Spirit – The Breath*

**\*CONFESSION AND PARDON**

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.**

**\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

...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.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

...all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**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.

**GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

(You will receive the elements at the Communion Rail – you will be guided by the ushers. The Lord's Table is open to anyone who will come and receive grace.)

**COMMUNION MUSIC**     *Andante from Sonata in A, Op. 120*     *Schubert*  
Marva Doucet

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER RECEIVING**

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

**INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP**

(Those desiring to join the church through profession of faith or transfer of membership are invited to text "join" to the pastor, 832-773-4901)

**\* HYMN OF INVITATION**     *Spirit of the Living God*     *UMH 393*

**POSTLUDE**     *I Gave My Life for Thee*     *Mary McDonald*  
Marva Doucet

**\* SENDING FORTH**     Pastor Leo Tyler

**BENEDICTION**     *I Surrender All*     *UMH 354*  
*(Refrain)*

\*\* Please silence all electronics

\* Please stand if you are able

## *Weekly Prayer*

Heavenly Father, thank you for sending your Holy Spirit to comfort us in our weaknesses. You give us strength when we cannot take another step. Guide us into all truth, remind us of your ways, and give us boldness to testify about what you're doing in our lives. You shape and mold us into a purer reflection of your Son.

May you guide our steps, our thoughts, and our attitudes as we partner with you in faith, in obedience, and in submission. You are wholly trustworthy, and we praise you that you sparked the flame of faith in our lives and that you keep it going by your power. Pour out your Spirit on us so that we might testify about you to those who need your transforming power in their lives.

Dear God, I come before you in humility and reverence, seeking the wisdom of the Holy Spirit. Your Word reminds us that if we lack wisdom, we should ask, and you will generously provide it. Today, I earnestly seek that wisdom, knowing that it is a gift from your loving and gracious hand.

Holy Spirit, Divine Counselor, and Source of all wisdom, I invite your presence into my heart and mind. Enlighten my understanding, that I may discern your will in all things. Grant me clarity and insight as I navigate the challenges and decisions of life.

In the name of Jesus Christ, I pray. Amen.

*Paraphrased from crosswalk.com*