

# BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

Church Office: 610-868-4441 Hours: Mon. - Fri., 9 AM – 1 PM

Fax: 610-868-7918 E-Mail: [bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com](mailto:bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com)

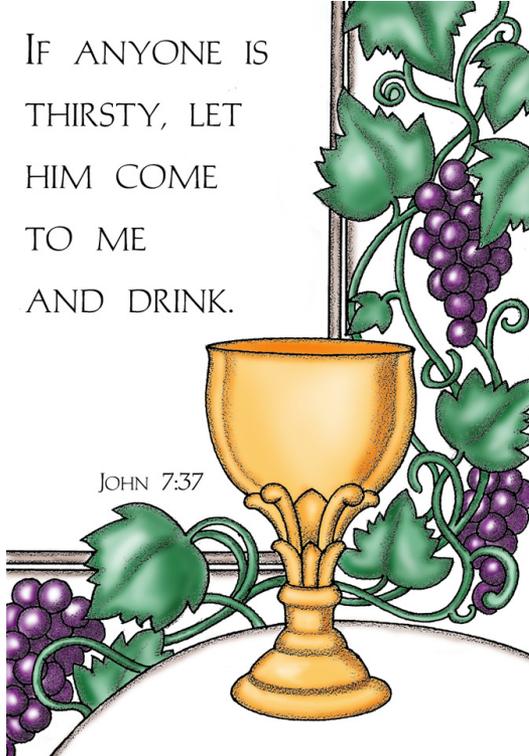
Web address: [www.uccbethany.org](http://www.uccbethany.org)

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music

IF ANYONE IS  
THIRSTY, LET  
HIM COME  
TO ME  
AND DRINK.



May 31, 2020  
Pentecost Sunday

## “Moving Forward United in Faith”

“Committed to Christ, United by Love. We are about God, Christ, the Word, and the Future. No matter who you are or where you are on Life’s journey, you are welcome here. We are Bethany United Church of Christ.”

# BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 31, 2020      HOLY COMMUNION      10:45 AM

We welcome our friends and visitors to this Service of Worship. May this be a time of blessing for you. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to become part of the community of faith and mission here at Bethany.

(\*) PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

**(Bold Text is said or sung by everyone)**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ...Pastor Todd

PRELUDE: "O Spirit Of The Living God"

CALL TO WORSHIP

M: The Spirit descends like a dove, bringing peace to unite the world in a just and caring community.

**C: The Spirit comes like a breath, bringing life to renew the people of God.**

P: The Spirit moves like fire, bringing energy for witnessing to the love of God.

**C: Spirit of the Living God, come to us and transform our lives by Your Power. Amen.**

HYMN: #193 "Spirit Of God, Descend Upon My Heart"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

**O God of life, we admit to You that our celebration of the coming of Your Spirit is often an empty ritual. Through Your Spirit You offer us life, but we cling to the ways of death. Through Your Spirit You offer us freedom, but we cling to our bondage. Through Your Spirit You offer us unity, but we continue to build walls between ourselves and others. Forgive us, O God and free us to serve You with joyful abandon. Amen**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#221 My Faith Looks Up To Thee (*vs 1*)

**My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary,  
Saviour divine; Now hear me while I pray,  
Take all my guilt away, O let me from this day Be wholly  
Thine!**

## READING OF SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:1-21

John 7:37-39

SERMON: "The Spirit of Wind and Fire"

## DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*unison*)

**We thank You, God, for inviting us to this table here  
we have known the presence of Christ and have  
received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith,  
increase our love for one another, and let us show  
forth Your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our  
Savior. Amen**

HYMN: #188 "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

## BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Breathe On Me Breath Of God"

Special thanks to Tim Rumble for his musical accompaniment on trombone with this week's service.

**AUDIO & VIDEO RECORDINGS** of Bethany's Worship Services as well as a copy of the bulletin, are now available via Bethany's home page at <https://uccbethany.org> You can also visit us at [www.facebook.com/BethanyUCCBethlehem](http://www.facebook.com/BethanyUCCBethlehem). If you have an Instagram account, you can follow us @BethanyUCCBethlehem.

We also invite you to tag the church in your posts and use the hashtag #BethanyUCCBethlehem to share posts and photos on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter!

**GOT IDEAS? Contact the GROWTH COMMITTEE:** If you have an idea and want help make it happen, whether it's a onetime event or an ongoing thing, please talk to any member of the Growth Committee: Debbie Brown, Patti Hoyt, Adrienne Kotsko, Jenna Nguyen, or Jackie Tarasuk **The next meeting will be Monday, June 8 @ 7 PM in Snyder Chapel.**

**2020 Flower and Bulletin Charts** are posted on the BB on the left side of the main entrance. Please note two vases will cost \$40. A rectangular arrangement will cost \$30. Silk (S) flowers will be \$10. Bulletins will cost \$10. Be sure to indicate what type of flowers you want – real or silk.

**Any questions, contact the church office.**

**CONSISTORY CORNER:** The Consistory of Bethany has approved the opening of Bethany for meetings only in the month of June. We are tentatively looking to reopen Bethany for Sunday worship on July 5 at 10 a.m. We will keep you posted.

## **SCRIPTURE**

### **Acts 2:1-21 Version (NRSV)**

#### The Coming of the Holy Spirit

**2** When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?"

<sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

## Peter Addresses the Crowd

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,  
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

## John 7:37-39 (NRSV)

### Rivers of Living Water

<sup>37</sup> On the last day of the festival, the great day, while Jesus was standing there, he cried out, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, <sup>38</sup> and let the one who believes in me drink. As<sup>[a]</sup> the scripture has said, ‘Out of the believer’s heart<sup>[b]</sup> shall flow rivers

of living water.”<sup>39</sup> Now he said this about the Spirit, which believers in him were to receive; for as yet there was no Spirit,<sup>40</sup> because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Hello Bethany Family,

I miss you very much and hope that we can be together soon. I heard recently from Bob Rapp who is the Executive Director for the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter. As you may know the shelter for the homeless of our community had to be shut down due to Covid 19. Packed lunches are being prepared and distributed out of Christ UCC. Donation items needed for these lunches include small pop top cans of fruit, meat, peanut butter, energy and granola bars, small hand sanitizers and bottled water.

If you wish to contribute to this project you may drop off items at Bethany (inside the Market Street front door) on Mondays or Tuesdays between 9-11 am. I will see that items get delivered to Christ Church.  
Thank you! Pastor Todd



**June 2 Election day soup and baked goods sale has been cancelled.**

***PLEASE NOTE: Pastor Todd's office hours are Monday and Tuesday from 9A – Noon. Any appointments may be made by calling the church office 610-868-4441***

**June-July-August daily devotional booklets** are available on the radiator at the rear of the church. Suggested donation is \$1.

**You may submit prayer requests to Pastor Todd** by email which can be shared in our worship time. His email is [tnjfnl@gmail.com](mailto:tnjfnl@gmail.com). Or you can call them in to the church office 610-868-4441



*Our deepest sympathies and prayers to Diane Diefenderfer, Adrienne Kotsko and family upon the loss of Joyce Hammer last Tuesday. God's blessings of comfort and peace be with them during this difficult time.*

**THIS WEEK AT BETHANY**

**SUNDAY, MAY 31 - PENTECOST SUNDAY**

10:45 A Virtual Worship with Communion

**TUESDAY, JUNE 2 – PRIMARY ELECTION**

7 A – 8 P Voting in FH

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3**

7 p Virtual Worship Recording

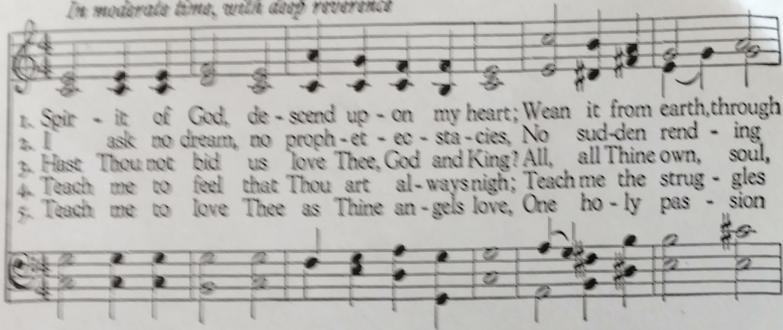
**SUNDAY, JUNE 7**

10:45 A Virtual Worship

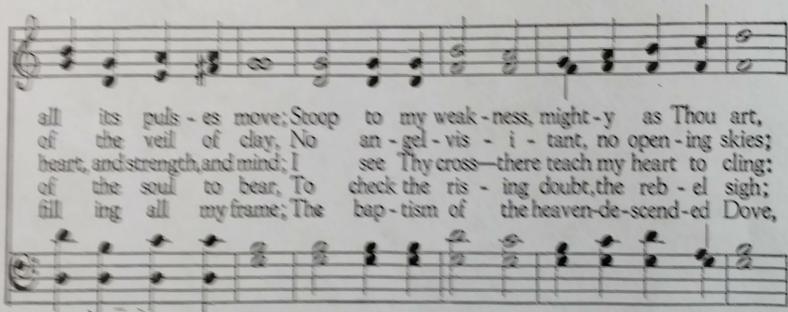
**PLEASE MAIL IN YOUR SUNDAY OFFERING** Your church still has day to day expenses to cover during these trying times.

At the communion rail, a man held out his hand to receive the bread. His curious toddler by his side loudly asked, “Is it good, Daddy?” He smiled and nodded yes.

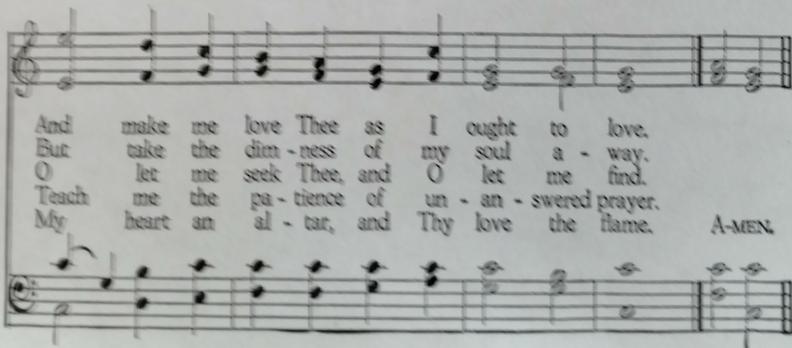
Indeed, communion is a good gift from Jesus, who wants us to remember his sacrifice for us. The next time you receive communion, remember to “taste and see that the LORD is *good!*” (Psalm 34:8, emphasis added).

*In moderate time, with deep reverence*


1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; Wean it from earth, through  
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et - ec - sta - cies, No sud - den rend - ing  
 3. Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King? All, all Thine own, soul,  
 4. Teach me to feel that Thou art al - ways nigh; Teach me the strug - gles  
 5. Teach me to love Thee as Thine an - gels love, One ho - ly pas - sion



all its puls - es move; Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as Thou art,  
 of the veil of clay, No an - gel - vis - i - tant, no open - ing skies;  
 heart, and strength, and mind; I see Thy cross—there teach my heart to cling;  
 of the soul to bear, To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;  
 fill ing all my frame; The bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,



And make me love Thee as I ought to love.  
 But take the dim - ness of my soul a - way,  
 O let me seek Thee, and O let me find.  
 Teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.  
 My heart an al - tar, and Thy love the flame. A-MEN.

## The Holy Spirit

SAMUEL LONGFELLOW, 1864

7. 7. 7. 7.

MERCY  
Arr. from LOUIS M. GOTTSCHALK, 1819-1869*Not too fast*

1. Ho - ly Spir - it, Truth di - vine, Dawn up - on this soul of mine;  
 2. Ho - ly Spir - it, Love di - vine, Glow with - in this heart of mine;  
 3. Ho - ly Spir - it, Power di - vine, Fill and nerve this will of mine;  
 4. Ho - ly Spir - it, Right di - vine, King with - in my con - science reign;

Word of God, and in - ward Light, Wake my spir - it, clear my sight.  
 Kin - dle ev - ery high de - sire; Per - ish self in Thy pure fire.  
 By Thee may I strong - ly live, Brave - ly bear, and no - bly strive.  
 Be my Law, and I shall be Firm - ly bound, for - ev - er free. A - MEN.