

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

Web address: www.uccbethany.org

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music

The
sheep
follow
him
because
they
know
his
voice.

John 10:4, NRSV



May 3, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter

“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 3, 2020

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: "The Lord My Shepherd Is/Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

CALL TO WORSHIP

M: The Lord is our Shepherd; we shall want for nothing.

C: He makes us lie down in green pastures, and leads us beside the water of peace.

M: He renews life within us, and for His names' sake, guides us in the right paths and is present when we are fearful.

All: Let us worship God, our Shepherd. Amen

HYMN: #440 "Savior like a Shepherd Lead Us"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*unison*)

God of all power, You called from death our Lord Jesus, the Great Shepherd of the sheep. Equip us as shepherds to rescue the lost, to heal the sick, to feed one another. We ask your blessing upon us this day in the name of Jesus. Amen.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25

John 10:1-10

SERMON: "All We Like Sheep"

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

CALL TO PRAYER - PASTORAL PRAYER - LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN: #271 "In Heavenly Love Abiding"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

Special thanks to Rebecca Kesselring for her accompaniment on the piano with today's music.

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. 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!

GROWTH COMMITTEE: An invitation - many ideas are exchanged among the (small but mighty) Growth Committee. If you have an idea and want to 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

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.

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23

The Divine Shepherd

A Psalm of David.

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

² He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;^[a]

³ he restores my soul.^[b]

He leads me in right paths^[c]
for his name's sake.

⁴Even though I walk through the darkest valley,^[d]

I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

⁶Surely^[e] goodness and mercy^[f] shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
my whole life long.

1 Peter 2:19-25 (NRSV)

¹⁹For it is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval.

²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²²"He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth."

²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the

one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,^[a] so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds^[b] you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

John 10:1-10 (NRSV)

Jesus the Good Shepherd

10 “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.



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

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

March-April-May 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. Or you can call them in to the church office 610-868-4441

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

(Listen to these services on the audio or watch on FB livestream)

TODAY, SUNDAY, MAY 3

10:45 A Worship

SUNDAY, MAY 10- Mother's Day

10:45 A Worship

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

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us 440



1 Sav - ior, like a Shep - herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2 We are thine, do thou be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
 3 Thou hast prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Bar - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us do thy will;



in thy pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre - pare;
 keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray;
 thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free;
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bos - oms fill;



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray;
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to thee;
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still;



bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are -
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to thee.
 bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.



*In Heavenly Love Abiding

NYLAND 7.6.7.6.D.

Traditional Finnish Melody

Harm. by David Evans, 1927

Anna L. Waring, 1850

1. In heav'n-ly love a - bid - ing, No change my heart shall fear,
2. Wher - ev - er he may guide me, No want shall turn me back;
3. Green pas - tures are be - fore me, Which yet I have not seen;

And safe is such con - fid - ing, For noth - ing chang - es here.
My shep - herd is be - side me, And noth - ing can I lack.
Bright skies will soon be o'er me, Where the dark clouds have been.

The storm may roar with - out me, My heart may low be laid,
His wis - dom ev - er wak - eth; His sight is nev - er dim;
My hope I can - not mea - sure; The path to life is free;

But God is round a - bout me, And can I be dis - mayed?
He knows the way he tak - eth, And I will walk with him.
My Sav - ior has my trea - sure, And he will walk with me.