

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

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

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Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



Sacrifice OF Isaac

June 28, 2020

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

“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

JUNE 28, 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: "Before Jehovah's Awful Throne"

CALL TO WORSHIP

M: We are here not because we have found God but because God our Creator has called us here,

C: Challenging us to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, and to be servants in the service of the whole human family.

M: But the call is also God's promise.

C: A promise of forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, and eternal life in that realm that has no end. Let us worship God!

HYMN: #16 "The God of Abraham Praise"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*unison*)

O Lord, we gather in this hour to meet You and to ask for Your blessing and guidance. We seek to be self-sufficient, thinking that we can manage on our own. Help us to rely on You when we come to the times of hard decision and crisis and lead us to those places of restoration and safety. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Genesis 22:1-14

Romans 6:12-23

Matthew 10:40-42

SERMON: “Abraham; Let Go”

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS

CALL TO PRAYER – PASTORAL PRAYER – LORD’S PRAYER

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#501 “Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

**Hear our prayer, O Lord; Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Hear our prayer, O Lord, And grant us Thy peace. Amen**

HYMN: #194 “Teach Me O Lord, Thy Holy Way”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “O My Soul, Bless God, the Father”

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!

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, August 10 @ 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.

WE WILL BE BACKTOGETHER for worship on Sunday, July 5 @ 10 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. **PLEASE** abide by the procedures you received in the mail. Holy Communion will be July 19.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 22:1-14 (NRSV)

The Command to Sacrifice Isaac

22 After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ² He said, “Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you.” ³ So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you.” ⁶ Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷ Isaac said to his father Abraham, “Father!” And he said, “Here I am, my son.” He said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?” ⁸ Abraham said, “God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son.” So the two of them walked on together. ⁹ When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill ^[a] his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, “Abraham, Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.” ¹² He said, “Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place “The LORD will provide”;^[b] as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”¹

Romans 6:12-23 (NRSV)

¹² Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³ No longer present your members to sin as instruments ^[a] of wickedness, but present

yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments^[b] of righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Slaves of Righteousness

¹⁵ What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶ Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷ But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸ and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹ I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations.^[c] For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. ²⁰ When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 10:40-42 (NRSV)

Rewards

⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

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

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

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

10 A Brainstorming FH
10:45 A Virtual Worship

MONDAY, JUNE 29

9 – 10 A BASD Meal Pickups @ Star of Bethlehem

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

9 – 10 A BASD Meal Pickups @ Star of Bethlehem
5:30 – 6:30 P Bell Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, JULY 3 - OFFICE CLOSED – HOLIDAY

SUNDAY, JULY 5

10 A Worship

UP COMING EVENTS

Pastor Todd invites you to a one-hour time for stories, scripture and prayer each Tuesday at 7 P beginning July 7. All are Welcome!

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

NEW OFFICE HOURS -Summer hours for Susan are now M – Thursday 9A – 1 P. (closed Fridays until August 28)

Installation of Conference Minister

You are invited to the Installation of Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates as the fourth Conference Minister of the Penn Northeast Conference of the United Church of Christ. This will be at Good Shepherd UCC of Slatedale on Sat., Nov. 7. There will be a reception following the service in the Fellowship Hall.

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

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Teach Me, O Lord, Thy Holy Way

ROCKINGHAM L.M.
Adapted by Edward Miller, 1790

William Matson, 1866

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Teach Me, O Lord, Thy Holy Way'. It is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1. Teach me, O Lord, thy ho - ly way, And give me
2. Help me, O Sav - lor, here to trace The sa - cred
3. Guard me, O Lord, that I may ne'er For - sake the
4. Bless me, in ev - ery task, O Lord, Be - gun, con -

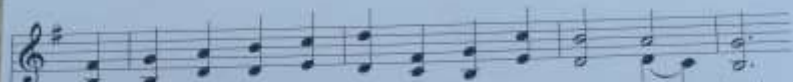
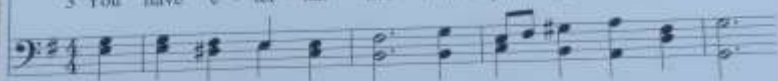
an o - be - dient mind, That in thy ser - vice I may
foot - steps thou hast trod; And, meek - ly walk - ing with my
right or do the wrong; A - gainst temp - ta - tion make me
tin - ued, done for thee; Ful - fill thy per - fect work in

find My soul's de - light from day to day.
God, To grow in good - ness, truth, and grace.
strong And 'round me spread thy shel - t'ring care.
me, And thine a - bound - ing grace af - ford.

The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A-braham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;
 2 Your Spir - it still flows free, high surg - ing where it will;
 3 You have e - ter - nal life im - plant - ed in the soul;



the an - cient of e - ter - nal days, the God of love!
 in proph - et's word you spoke of old and you speak still.
 your love shall be our strength and stay, while a - ges roll.



The Lord, the great I Am, by earth and heaven con - fessed,
 Es - tab - lished is your law, and change - less it shall stand,
 We praise you, liv - ing God! We praise your ho - ly name;



we bow be - fore your ho - ly name, for - ev - er blest.
 deep writ up - on the hu - man heart, on sea or land.
 who was, and is, and is to be, for - e'er the same!



WORDS: Hebrew Yigdal, Daniel ben Judah, ca. 1400

tr. Newton Morris (1836-1926) and Max Landsberg (1845-1928)

MUSIC: Hebrew melody; adapt. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) and Meyer Leon (1751-1797)

LEONI
 6.6.8.4.D