

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

Church Office: 610-868-4441

Fax: 610-868-7918

Hours: Mon, Tues and Thurs. 9:30-1:30

E-Mail: bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com

Web address: www.uccbethany.org

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



November 22, 2020

Twenty fifth 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

November 22, 2020

10:45 AM

We welcome our friends and visitors to this Service of Worship. May this be a time of blessing for you. We encourage our visitors to include their name, address, and phone number in the Guest Book at the top of the steps and come again. 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)**

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Hymn of Thanksgiving" ... arr. E. J. Lorenz
Handbell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Let us thank our God, the God of our fathers and mothers forever.

All: God is our refuge, the shield of our help and provider of all things needful!

Pastor: From generation to generation we thank you God, and count our praises.

All: We come in thanksgiving, remembering Your goodness to us. Let us worship God!

HYMN: #721 Come Ye Thankful People Come

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Gracious God, we praise and thank You for the blessings of our lives and the giving of Your Son, Jesus, who calls us to new life. Help us to be grateful in times of bounty and in times of loss, that You do not forsake nor leave us. By Your Holy Spirit enrich our lives and give us hope. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE (*with waves and prayer hands*)

M: We are all children of God gathered in the place. Let us greet one another as children of God. May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Bringing In The Sheaves

Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness, sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve; Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping, We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves, We shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves; Bringing in the sheaves, bringing in the sheaves, We shall come rejoicing bringing in the sheaves.

READING OF SCRIPTURE:

Deuteronomy 8: 7-18

2 Corinthians 9: 6-15

Luke 17: 11-19

Leader: This is the Good News.

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON "Wholeness by Faith"

A LITANY FOR THE DEDICATION OF THE SANCTUARY PIANO

Leader: Giving God, you are the source of grace, truth and beauty.

**People: You have given us minds to know you,
hearts to love you, voices to sing your praise,
and instruments to sound the majesty of your name.**

Leader: Creator God, you have gifted your people with music.

**People: When words fail, music can express our
deepest yearnings and our most exalted praise.**

Leader: Lord, we praise you here in this sanctuary.

**People: We praise you with the sounds of quiet
contemplation.**

Leader: Lord, we praise you throughout the earth and

the far-flung cosmos.

People: We praise you with the rich and resonant voice of the deep.

Leader: Lord, we praise you for your acts of power and greatness.

People: We praise you with the sounds of strength and majesty.

Leader: Lord, we praise you for your unsurpassed gentleness and peace.

People: We praise you with the sounds of soothing calm and sweet serenity.

Leader: Let everything that has life and breath praise the Lord!

People: Praise the Lord!

Prayer of Dedication: Unison

Eternal, caring God, creator of all, we give you thanks; your love, O Lord, is everlasting. For the freedom we enjoy to worship you with joyful hearts we thank you, O Lord. For the faithfulness of the saints who have gone before us--for their generosity of spirit which built up this community of faith--we thank you, O Lord. Remembering their faithfulness, and honoring their gifts, we dedicate this piano to your worship and praise, in the glory of your name, Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC "In Thee Is Gladness" Piano/Organ...G. Gastoldi, arr. R. Graham

In thee is gladness amid all sadness, Jesus, daystar of my heart!

By thee are given the gifts of heaven, thou the true Redeemer art!

Our souls thou wakest; our bonds thou breakest.

Who trusts thee surely has built securely and stands forever; Alleluia!

Our hearts are longing to see thy dawning.

Living or dying, in thee abiding, naught can us sever; Alleluia!

OFFERING INVITATION:

Just as Christ has taught the way of life to us, the church, we have the responsibility of bringing life to the world around us through our ministries and the outreach of missions through our connections of faith around the globe. Let us offer gratefully and sacrificially to the work of God who has given all for us.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS *(You may come to place your offering in the plate up front)*

OFFERTORY: "Now Thank We All Our God" from Let us Give Thanks...arr. Sprunger Piano/Organ/Trombone

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #726 We Praise You, O God
Handbell Choir

With voices united our praises we offer, our songs of thanksgiving to you now we raise; your strong arm will guide us, our God is beside us, to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(unison)*

All: Living God, we are your people, called to carry your presence into the world. Use us and our gifts to accomplish your mission. We dedicate this offering to your good purpose and ask you to multiply our effort to meet the needs of the time and to witness to your goodness. This we pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.

PNEC CONFERENCE " Behold, I do a new thing" Reflections by Matt Miller.

CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(sins/sin against us)*

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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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 and ever. Amen.**

HYMN # 14 Now Thank We All Our God

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION #720 With Grateful Heart I Thank You,
Lord. Vs. 3

**I thank you Lord, for hand and heart to offer up your praise. I
thank you, Lord, for tongue to speak of all your loving ways.
For health and strength, for work and play, for loved ones far
and near, with grateful heart I thank you, Lord, for all that I
hold dear.**

POSTLUDE: "Sing to the Lord of Harvest" ...J. Steurlein

Our worship ends, our service begins!



Flowers and Bulletins are given in loving memory of Harry W. Denninger by his wife Ina and daughters Susan and Diane and their families.

Ushers: John Knoll, Gail Correll and Tom Hoffert

Lay reader: Sue Wright

Greeters: Barbara Backensto and Lisa Williams

Altar Guild: Gail Correll

Welcome all to Bethany UCC!

Visitors, please sign our guest book in the narthex. Come again. In these days of COVID 19 please abide by these safety measures: All must wear masks and please sanitize hands as you enter and exit. The bulletins have everything you need for worship. Please space yourselves from one another except for family units. We will greet one another with waves and prayer hands. You will be invited to come forward to leave your offering in

the plate up front. The joys and concerns will be included in worship. You may use the lectern mic to share.

Our Daily Bread for December, January and February are available in the rear of the sanctuary. A Donation of \$1 is appreciated.

AUDIO RECORDINGS If you or anyone you know would like to receive the link to the audio recording of the worship service, please let Bill Rumble know at wrumble@ptd.net. A copy of the bulletin is included with the audio link.

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!

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

Deuteronomy 8: 7-18 NRSV

⁷ For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills, ⁸ a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, ⁹ a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper. ¹⁰ You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has given you. ¹¹ Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today. ¹² When you have eaten your fill and have

built fine houses and live in them, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous^[a] snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock, ¹⁶ and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good. ¹⁷ Do not say to yourself, “My power and the might of my own hand have gotten me this wealth.” ¹⁸ But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, so that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your ancestors, as he is doing today.

2 Corinthians 9: 6-15 NRSV

⁶ The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸ And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹ As it is written,

“He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor;
his righteousness endures forever.”

¹⁰ He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹² for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³ Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴ while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Luke 17: 11-19

Jesus Cleanses Ten Lepers

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?” ¹⁸ Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

Many Thanks to everyone for your contributions to last week’s Joyful Noise. We collected \$386.47 to donate to the Wounded Warriors Project. Thank you for your donations of food which will be donated to the West Side Food Bank for distribution to those in need.

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

Debbie Brown’s hours as church secretary are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30-1:30.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY NOV 22nd

9:30 AM Adult DVD study "The Parables of Jesus" in FH
10:45 AM Worship with Dedication of the Grand Piano in the Sanctuary. Additional music by the Handbell Choir and Trombones.

MONDAY NOV 23rd BEELINE Articles Due!

WEDNESDAY NOV 25th No Handbell Rehearsal

THURSDAY NOV 26th HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY Blessings to All!

NEXT SUNDAY NOV 29 SUNDAY

9:30 AM Adult DVD study "The Parables of Jesus" in FH
10:45 AM Worship on the First Sunday of Advent with Communion. Please join us after service as we decorate the Sanctuary!

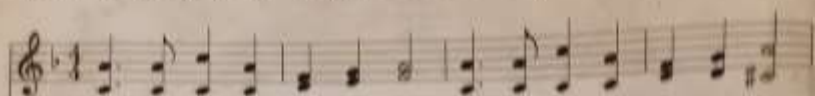
The December Nut Sale is just around the corner. Remember nuts make a great gift for the holidays. Orders are due Monday November 30th. Please call Debbie Brown @ 484-358-3735. If you are giving an order in person please write it down. Thanks again!

Order sheets from Chocolates on Broadway for Christmas candy sale have arrived. There is an order sheet posted in the Narthex. We will be taking orders until Nov. 29th and pick-up will be Dec. 13th. Please contact Debbie Brown in the office if you would like to take one to your workplace or neighborhood.

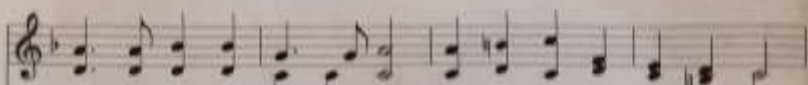
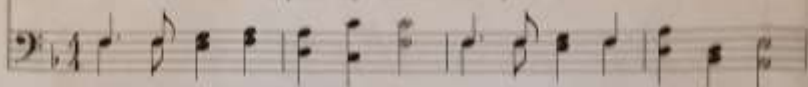


Special thanks to this morning's instrumentalists - Pastor Todd, Tim Rumble, Rebecca Kesselring, Meghann Wright and our Handbell Choir. Also thank you Sue for ensuring that music is part of worship here at Bethany!

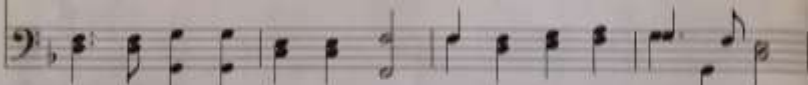
721 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



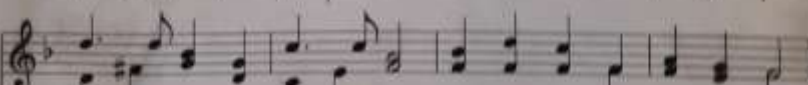
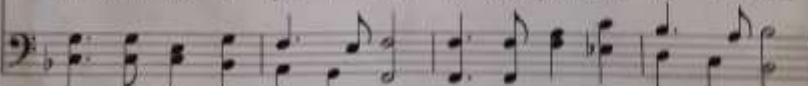
- 1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
- 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield,
- 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home,
- 4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to your fi-nal har-vest home,



All is safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin,
 wheat and tares to- geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-rows grown,
 from his field shall in that day all of-fen-s-es purge a-way,
 gath-er all your peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our ma-ker, does pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied;
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear,
 give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
 there, for-ev-er pu-ti-fied, in your pres-ence to a-bide.



come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
 Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
 but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er more.
 Come, with all your an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home.



Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice,
 2 O may this house praise God through all our life be ours,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given.

who wearied things has done, in whom his world we live,
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to them,
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in high and low.

who, from our mother's arms, has blessed us on our way
 and keep us in his grace and guide us when we stray,
 the one eternal God whom earth and heaven praise.

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day,
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next,
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever true.