

# BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

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

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Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



February 21, 2021

First Sunday in Lent

## “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

February 14, 2021

10:45 AM

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: "Minuet on "MARTYN" tune" (Jesus Lover of My Soul) ... arr. D. Hustad

*Plenteous grace with Thee is found, Grace to cover all my sin; Let the healing streams abound; Make and keep me pure within. Thou of life the fountain art, freely let me take of Thee; Spring Thou up within my heart, Rise to all eternity.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: To You, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**All: O my God, in You I Trust.**

Pastor: Make me know Your ways, O Lord;

**All: Teach me your path and help me to bear the cross in faith and hope. Let us worship God!**

HYMN: #383. If My People's Hearts Are Humbled

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**As we journey this Holy Season of Lent, O Lord, we walk the way of the cross with You. Make us mindful, we pray, of those for whom the valley of the shadow of death is a present reality, not just an idea. Open our eyes to see the needs around us and move us to prayer**

**and to deeds of love. Bless this hour of worship, we pray. Amen.**

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

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also, with you.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #270 O How He Loves You and Me

**O how he loves you and me, O how he loves you and me; he gave his life what more could he give? O how he loves you, O how he loves me, O how he loves you and me!**

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 25:1-10

I Peter 3: 18-22

Mark 1: 9-15

Leader: This is the Good News

**People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON: "Complicity"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Healing Grace" ...Chisum/Sadler

*Merciful God and father, loving us like no other, hear our prayer, the cry of our hearts, as we come to you; we acknowledge our transgressions, we confess to you our sins, show us mercy and compassion, touch our lives with your healing grace again. Release us from the past, as we seek your face: wash us free at last, we receive your love, we receive your healing grace. We receive your love; we receive your healing grace.*

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE #470 "Savior Thy Dying Love" vs. 1**  
**Savior, Thy dying love Thou gavest me,**  
**Nor should I aught withhold, Dear Lord, from Thee;**  
**In love my soul would bow, my heart fulfils its vow,**  
**Some offering brings Thee now, Something for Thee.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

**All that we are, all that we ever hope to be, and all that we acquire or ever hope to acquire we now offer to you, Lord. Do with us and the resources we offer whatever you deem right. They are all yours. We hold nothing back. Thank you for being so kind to us and for letting us enjoy everything that you, in your loving goodness, have made available to us. We humbly pray now that you will take our offerings, touch them, multiply them as you did the loaves and the fish, and then put them to use for the work of your kingdom. Take who we are and the gifts we bring out into the highways and byways of life to bless those who are less fortunate. Bless them in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**CALL TO PRAYER – PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE 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 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: #371 Our Father, We Have Wandered**

**BENEDICTION**

CHORAL BENEDICTION #348 Day by Day

**Day by day Dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:  
To see thee more clearly, Love thee more dearly,  
Follow thee more nearly, Day by day.**

POSTLUDE

***Our worship ends, our service begins!***



FLOWERS and BULLETINS: Are presented by Debbie Brown to say welcome back everyone. It's great to be back in the sanctuary.

GREETER: Lisa Williams

USHERS: Len Kesselring, Tom Hoffert, Steve Tarasuk

LAY READER: Debbie Brown

## **Scriptures**

### **Psalm 25:1-10 NRSV**

#### **Prayer for Guidance and for Deliverance of David**

<sup>1</sup> To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup> O my God, in you I trust;

do not let me be put to shame;

do not let my enemies exult over me.

<sup>3</sup> Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

<sup>4</sup> Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

teach me your paths.

<sup>5</sup> Lead me in your truth, and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;

for you I wait all day long.

<sup>6</sup> Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love,

for they have been from of old.

<sup>7</sup> Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

according to your steadfast love remember me,  
for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

<sup>8</sup> Good and upright is the LORD;  
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

<sup>9</sup> He leads the humble in what is right,  
and teaches the humble his way.

<sup>10</sup> All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,

for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

### **I Peter 3:18-22 NRSV**

<sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered<sup>1</sup> for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

### **Mark 1: 9-15 NRSV**

#### **The Baptism of Jesus**

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And just as he was

coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

## **The Temptation of Jesus**

<sup>12</sup> And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup> He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

## **The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry**

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

## ***Our Sympathy***

*Our sympathies to Arlene Smith and family upon the loss of Gerald Smith, a longtime member of Bethany. And to Brenda Stetler upon the loss of her beloved husband Jim. May God bless them with comfort, love and peace.*

## **CHURCH CANCELLATIONS**

If worship is cancelled due to weather conditions, announcements will be on TV Channel 69 – WFMZ. Also, if we have your email address, an email will be sent out.

**AUDIO & VIDEO 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](mailto: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! Thank you, Bill, for making sure we are able to see and hear the services.

## Upcoming Fundraisers:



**Easter Candy** from Chocolates on Broadway with assorted eggs and some of the old favorites. Orders and money due by Sunday, February 28 with the delivery date as March 21. Checks payable to “Chocolates on Broadway”

**Take out Lenten fish dinner** on Friday March 19 from 4:30 P to 6:30 P featuring fresh baked or fried haddock, baked potato, pickled cabbage, & dessert. Cost is \$12. Make any checks payable to “Bethany UCC.” Tickets are available. Contact the office.

**Nut Sale Orders** Due March 8 and Nut making will take place on Sat. March 13 and Mon. March 15. Peanuts are \$3 and cashews and almonds are \$5 Call Debbie @ 484-358-3735 to order.

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

### **TODAY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21 – First Sunday in Lent**

10:45AM          Worship in the Sanctuary

### **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23 – Handbell Rehearsal**

5:30PM          Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

### **NEXT SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28 – Second Sunday in Lent**

10:45AM          Worship in the Sanctuary

# 383 If My People's Hearts Are Humbled

*Unison*



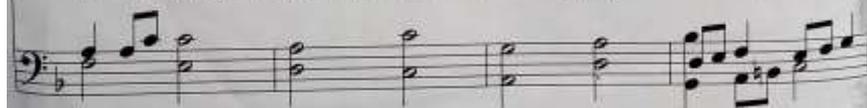
1 If my peo-ple's hearts are hum-bled, if they pray and seek my face,  
2 Then my eyes will see their sor-row, then my ears will hear their plea;



if they turn a - way from e - vil, I will not with-hold my grace.  
if my peo-ple's hearts are hum-bled, I will set their na - tion free.



I will hear their prayers from heav-en; I will par-don ev - ery sin.  
If my peo-ple's hearts are hum-bled, if they pray and seek my face;



If my peo-ple's hearts are hum-bled, I will sure - ly heal their land.  
if they turn a - way from e - vil, I will not with-hold my grace.



WORDS: Claire Cloninger (1942-); para. 2 Chronicles 7:14  
MUSIC: Leavitt's The Christian Love, 1830; arr. Jack Schrader (1942-)

PLEADING SAVIOR  
8.7.8.7.D

# 371 Our Father, We Have Wandered

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;  
 2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,  
 3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.  
 be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you,  
 com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,  
 In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,  
 grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name  
 in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.  
 Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

WORDS: Keris Nichols (1929.)  
 MUSIC: 1st ed. by L.S. Bach (1685-1750)

PASSION CHORAL  
 7 & 8