

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

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

Church Office: 610-868-4441 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



April 25, 2021

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

April 25, 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: "Ave verum Corpus" from Motet, K618 ...W. A. Mozart
Woodwind Quartet

Flute - Kaitlin Nguyen Bass Clarinet – Meghann Wright
Clarinet – Ashley Tarasuk & Jenna Nguyen

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

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

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

All: Let us worship God, our Shepherd. Amen.

HYMN: #431 Jesus, Precious Treasure

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 injured, to feed one another. We ask Your blessing upon us this day in the name of Jesus. 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: #706 “I Come with Joy”
vs.1

**I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me, in
love laid down for me.**

READING OF SCRIPTURE

I John 3: 16-24

John 10: 11-18

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: “Shepherd Qualities”

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: “Who Will Sing for Me?” ...C. Stanley

Banjo and Vocal – Robert Ruhe

OFFERTORY RESPONSE #34 Praise God from Whom All
Blessings Flow

**“Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him
all creatures here below; praise him above, ye
heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

**God of love, we offer our gifts of time, spiritual gifts and
financial gifts as a sign of our love for You and the
world. We ask Your blessing on the gifts where You
meet us in our suffering, and raise us up, so that all may**

**come to know of Your abiding love. In Jesus name.
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: #440 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION: #748 “Lord Dismiss Us With Your
Blessing” Handbell arrangement by R. Groth & K. Mc
Chesney

HANDBELLS WILL PLAY AN ENTIRE VERSE

INTRODUCTION

**Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with
joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace; O direct us and protect us
traveling through this wilderness.**

POSTLUDE

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS are sponsored by Len and Rebecca Kesselring
BULLETINS are sponsored by Len & Rebecca Kesselring in
honor of Tim & Rachel Rumble's Anniversary
GREETERS: Ina Denninger & Cindy Beck
USHERS: Dick Roberts & Tom Hoffert
LAY READER: Diane Diefenderfer

Scriptures

I John 3: 16-24 NRSV

¹⁶ We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷ How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister^[a] in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸ Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹ And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰ whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹ Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²² and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³ And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴ All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

John 10: 11-18 NRSV

¹¹ "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming

and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³ The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴ I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So, there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

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. 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.

One Great Hour of Sharing offerings total \$140 as of this week there are still envelopes if you want to contribute.

Don't forget to sign up in the Narthex to participate in Spring Cleaning Bethany. There are many projects with multiple skill sets needed.

We thank all of our instrumentalists and Handbell Choir for their musical offerings this morning!

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY, APRIL 25 – Fourth Sunday in Easter

10:45AM Worship with music by the Handbell Choir, the Woodwind Quartet and a special surprise!

MONDAY, APRIL 26

4-8PM Bach Choir in the Sanctuary

TUESDAY, APRIL 27

4-8PM Bach Choir in the Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28 – Handbell Rehearsal

5:30PM In the Sanctuary

THURSDAY, APRIL 29

4-8PM Bach Choir in the Sanctuary

FRIDAY, APRIL 30

4-8PM Bach Choir in the Sanctuary

SATURDAY, MAY 1

10AM Bach Choir in the Sanctuary

NEXT SUNDAY MAY 2

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary with Guest Pastor Bob Mease

Pastor Todd will be on vacation from April 26 – May 3. In case of a pastoral emergency please contact the office or Matt Miller for assistance.



Let's throw a card shower for some of our members who could use a lift! Below are addresses for three ladies who could use some sunshine in their lives.

Lillian Connors
c/o Moravian Village Healthcare Center
526 Wood Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018

Ruth Bowers
218 9th Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18018-5107

Sharon Haines
1541 Center Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018-2506



Jesus, Priceless Treasure

1 Je - sus, price-less treas - ure, source of pur - est pleas - ure,
 2 In thine arms I rest me; foes who would molest me
 3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,

tru - est friend to me: Ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has
 can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - ery heart be
 Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love the Fa - ther, though the storms may

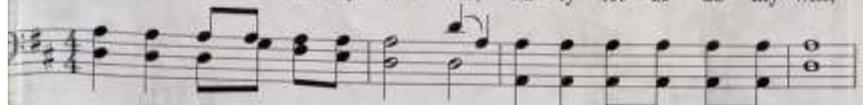
faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb,
 quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Sin and hell in con - flict fell
 gath - er, still have peace with - in. Yea, what - e'er I here must bear,

I will suf - fer nought to hide thee, nought I ask be - side thee,
 with their bit - ter storms as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me,
 still in thee lies pur - est pleas - ure, Je - sus, price-less treas - ure!

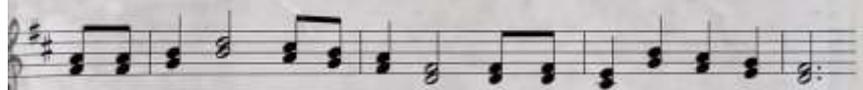
Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us 440



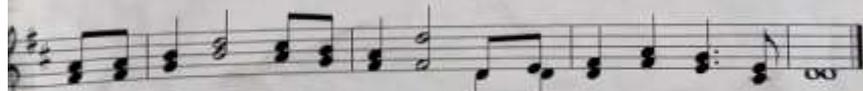
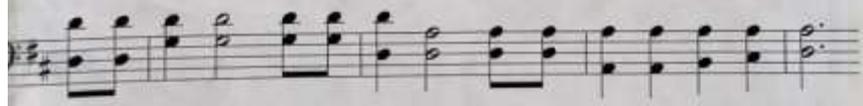
- 1 Sav - ior, like a Shep - herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2 We are thine, do thou be - friend us, be the guard - ian of our way;
 3 Thou hast prom - ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4 Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us do thy will;



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;



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