

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

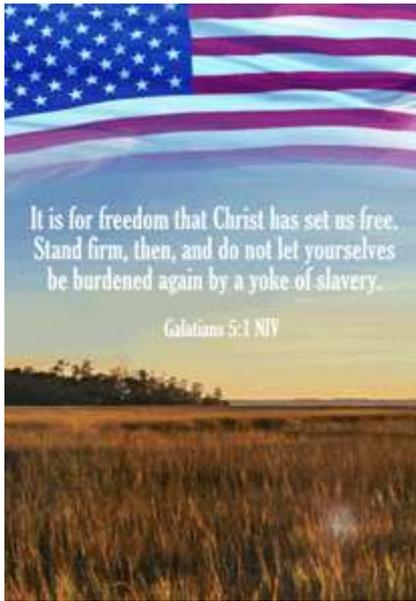
E-Mail: bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com

Web address: www.uccbethany.org

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



July 4th, 2021 6th 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

July 4th, 2021

10:00 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: "Yankee Doodle" ... 1776, Edward Bangs
Pipes – Ashley Tarasuk

Yankee Doodle has its origin as a British song meant to demean and make fun of the American troops. However, ironically it became the unofficial Continental Army's anthem and sung as British soldiers retreated.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised!

People: Our God has made a place for us, through the power of steadfast love.

Leader: A safe home has been established for us, maintained forever by God's hand.

People: Let us respond to God's graciousness by extending God's Hospitality to all. Let us worship God!

*HYMN: #731 My Country, Tis of thee (1744)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Merciful God, we know that You love us and that You call us to fullness of life, but around us and within us, we see the brokenness of the world and our ways. You call us to freedom in Christ but that does not give us the

license to just do as we please without consequence. Hear now the petitions of our hearts and direct us to walk in a new way, through Christ our Redeemer.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison): # Mine Eyes
Have seen the Glory (1862)

**I have seen him in the watch fires of a hundred circling
camps, they have builded him an altar in the evening
dews and damps; I can read his righteous sentence by
the dim and flaring lamps; his day is marching on.
Glory, glory hallelujah! Glory, glory hallelujah! Glory,
glory hallelujah! His truth is marching on.**

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 123

Gelation 5:1, 13-23

*Mark 6: 1-13

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "Freedom in Christ"

CONGREGATIONAL ANTHEM: "God Bless the U.S.A." see
insert

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Chester" ...1778, Wm. Billings played and
sung during the Revolutionary War "Red, White, and Blue"
...1843 a'Beckett/D. Shaw fife Meghann Wright

Also known as Columbia the Gem of the Ocean, the Columbia was a U.S. Merchant Ship out of Boston, and the first to carry the U. S. flag around the globe. The tune was popular during the Lincoln Civil War Administration.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #726 We Praise You O God

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring; we lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Holy God, You are the maker of heaven and earth. Accept these offerings we present to You today. May they become vessels of support for Your work in this place and in Your world. Consecrate us anew to Your service, in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER – LITANY FOR UNITY AND PEACE see insert

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: #727 America the Beautiful

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION: "God Bless America" ... I. Berlin c 1989, Shawnee Press, Inc. CCLI#1116557

God bless America, Land that I love; stand beside her, and
guide her Through the night with a light from above. From
the mountains to the prairies, To the oceans white with foam:
God bless America, My home sweet home; God bless
America, My home sweet home.

*POSTLUDE: "Rally Round the Flag" 1862, Wm Bradford
Fife – Meghann Wright
Civil War Piece associated with the Union side.

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS & BULLETINS: are in honor of this country and
all those who love her. God Bless the USA!

GREETERS: Kathy Knoll & Gail Correll

USHERS: John Knoll, Gail Correll, Tom Hoffert & Volunteer

LAY READER: Gail Correll

ALTAR GUILD: Linda Wieand

Scriptures

Psalm 123 NRSV

Supplication for Mercy

A Song of Ascents.

¹ To you I lift up my eyes,
O you who are enthroned in the heavens!
² As the eyes of servants
look to the hand of their master,
as the eyes of a maid
to the hand of her mistress,

so our eyes look to the LORD our God,
until he has mercy upon us.

³ Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy upon us,
for we have had more than enough of contempt.

⁴ Our soul has had more than its fill
of the scorn of those who are at ease,
of the contempt of the proud.

Galatians 5: 1, 13-23 NRSV

5 ¹ For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore,
and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only
do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-
indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another.

¹⁴ For the whole law is summed up in a single
commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

¹⁵ If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care
that you are not consumed by one another.

The Works of the Flesh

¹⁶ Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of
the flesh. ¹⁷ For what the flesh desires is opposed to the
Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for
these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing
what you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not
subject to the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are obvious:
fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery,
enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions,
factions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like
these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who
do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

The Fruit of the Spirit

²² By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

Mark 6: 1-13 NRSV

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

6 He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ² On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³ Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴ Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵ And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶ And he was amazed at their unbelief.

The Mission of the Twelve

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷ He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸ He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹ but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰ He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹ If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹² So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³ They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

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.

Bethany Needs Your Help

We need everyone to pitch in and help take care of our church home. We all have a little time in our busy lives to do one of the jobs listed below occasionally. If you or your group holds an event or meeting at the church, please make sure all trash is put in the furnace room and the rest rooms are stocked with toilet paper and paper towels. Be sure that floors and tables are clean. On Sunday before you leave your pew look around and make sure all trash goes with you and all items are returned to their proper place. If you see something that needs to be done, do it. Or bring it to the attention of someone who can address the concern.

Your Consistory, Staff, and Ministry/ Committee leadership want you to be aware of this information. We hope that it will encourage you to act. Everyone has special talents and abilities. Sometimes we think we have little or nothing to offer. Time is often limited, but we can make time for things we care about. You are vital to Bethany United Church of Christ. Speak to any consistory member, ministry/committee leader, or staff member to offer your help.

As we heard, Dick Roberts has officially retired as Property Chairman. He announced last year he was stepping down and gave plenty of time for someone to

volunteer. Dick will work with someone to go over what needs to be done but he will no longer be dealing with the job. We need someone or perhaps two or three people to take over this position. Please contact Matt Miller or Dick Roberts if you are willing to help.

As per the Consistory decision, if you are fully vaccinated, you may refrain from wearing masks for worship, meetings and fellowship at Bethany. You may still choose to wear a mask and there is no judgement.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY, JULY 4 INDEPENDENCE DAY

10:00AM Worship in Fellowship Hall as we honor America during our service with special music.

MONDAY, JULY 5TH

Office Closed

TUESDAY, JULY 6TH

7PM Bible Study in Fellowship Hall.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7TH

5:30 Handbell and Woodwind Rehearsal

THURSDAY, JULY 8TH

Office closed

7PM Consistory in Fellowship Hall

FRIDAY, JULY 9TH

Office open 9:30-1:30

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 11

10:00AM Worship in Fellowship Hall.

Bethany Family,

I would like to update the church directory. I would ask you to contact the office either by email or write the information on paper with your current information. I would like the names of everyone in your household as well as birthdays and anniversaries. Also include your correct street address as well as all phone numbers you want to use for contact. Finally, please provide any email addresses used by your household. I will be including this request in July's Beeline and would like to provide this updated directory to the congregation in early August. Remember I need this information in written or email form. Do not call the office since information sometimes loses something in translation.

Thank you,

Debbie

Family night @ Coca-Cola Park on Saturday August 7th @ 6:35. Tickets are \$11.00 and include a \$2.00 Ballpark credit. Parking is \$5.00. Actor Dwier Brown from Field of Dreams will be in attendance. Tickets must be ordered and paid for by July 11th. Checks should be made payable to Gail Correll. See flyer for additional information.

There is a sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall for donors of Baked Goods and Beverages for a summer social each week after church. We are looking for 2 people per week.

A Litany for Unity and Peace

M: O God, our Father, who showed forth, Your love by sending Your only-begotten Son into the world that all might live through Him: pour Your Spirit upon Your church that it may fulfil His command to preach the gospel to every creature;

C: Hear us, O God

M: Look upon the sickness of the world and stretch forth Your hand to heal. Make Your church one and fill it with Your spirit, that it may be the instrument of Your reconciling power among the nations, and that all people may be drawn to You and to one another by the bands of Your love;

C: For this we pray.

M: Give Your peace, Your help, and Your love to us Your servants, that we may be united in the bond of peace and love, in one body and one spirit, in one hope of our calling;

C: Make us one in the unity of Your Holy Spirit.

M: We pray for those who are seeking for the nations of the world a way whereby order and freedom may be maintained and the differences of peoples be justly resolved. Establish their purpose on sure foundations, and prosper their work by Your Holy Spirit;

C: Help us follow the Prince of Peace.

M: Out of the darkness of our divided world we cry to You, O God. Let not the hopes of people perish, nor their sacrifices be vain. Turn to Yourself the hearts of rulers and peoples, that a new world may arise where all live as Your children; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Hear us, O God. Amen.

God Bless The U.S.A.

If Tomorrow all the things were gone I worked for all my life, and I had to start again with just my children and my wife, I'd thank my lucky stars to be livin' here today, 'cause the flag still stands for freedom and they can't take that away. And I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died who gave that right to me. And I'd gladly stand up next to you and defend her still today. "Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land God Bless the U. S. A.

From the lakes of Minnesota, to the hills of Tennessee, across the plains of Texas, from sea to shining sea. From Detroit down to Houston, and New York to L. A., well there's pride in ev'ry American heart, and it's time to stand and say, yes, it's time to stand and say that I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died who gave that right to me. And I'd gladly stand up next to you and defend her still today. 'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land. God Bless the U.S.A.

And I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died who gave that right to me. And I'd gladly stand up next to you and defend her still today. 'Cause there ain't no doubt I love this land God Bless the U. S.A.