

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

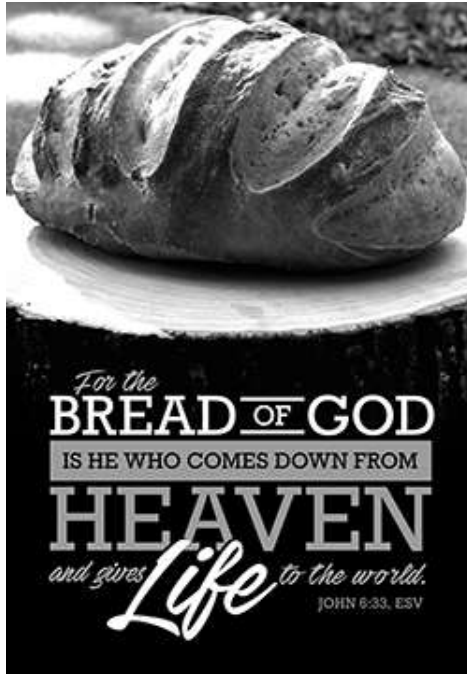
E-Mail: bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com

Web address: www.uccbethany.org

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



August 1, 2021 10th 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

August 1, 2021

10:00 AM

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

PRELUDE: "Adagio" from Divertimento IV. Mozart
Flute- Kaitlin Nguyen, Clarinet-Jenna Nguyen, Bassoon- Erin Nguyen

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: How lovely is Thy dwelling place, O Lord of Hosts!

P: My soul longs, yea, faints for the courts of the Lord;

L: My heart and flesh sing for joy to the Living God.

P: Blessed are those who dwell in thy house, ever singing Thy praise! Let us worship God!

*HYMN: #501 Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Tender and compassionate God, whose strength is made perfect in our weakness, help us to believe that You receive us as we are, to be carriers of the message of Your love, like earthen vessels that carry treasures. May we worship You in spirit and in truth, through the grace of Jesus Christ. 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 (unison): #661 All

People That on Earth Do Dwell. Vs. 1

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; him serve with joy, his praise forth tell, come ye before him and rejoice.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Exodus 16: 2-4 9-15

Ephesians 4: 1-16

* John 6: 24-35

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "When **I AM** is Speaking"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Bourréé" ...Krebs

Flute-Kaitlin Nguyen Oboe-Meghann Wright Clarinet- Ashley Tarasuk

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #579 This Is a Time to Remember. Vs. 3

This is a time to remember the greatness of the Lord; he has so faithfully led us as promised in his Word; he has so bountifully given his grace like freshening rain; he has so lovingly pardoned and made us whole again.

*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 – 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: #665 Break Now the Bread of Life

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION: #747 Go with Us, Lord
Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be our gift to you.

POSTLUDE

Our worship ends, our service begins!



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.

FLOWERS and BULLETINS are presented in Honor of all those who have blessed us with their musical talent throughout this pandemic.

GREETERS: Volunteers

USHERS: Jack Brunner, tom Hoffert, Len Kesselring

LAY READER: Len Kesselring

Scriptures

Exodus 16: 2 - 4 & 9 - 15 NRSV

² The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³ The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not.

⁹ Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.’” ¹⁰ And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.

¹¹ The LORD spoke to Moses and said, ¹² “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning, you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

¹³ In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

¹⁴ When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵ When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

Ephesians 4: 1 - 16 NRSV

Unity in the Body of Christ

4 I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said,

“When he ascended on high, he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.”

⁹ (When it says, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴ We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

John 6: 24 - 35 NRSV

²⁴ So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" ²⁶ Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. ²⁷ Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal." ²⁸ Then they said to him, "What must we do to perform the works of God?" ²⁹ Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."

³⁰ So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing? ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" ³² Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is that which [\[a\]](#) comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." ³⁴ They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

³⁵ Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Many many thanks to our woodwind players for sharing their talents with us this morning at worship. We are blessed to have so many who want to share their talents with us.

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.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY, AUGUST 1

10:00AM Worship in Fellowship Hall and Special Music

MONDAY, AUGUST 2

9AM – 3PM Office hours

TUESDAY, AUGUST 3

Office Closed

7PM Bible Study in Fellowship Hall. All are Welcome!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4

5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5

9:30AM – 1:30PM Office open

SATURDAY, AUGUST 7

6:05PM Iron Pigs Game @ Coca-Cola Park with Christ UCC Schoenersville.

NEXT SUNDAY AUGUST 8

10:00AM Worship in Fellowship Hall with Walter Williams as Guest Pianist.



Mark your calendars for Sunday September 12. This year we are having an indoor picnic here at Bethany. Since our usual sites are completely booked, we decided to have our picnic indoors where we won't have to worry about the weather or bugs. We will have our service then picnic/potluck. Please sign up with how many are coming and what you will bring. Hot Dogs will be provided.

Sponsor a Bill

This is a program that was started a few years ago. Sometimes when you contribute to an organization you wonder where your money is going. With this program you are able to pick a bill and know that the money you give is helping with that specific item. You may choose something that is paid monthly, quarterly, or yearly depending on how much you are able to give. We will be highlighting a few bills each month to give you some suggestions but feel free to contact the office if you have something else in mind. Here are a few suggestions for this month.

Postage Stamps \$55/100

Trash Removal \$84/quarter

As you can see, we have removed one item from our list as that item has been sponsored. If the items on the list don't excite you but you are interested in sponsoring talk to someone on staff.

Bethany Family,

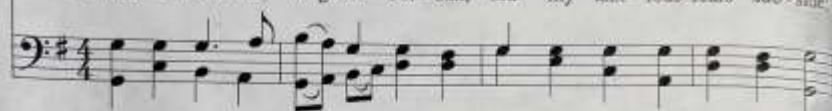
On July 11th through July 18th, the 33rd General Synod of the United Church of Christ gathered. This was my very first General Synod and I was also one of the delegates for the PNEC. Part of the offering Bethany shares with the PNEC made my experience possible. Thank you! This year the theme was “Rooted in Love” and explored how we can have strong roots in God while going out in ministry. This year it was very different, as we gathered virtually and learned how to use a new platform meet.ucc, which allowed all the delegates ways to engage in workshops, worship services, and conduct the business of the church. Even though we were distant, the passion, the love, and the Holy Spirit was very much present and moving among all of us. It also gave us for the first time to have implementation hearings for all of the resolutions, in which the delegates were able to identify steps that could be taken on the national, conference, and even the local church settings. PNEC is currently compiling all of the summaries of the resolutions and implementation suggestions that the different delegates wrote and PNEC will be making them available to all of the churches. Some of the key resolutions were a call to being people of contemplation in action, racism as a public health crisis, call to end bail bonds for misdemeanors, ban of conversion therapy, gender safety and equity, declaration for just peace in Israel and Palestine, rights of nature, and around supporting native Hawaiians. I am still working my way through all 30 workshops that were made available and are even available for churches or individuals to purchase at <https://frontline-faith.teachable.com/>. Though this year has been very different from other General Synods, it was a wonderful experience.

Blessings, Patti Hoyt

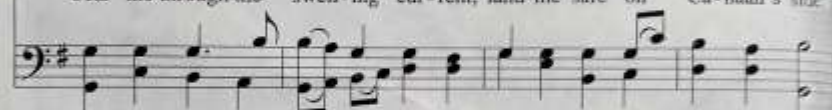
501 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this bar - ren land,
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing stream doth flow,
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious fears sub - side,



I am weak, but thou art might - y—hold me with thy power - ful hand,
 let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through
 bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent, land me safe on Ca - naan's side.



Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en, feed me till I want no
 Strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and
 Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more, (want no more,) feed me till I want no more.
 shield, (strength and shield,) be thou still my strength and shield.
 thee, (give to thee,) I will ev - er give to thee.



Break Now the Bread of Life

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1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
 2 Bless your own Word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
 3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me; your ho - ly
 4 O send your Spir - it now, dear Lord, to me, that he may

broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
 blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond - age cease,
 Word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live
 touch my eyes and make me see. Show me the truth made plain

I seek you, Lord; my spir - it longs for you, O liv - ing Word.
 all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All in all!
 with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.
 with - in your Word, for in your book re - vealed I see the Lord.

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BREAD OF LIFE

“I AM
the bread of

 LIFE”