

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

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Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



*Those who eat my flesh and
drink my blood abide in me,
and I in them.*

JOHN 6:56, NRSV

August 15, 2021 12th 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 15, 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: "Panis Angelicus" ...César Franck
Trombone - Tim Rumble

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Almighty God, we come seeking You.

P: We seek You in the midst of our joy and brokenness.

L: Move among us during this hour of worship.

P: Through the power of Your Holy Spirit.

L: Turn us from our foolishness to Your truth.

P: In our thoughts, prayers, and all of our living.

All: This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*HYMN: (#23 in old E&R hymnal) Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Eternal God, we come to You with hungry hearts, waiting to be filled: waiting to be filled with a sense of Your presence; waiting to be filled with the touch of Your spirit; waiting to be filled with new energy for service. Come to us, we pray. Be with us. Empower us as Your people that we might worship You here and act in the world for Jesus' sake. 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

Psalm 111

Ephesians 5: 15 – 20

* John 6: 51-58

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: “Eternal Life Wonder”

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: “Canticle of Praise” ...D. Paxton

*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: #505 All the Way My Savior Leads Me

*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 open

BULLETINS are in honor of all our many musicians here at Bethany by Anne & Walter Williams

GREETERS: Jack & Dianne Brunner

USHERS: Jack Brunner, Tom Wright, Lisa Williams

LAY READER: Diane Diefenderfer

Scriptures

Psalm 111 NRSV

Praise for God's Wonderful Works

¹ Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

² Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.

³ Full of honor and majesty is his work,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

⁶ He has shown his people the power of his works,
in giving them the heritage of the nations.

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.

⁸ They are established forever and ever,
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹ He sent redemption to his people;
he has commanded his covenant forever.
Holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰ The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all those who practice it have a good understanding.
His praise endures forever.

Ephesians 5: 15-20 NRSV

¹⁵ Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶ making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ Do not get drunk with wine, for that is

debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰ giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

John 6: 51 – 58 NRSV

⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵² The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” ⁵³ So Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.

⁵⁴ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵ for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶ Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever.”

The sidewalks and property here at Bethany could use a little TLC. We have some weeds that need to go! Any volunteers? Please contact the church office or just dig in!

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 15

10:00AM Worship in Fellowship Hall with Special Music!

MONDAY, AUGUST 16

9:30AM – 1:30PM Office hours

TUESDAY, AUGUST 17

9:30AM 1:30PM Office hours
7PM Bible Study in Fellowship Hall.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal

THURSDAY, AUGUST 19

9:30AM-1:30PM Office Hours

NEXT SUNDAY AUGUST 22

10:00AM Worship in Fellowship Hall with Handbells followed by a meeting with handbell and chancel choir members to discuss plans for the fall.

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.

Case of Copy Paper \$35

Trash Removal \$84/quarter

Thank you to everyone who has stepped up! We have three sets of stamps paid for as well as the piano tuning. What a great response, thank you all.

Here are a few more ideas. When the charge is monthly, please understand you are not committing to this each month, you are just going to cover one month's fee.

The Newsletter Newsletter \$84.00/annual subscription. I use this to add pictures to the bulletin and the Beeline a great resource I'd be lost without it.

Times News Church Listings \$27.00 per month

Pest Control \$84.00 per month

Phone/Internet \$112.07 per month

Beginning of Worship

Georgius Henricus, 1711
 IV. CAROLINE WINDWOOD, 1863, 41. 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2.

UPPER HEBRESCHEK (Soprano)
 JOSEFINE HAKAMER, 1760
 Decan by GEORGIUS HENRICH

In moderate time and graceful rhythm

DECANANT with STAFF 3

1. O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there.
 2. Gra - cious God I came be - fore Thee, Come Thou al - so down to me;
 3. Speak, O Lord, and I will hear Thee, Let Thy will be done to - day;

Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty Waits for Him who an - swers prayer;
 Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee, There a heaven on earth must be;
 May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed.

O how bless - ed is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
 To my heart O en - ter Thou, Let it be Thy tem - ple now,
 Here of life the foun - tain flows, Here is balm for all our woes. A - men.

Alternative tone, Gut des Himmels und der Erde.

505 All the Way My Savior Leads Me

1 All the way my Sav-ior leads me, what have I to ask be-side
 2 All the way my Sav-ior leads me, cheer each wind-ing path I tread,
 3 All the way my Sav-ior leads me, O the full-ness of his love

Can I doubt his ten-der mer-cy, who through life has been my guide,
 gives me grace for ev-ery tri-ual, feeds me with the liv-ing bread,
 Per-fect rest to me is prom-ised in my Fa-ther's house a-bove

Heaven-ly peace, di-vin-est com-fort, here by faith in him to dwell,
 though my wea-ry steps may fal-ter, and my soul a-thirst may be,
 when my spir-it, clothed im-mor-tal, wings its flight to realms of day

For I know, what-e'er be-fall me, Je-sus do-eth all things well,
 gush-ing from the rock be-fore me, ho! a spring of joy I see,
 this my song through end-less a-ges, Je-sus led me all the way



CHURCH PICNIC

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. We would like to know if you are interested in staying for some additional games and or entertainment. Let us know



Joyful Noise for August

We received a letter from the Susan G. Komen who are partnering with Kent International Inc. to triple all donations made from now until the end of August. While October is our usual month for Breast Cancer donations, we want to take advantage of this generous matching offer. We will collect our Joyful Noise offering on Sunday August 29 and immediately send in the money to be matched. Please remember all those who have been touched by this disease and give generously. Thank You!



How would you like to see that our little library is kept stocked and neat? We have plenty of books, we just need someone to check on it weekly to ensure that there are enough books and that there is a mix of both children and adults. Contact the office if you are interested.

If you are interested in learning yoga, please contact the office. If we are able to interest enough people to sign up, we have a member who is willing to lead us. Everyone is welcome! We currently have 6 people interested

Thank you, Timothy Rumble, for sharing your music with us today!