

# 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](mailto:bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com)

**Web address:** [www.uccbethany.org](http://www.uccbethany.org)

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music

THE BLIND MAN SAID TO HIM,

*"My teacher,  
let me see again."*

Mark 10:51, NRSV



October 24, 2021 Twenty-second 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

October 24, 2021

10:45 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. As per the Consistory decision, we will return to wearing masks for all services and meetings here at Bethany. We will continue to monitor the situation and make changes when appropriate.

**(\*) PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE  
(Bold Text is said or sung by everyone)**

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

JOYFUL NOISE: National Breast Cancer Foundation

PRELUDE: "Joy" ...Barbara Balzer Kinyon  
Handbell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We have gathered to give witness to the enduring realities of life.

**P: We have come to affirm that life is a gift, that the gift is good, and that it comes from God.**

L: We are gathered to renew our hope in Jesus Christ, as we travel life's long journey.

**P: We find God in the paths of our present and our past, but we also trust in God's love in our future.**

L: The same God guides us all the way, every day of our lives, and beyond life.

**ALL: Let us praise God with our whole hearts, and entrust our lives to God's hands. Amen.**

HYMN: #56 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**Eternal God, who created all things from the void, teach us to know the power of silence and of prayer. Fill our emptiness with your healing touch and fill our darkness with your light. Fulfill in us the potentials for which we were born and were called into your church, for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Healer and Savior of humankind. 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): #425 Christ Besides Me

**Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me – King of my heart; Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me – never to part.**

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 34:1-8

Hebrews 7: 23-28

\* Mark 10: 46-52

Leader: This is the Good News

**People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON: “Just Ask”

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: “You Raise Me Up” ...arr. T. Fettke

Chancel Choir

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #687 All Things Are Yours!**

**Vs. 1**

**All things are yours! We make that true when we return our gifts to you. And so, we give, and so we share, in Christ's strong name expressing care.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)**

**God of Justice and Love, transform these offerings, that they may be gifts of justice and love for a world in need of hope and help. Let love flow through these offerings, that they may become gifts of love for the world.**

**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: #409 God of Our Life**

**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION: #485 Into My Heart**

**Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart Lord Jesus; come in today, come in to stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.**

**POSTLUDE**

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



FLOWERS and BULLETINS: are placed to honor the Glory of God by Len & Rebecca Kesselring

GREETERS: Dan & Margy Sabetti

USHERS: Dan & Margy Sabetti, Cindy Beck, Bob Ruhe

LAY READER: Phil Haines

## **Scriptures**

### **Psalm 34: 1-8 NRSV**

#### **Praise for Deliverance from Trouble**

**Of David, when he feigned madness before Abimelech, so that he drove him out, and he went away.**

- <sup>1</sup> I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- <sup>2</sup> My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.
- <sup>3</sup> O magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.
- <sup>4</sup> I sought the LORD, and he answered me,  
and delivered me from all my fears.
- <sup>5</sup> Look to him, and be radiant;  
so your faces shall never be ashamed.
- <sup>6</sup> This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,  
and was saved from every trouble.
- <sup>7</sup> The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him, and delivers them.

<sup>8</sup> O taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are those who take refuge in him.

## **Hebrews 7: 23 - 28 NRSV**

<sup>23</sup> Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; <sup>24</sup> but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. <sup>25</sup> Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

<sup>26</sup> For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. <sup>27</sup> Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. <sup>28</sup> For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

## **Mark 10: 46 - 52 NRSV**

### **The Healing of Blind Bartimaeus**

<sup>46</sup> They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>48</sup> Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>49</sup> Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man,

saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." <sup>50</sup> So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." <sup>52</sup> Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

**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. Thank you, Bill, for making sure we are able to see and hear the services.

Hi,

I am collecting size medium work clothes for a receptionist at one of my doctors' offices. I do not know all of her story but she was forced out of her appt. on short notice and left pretty much with what she could carry. She is in need of size medium work clothes for fall/winter such as sweaters, cardigans, coats, tops and pull-on type dress pants. No jeans, T-shirts or sweats and nothing petite. She is about 5'7" and over 60 years old. If anyone plans to clean out their closets and has those size clothes, please let me know. She is also looking for an affordable apt. somewhere in Bethlehem if anyone knows of a place. She has been staying in a hotel for several weeks.

Thank you,  
Sharon Haines

## **THIS WEEK AT BETHANY**

### **TODAY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24**

9:30AM Adult Bible Class  
10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary with Handbells

### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 25**

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26**

9:30AM 1:30PM Office hours

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27**

No Handbell Rehearsal  
No Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28**

9:30AM-1:30PM Office Hours

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29**

6PM-8PM Trick or Treat Night @ Bethany

### **NEXT SUNDAY OCTOBER 31**

9:30AM Adult Bible Class  
10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary  
2PM Bethlehem Halloween Parade

**ALL ARE INVITED to a Covered Dish Lunch Meeting with our Conference Minister, the Rev. Dr. Bonnie Bates on Sunday, Nov. 14, right after church in Fellowship Hall.**

**The meeting will not go beyond 2 pm.**

**The purpose of this gathering is to have conversation about where Bethany is at this time and to explore opportunities for growth. Please sign up in the narthex and what you might provide for the lunch.**

**There will be protocol for safety measures**

*Bethlehem has announced that there will be a trick or treat night from 6 - 8 P on Friday, October 29. Thank you for all your donations! We will be assembling here @ 5pm to set up out front for trick or treaters. Dress accordingly.*



## **November Nut Sale**

### **GET YOUR PEANUTS, CASHEWS, AND ALMONDS HERE!**

Mark your calendars! Orders are due on November 1<sup>st</sup> with nut preparation on November 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. We sell Almonds \$5, Cashews \$5, and Peanuts \$3. Call Debbie Brown at 484-358-3735. Everyone is invited to help on nut preparation days. Saturdays from 9 AM till? (Attention Youth – this can be Community Service time) and Mondays from 9 AM until finished. It's a time of fun and fellowship. Lunch is served on peanut prep Mondays.

## **CHOCOLATES ON BROADWAY**

We will again be selling candy from Chocolates on Broadway for Christmas this year. The brochures and order forms are here! We will take orders until Sunday November 28<sup>th</sup> with delivery on Sunday December 12<sup>th</sup>. Remember this is a great fundraiser for the church and yummy for us.

## This Breast Cancer Awareness Month, it's time to **RISE**.

When it comes to breast cancer, it has never been about the challenge we face, rather the ways in which we rise to meet that challenge. Your donation helps women get access to the education, screening, and support they need. This is our moment to **rise up** and do even more.

### **This month only, choose exactly where your donation goes:**

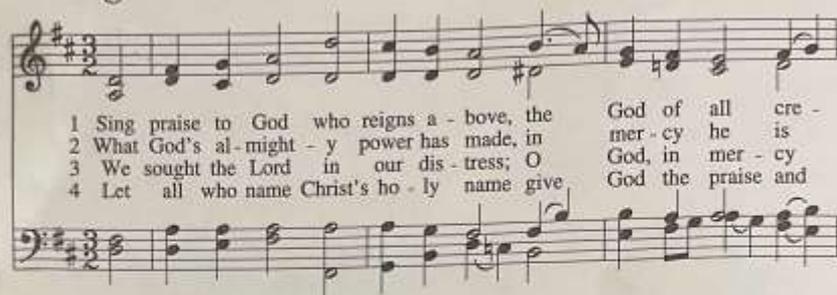
**Screening:** Give to our National Mammography and Patient Navigation programs to provide free mammograms and other necessary screenings, while removing barriers in the cancer care system.

**Education:** Give to our Education & Outreach programs to empower women with the critical information and resources they need to lower their risk and detect breast cancer early.

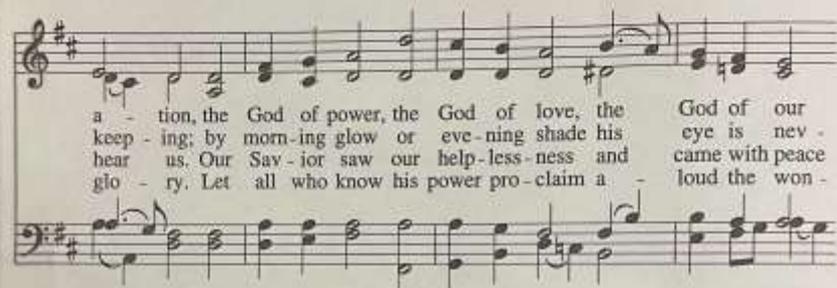
**Support:** Give to our Support Services, including HOPE Kits, Metastatic Retreats, and Support Groups, ensuring all women with breast cancer have the emotional support, guidance, and resources to heal.

**General Fund:** Allow NBCF to direct your funds to the area with the greatest need.

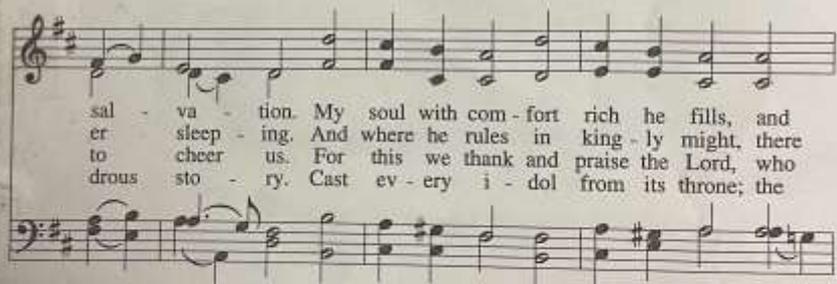
## Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above 56



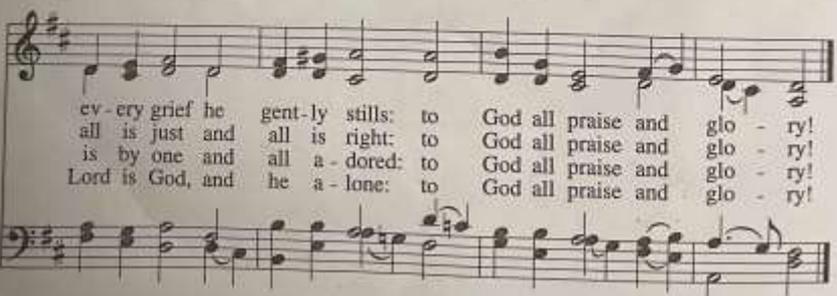
1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -  
 2 What God's al - might - y power has made, in mer - cy he is  
 3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy  
 4 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God the praise and



a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our  
 keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his eye is nev -  
 hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness and came with peace  
 glo - ry. Let all who know his power pro - claim a loud the won -



sal - va - tion. My soul with com - fort rich he fills, and  
 er - sleep - ing. And where he rules in king - ly might, there  
 to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord, who  
 drous sto - ry. Cast ev - ery i - dol from its throne; the

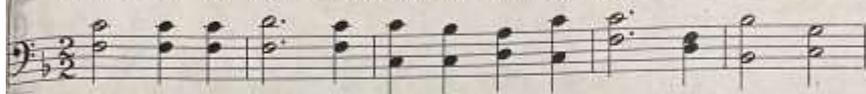


ev - ery grief he gent - ly stills: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 is by one and all a - dored: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry!

## God of Our Life



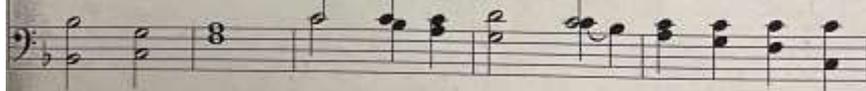
1 God of our life, through all the cir - cling years, we trust in  
 2 God of the past, our times are in your hand; with us a -  
 3 God of the com - ing years, thro' paths un - known we fol - low



you; in all the past, through all our hopes and fears, your  
 bide. Lead us by faith to hope's true Prom - ised Land; be  
 you; when we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone; our



hand we view. With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the  
 now our guide. With you to bless, the dark - ness shines as  
 faith re - new. Be now for us in life our dai - ly



veil, we own your mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.  
 light, and faith's fair vi - sion chang - es in - to sight -  
 bread, our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

