

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



November 14, 2021 Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Stewardship Sunday

“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

November 14, 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

PRELUDE: "The Lord is My Shepherd" ...T. Koschat, arr.E. Smith
Piano /Organ duet

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come, let us worship the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to God and reconsecrate our lives anew.

L: God has been good to us and we are a vital part of god's family.

P: The Lord's name be praised! Amen!

HYMN: #688 We Give Thee but Thine Own

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Gracious God, giver of all things, we thank You for blessing our lives and giving us this church to praise You and serve You. Help us to be better stewards of Your gifts and to become more cheerful and more generous in the giving of our lives. To Your glory, we pray. 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): #459 Come, All Christians, Be Committed vs.2

Of your time and talents give now, they are gifts from God above, to be used by Christians freely to proclaim his wondrous love. Come again to serve the Savior, tithes and offerings with you bring; in your work with Christ find favor, and with joy his praises sing.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 16

Hebrews 10:11-18

* Matthew 25:14-30

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "All Things Are God's"

PENN NORTHEAST CONFERENCE FALL MEETING: Matt Miller and Pastor Todd

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "With Thanks" ...R. E. Schram Chancel Choir

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #684 For the Life That You Have Given

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are Your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring; give us grace to love and serve you. Living what we pray and sing.

*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 – LITANY (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: #687 All Things Are Yours!

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!



FLOWERS and BULLETINS: are placed in gratitude for those who worked so hard to take care of our nut orders this month.

GREETERS: Jack and Diane Brunner

USHERS: Jack Brunner, Tom Wright, Steve Tarasuk, Lisa Williams

LAY READER: Jean Fennell

The red rose on the altar represents the theme of the wedding of Susan and Thomas Wright III, here at Bethany UCC, 40 years ago today.

Scriptures

Psalm 16 NRSV

Song of Trust and Security in God

A Miktam of David.

- ¹ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- ² I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;
I have no good apart from you."^[a]
- ³ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble,
in whom is all my delight.
- ⁴ Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;^[b]
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.
- ⁵ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;
you hold my lot.
- ⁶ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
I have a goodly heritage.
- ⁷ I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
in the night also my heart instructs me.
- ⁸ I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- ⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;
my body also rests secure.

¹⁰ For you do not give me up to Sheol,
or let your faithful one see the Pit.
¹¹ You show me the path of life.
In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Hebrews 10: 11 - 18 NRSV

¹¹ And every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ^[a] had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “he sat down at the right hand of God,” ¹³ and since then has been waiting “until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.” ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. ¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,”

¹⁷ he also adds,

“I will remember^[b] their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

Matthew 25: 14 - 30 NRSV

The Parable of the Talents

¹⁴ “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵ to one he gave five talents,^[a] to another two, to another one, to each

according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶ The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷ In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸ But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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

Bethlehem Emergency Shelter

As the weather grows colder, we need to remember those who have no home and rely on the shelter for a place to stay and a warm meal. Bethany has signed up to provide and serve a meal on Friday February 11 and Tuesday March 8. We need 10 – 15 people each night so please let Wendy Glassic or the office know if you are willing to help. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.

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 apt. 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

Sponsor a Bill will be back next week. Please contact the office if you would like information before then.

December Nut Sale

GET YOUR PEANUTS, CASHEWS, AND ALMONDS HERE!

Mark your calendars! Orders are due on November 29th with nut preparation on December 4th and 6th. 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. Due to the continued decrease of workers this will be Bethany's final nut sale. Thank you to all who have worked hard for so many years but all good things must come to an end.

CHOCOLATES ON BROADWAY

We are 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 28th with delivery on Sunday December 12th. Remember this is a great fundraiser for the church and yummy for us.

Bethlehem Live Nativity

Join us as we celebrate Christ's birth in the Rose Garden December 11 & 12. Anyone is welcome to join the Chancel Choir when we sing at the Live Nativity on Saturday Dec. 11 and Sunday Dec. 12. Rehearsal for the pageant will be held on Wednesday Dec. 1 from 8 - 8:30 PM, following Chancel Choir. Please sign up with Sue for the event. The prelude begins at 1:45 pm and the program concludes in approximately one hour.

We'd love to have you sing with us!

Harvest Home

On Sunday November 21st we will again celebrate Harvest Home and Thanksgiving. As we have done in the past, we will have baskets in the sanctuary to collect non-perishable food items to be donated to the local food bank.

STEWARDSHIP & GIVING

688 We Give Thee but Thine Own

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line consists of five verses of lyrics. The piano accompaniment is a simple harmonic accompaniment consisting of chords and single notes.

1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 To com - fort and to bless, to find a balm for woe,
4 The cap - tive to re - lieve, to God the lost to bring,
5 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be;

all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
to tend the lone and fa - ther - less is an - gels' work be - low
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ - like thing,
what - e'er for - thine we do, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

WORDS: William W. How (1823-1897)
MUSIC: Mason and Webb's *Cantata Lauda*, 1850

SCHUMANN
5.M

All Things Are Yours!

687

1 All things are yours! We make that true when we re -
 2 "Give out of love," your Word com-mands. We are your
 3 O what a joy to give and then, out of com -
 4 All things are yours! We make that true when we re -

turn our gifts to you. And so we give, and
 head, your heart, your hands. Your Word you un - der -
 pas - sion, give a - gain. You have no needs. Though
 turn our gifts to you. And so we give, and

so we share, in Christ's strong name ex - press - ing care.
 score with deeds by us - ing us to an - swer needs.
 that be true, the gifts we share are given to you.
 so we share, in Christ's strong name ex - press - ing care.

WORDS: Bryan Jeffrey Leach (1931-)
 MUSIC: William Gardiner's Sacred Melodies, 1815

GERMANY
 L.M.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 Stewardship Sunday

9:30AM Last Adult Bible Class

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 15

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

9:30AM 1:30PM Office hours

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17

5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal

7PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

NEXT SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21 Harvest Home / Thanksgiving Sunday

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary with collection of food for the food bank

3PM, We welcome you with your family pets for a ritual of blessings in Fellowship Hall. For the safety of all involved please make sure your pets are either leashed or crated.