

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

The water now
become
WINE
... the first of
his signs.

John 2:11, ESV



January 16, 2022

Second Sunday after Epiphany

“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

January 16, 2022

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: "Chanson" ...G. Young

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: This is God's world! To us is given a vision of nations and race, lands and people, joined together in love.

P: Praise be to God, the Creator, in whose image we are created.

L: We come to celebrate and renew that vision, opening ourselves to the One who is its source and its living fire.

P: We affirm in Christ that we can be and are, one world and one family, working together to manifest God's love in the lives of all people!

*HYMN: # 243 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

We come to you, God, praying for unity among Christ's disciples and among all people in the world. Help us to answer the call of Jesus Christ even as the original disciples were forged into effective witness for the gospel. Strengthen our resolve to move past our differences to the great message of hope and salvation

that we share in Christ. Bless us this day as we are called to discipleship and unify us all as Your body on earth. 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): #9 Come, Let Us Praise the Lord vs. 1

**Come let us praise the Lord, with joy our God proclaim,
his greatness tell abroad and bless his saving name. Lift
high your songs before his throne to whom alone all
praise belongs.**

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Psalm 36:5-10

I Corinthians 12: 1-11

* John 2: 1-11

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: “The Best Till Last”

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: “Precious Lord, Take My Hand” ...Allen, arr.

R. Ringwald Chancel Choir

- In memory of Martin Luther King, Jr.-

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #688 We Give Thee but Thine Own. Vs.1

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord from thee.

***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: #669 Jesus, Come, for We Invite You**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION: #748. Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing. Vs. 1**

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill your hearts with joy and peace; let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace; O direct us and protect us traveling through this wilderness.

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS: Are placed on the altar by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Catanzaro with thanks for sharing our church with them on their wedding day.

FLOWERS: On the pedestal are in honor of the birthday of Jean Fennell with love by her husband Todd.

GREETERS: Len Kesselring, Tom Hoffert

USHERS: Tom Hoffert, Len Kesselring, Corey Tancin,
Volunteer

LAY READER: Beverly Rumble

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.

CHURCH CANCELLATIONS

If worship is cancelled due to weather conditions, announcements will be on TV Channel 69 – WFMZ. Also, if we have your email address, an email will be sent.

Scriptures

Psalm 36: 5 - 10 NRSV

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,
your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁶ Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,
your judgments are like the great deep;
you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.

⁷ How precious is your steadfast love, O God!
All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

⁸ They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.
⁹ For with you is the fountain of life;
in your light we see light.
¹⁰ O continue your steadfast love to those who know you,
and your salvation to the upright of heart!

I Corinthians 12: 1 – 11 NRSV

Spiritual Gifts

12 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters,¹ I do not want you to be uninformed. ² You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. ³ Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says “Let Jesus be cursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

⁴ Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; ⁵ and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; ⁶ and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸ To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

John 2: 1 - 11 NRSV

The Wedding at Cana

2 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. 3 Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 4 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” 5 And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” 6 His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” 7 Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. 8 Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. 9 He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So, they took it. 10 When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom 11 and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.” 12 Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.



Dart Baseball is Back

The Bethlehem Interchurch dart league is having a season. Have you ever wondered about the doors in fellowship hall that are on the wall? That is our dart Baseball board. Our matches are on Monday nights at Bethany and other churches in the city. It is a get together for fun and fellowship with a little bit of competition. Our Bethany team has a new Captain/Manager this year so if you have any questions contact Steve Tarasuk, (610) 554-0125 (call or text), steve.tarasuk@gmail.com. Watch the bulletin for more information about a fun get together after the holidays to meet the team and have a chance to throw against them. The last time our guests beat the team.

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.

UPCOMING EVENT!

A Breakfast (Scrambled Eggs, Sausage, Potato Patties, Juice & Coffee) will be held in Fellowship Hall on Sat. Jan 22nd with seating's @ 9am & 10 am. Tickets of \$7.00 are available to purchase please see Bev Rumble. Donations toward expenses are always appreciated.

TACKLE HUNGER

In 1990 a simple prayer: “***Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat***” was delivered to a small youth group in Columbia, SC.

This gave birth to an idea. Why not harness the energy and enthusiasm of Super Bowl weekend, a time when people come together for football, food and fun, to unite us for a higher good?

Please consider designating a Sunday between now and February 13 as Souper Bowl Sunday and challenge your congregation to donate to The Lehigh Conference of Churches either through a special offering or a food drive.

The Lehigh Conference of Churches reaches out to the working poor, the homeless, people between jobs, and those who have nowhere else to turn.

In 2021 we were able to provide more than 30,000 free, nourishing meals to the hungry and food insecure. The need is constant -- Monday through Friday, people line up outside our doors to be fed. With contributions from you we can continue to offer a meal to those who might otherwise go without.

Please mail or deliver the money raised to The Lehigh Conference of Churches, 457 W. Allen Street, Allentown, PA 18102 by February 28.

243 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

Songs of thank-ful-ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to you we raise;
 2 God re-vealed at Jor-dan's stream, proph-et, priest and king su-preme;
 3 God re-vealed in val-i-ant fight, con-quer-ing the dev-il's might;
 4 Stars shall fall and heav-en-s fade, sun and moon shall dark be made;

once re-vealed, when heav-en's star brought the wise men from a - far,
 once re-vealed in power di - vine chang-ing wa - ter in - to wine,
 sins for - giv - en, sick-ness healed, life re-stored and God re-vealed:
 Christ will then like light-ning shine, all will see the glo-rious sign;

branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem in your birth at Beth - le - hem,
 Ca - na's ho - ly wed-ding guest keep - ing to the last the best;
 once re-vealed in gra-cious will ev - er bring - ing good from ill,
 all will then the trum - pet hear, all will see the Son ap - pear.

Word be - fore the world be - gan, God re-vealed to us in man-

669 Jesus, Come, for We Invite You

1 Je-sus, come, for we in-vite you, guest and mas-ter,
 2 Je-sus, come! trans-form our pleas-ures, guide us in-to,
 3 Je-sus, come in new cre-a-tion, heaven brought near by
 4 Je-sus, come! sur-prise our dull-ness; make us will-ing

friend and Lord; now, as once at Ca-na's wed-ding,
 paths un-known; bring your gifts, com-mand your ser-vants,
 power di-vine; give your un-ex-pect-ed glo-ry,
 to re-ceive more than we can yet im-ag-ine.

speak, and let us hear your word: lead us through our
 let us trust in you a-lone: though your hand may
 chang-ing wa-ter in-to wine: rouse the faith of
 all the best you have to give: let us find your

need or doubt-ing, hope be born and joy re-stored.
 work in se-cret, all shall see what you have done.
 your dis-ci-ples—come, our first and great-est Sign!
 hid-den rich-es, taste your love, be-lieve, and live!

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY, JANUARY 16

10:45 Worship in the sanctuary.
Please stay after church to help remove
decorations.

MONDAY, JANUARY 17 – Martin Luther King Birthday

Office Closed

TUESDAY, JANUARY 18

9:30AM 1:30PM Office hours

THURSDAY, JANUARY 20

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22

9am and 10 am Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY, JANUARY 23

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary

**Reminder: Congregational Meeting to
approve budget Sunday January 30.**