

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

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Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



"Blessed are you
WHEN PEOPLE HATE YOU ...
BECAUSE OF THE
SON OF MAN.
Rejoice in that day ...
BECAUSE
GREAT IS YOUR
REWARD IN
HEAVEN."
LUKE 6:22-23. NIV

February 20, 2022

Seventh 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

February 20, 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

JOYFUL NOISE – Souper Bowl Sunday

PRELUDE: “HE” ...Jack Richards, Rich Mullen

**He can turn the tides and calm the angry sea.
He alone decides who writes a symphony.
He lights ev'ry star that makes our darkness bright.
He keeps watch all through each long and lonely night.
He still finds the time to hear a child's first prayer.
Saint or sinner call and always find Him there.
Though it makes him sad to see the way we live,
He'll always say, "I forgive."**

**He can grant a wish or make a dream come true.
He can paint the clouds and turn the gray to blue.
He alone knows where to find the rainbow's end.
He alone can see what lies beyond the bend.
He can touch a tree and turn the leaves to gold.
He knows every lie that you and I have told.
Though it makes him sad to see the way we live,
He'll always say, "I forgive."**

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God;

P: For God is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

L: He heals the brokenhearted, and binds up their wounds.

P: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; His understanding is beyond measure. Let us worship God!

*HYMN: #468 My Jesus, I Love Thee

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

O God of all joy, we give You thanks that in the person of Jesus Christ You have shown us the way to true life. We praise You that You receive as Your children those who seek peace and righteousness, and that you make Your promise of eternal life to the humble, the merciful, and the pure in heart. Enable us like Christ, to find our happiness in doing Your will, so that we too may live to love and serve You forever. 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): #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.

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

I Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50

* Luke 6: 17-38

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "Blessed Happiness"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: “Lord I Want to Be a Christian” ... African-American Spiritual Chancel Choir

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #44 Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, you heavenly host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

*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: # 463 Revive Us Again

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION: #395 the Bond of Love vs.1

We are one in the bond of love; we are one in the bond of love. We have joined our spirit with the Spirit of God; we are one in the bond of love.

POSTLUDE

Our worship ends, our service begins!



GREETERS: Cindy Beck, Corey Tancin

USHERS: Cindy Beck, Bob Ruhe

LAY READER: Walter Williams

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

Psalms 37: 1-11, 39-40 NRSV

Exhortation to Patience and Trust of David.

¹ Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,

- ² for they will soon fade like the grass,
and wither like the green herb.
- ³ Trust in the LORD, and do good;
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
- ⁴ Take delight in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.
- ⁶ He will make your vindication shine like the light,
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,
over those who carry out evil devices.
- ⁸ Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.
Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
- ⁹ For the wicked shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.
- ¹⁰ Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look diligently for their place, they will not be
there.
- ¹¹ But the meek shall inherit the land,
and delight themselves in abundant prosperity.
- ³⁹ The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.
- ⁴⁰ The LORD helps them and rescues them;
he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

I Corinthians 15: 35-38, 42-50 NRSV

The Resurrection Body

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed,

perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Luke 6: 17 - 38 NRSV

Jesus Teaches and Heals

¹⁷ He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Blessings and Woes

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

Love for Enemies

²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in

return.^[a] Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Judging Others

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

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 Tuesday March 8. We need 10 – 15 people so please let Wendy Glassic or the office know if you are willing to help. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Donations are welcome to offset the cost of the food. Please see Wendy Glassic or leave it in the office.



Thank you to everyone who helped with the meal at the shelter on Friday night! There were the volunteers who prepared and served the meal as well as helped with other jobs that evening. Those who donated funds to purchase food for the meal as well as those who donated baked goods for dessert.

My Jesus, I Love Thee

468

1 My Je - sus, I love thee, I know thou art mine,
 2 I love thee be - cause thou hast first lov - ed me,
 3 In man - sions of glo - ry and end - less de - light,

for thee all the fol - lies of sin I re - sign;
 and pur - chased my par - don on Cal - va - ry's tree;
 I'll ev - er a - dore thee in heav - en so bright;

my gra - cious Re - deem - er, my Sav - ior art thou;
 I love thee for wear - ing the thorns on thy brow;
 I'll sing with the glit - ter - ing crown on my brow;

if ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 if ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.
 if ev - er I loved thee, my Je - sus, 'tis now.

Revive Us Again

463



1 We praise thee, O God, for the Son of thy love, for Je - sus who
2 We praise thee, O God, for thy Spir - it of light, who has shown us our
3 All glo - ry and praise to the Lamb that was slain, who has borne all our
4 Re - vive us a - gain: fill each heart with thy love; may each soul be re -



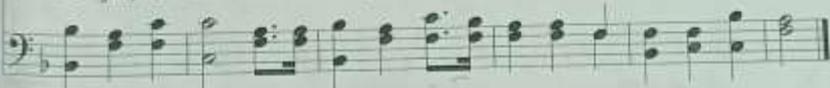
Refrain



died and is now gone a - bove.
Sav - ior and scat - tered our night. Hal - le - lu - jah! thine the glo - ry; Hal - le -
sins, and has cleansed ev - ery stain.
kin - dled with fire from a - bove.



lu - jah, A - men! Hal - le - lu - jah! thine the glo - ry; re - vive us a - gain.



Chocolates on Broadway

Good News! The brochures and order forms have arrived for our Easter Candy sale. We will take orders from now until March 13th with delivery on April 3rd. I have order forms available for anyone who wishes to sell at work or to other groups.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20

9:30AM Adult Class in Fellowship Hall “Unshakable Hope: Building Our Lives on the Promises of God”

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary with Joyful Noise for “Souper Bowl” Sunday. Your donations of both canned soups and cash will go to help those in need.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21 President’s Day

Office Closed

No Darts

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 22

9:30AM 1:30PM Office hours

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal

7PM Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

9:30AM Adult Bible Class

10:45AM Worship

Temporary Cleaner Needed

Our Cleaner Linda Trainer is having knee replacement surgery and will be unable to clean the church on March 18th and April 8th. If you are willing to step in and take care of this, please call the office or speak to Matt Miller.