

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



July 3, 2022

Fourth 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

July 3, 2022

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. As per the Consistory decision, masks are optional 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: "God of Our Fathers" ...arr. R. J. Hughes

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: In You, O Lord, I seek refuge.

P: He is a rock, a strong place, He saves us!

L: Into Your hands, O God, we surrender our spirits.

P: We rejoice and celebrate God's Steadfast love.

L: Be gracious unto us, O Lord, in this time of worship.

P: Let us worship God!

*HYMN: #731 My Country, 'Tis of Thee with Handbells

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

We would be honest with You, O Lord. We are tired, frustrated, nagged by guilt, and unable to change our own lives. So, we come to you for strength. Without You, we can do nothing. Without You, we are helpless before our sinful way. Heal us where we hurt. Mold us where our lives have been shattered. Fill us where we feel drained of energy. Guide us when we are in danger of missing the way to Eternal Life. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison): #730 Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory(refrain)**

Glory, glory hallelujah! Glory, glory hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Psalm 30

Galatians 6: 7 - 16

* Luke 10: 1 - 11

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "Step Into the Circle"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "River in Judea" ...arr. J. Leavitt
Chancel Choir

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #34 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye 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: #727 America the Beautiful

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION: God Bless America ...I. Berlin, arr. R. Ringwald Congregation, Chancel Choir

God Bless America, land that I love; Stand beside her and guide her, Through the night with the light from above. From the mountains, to the prairies, to the oceans white with foam; God Bless America, My home sweet home.

POSTLUDE: Mine eyes have Seen the Glory ...19th c. American Melody

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS and BULLETINS: The flowers and bulletins are presented by Len and Rebecca Kesselring to honor the 246th birthday of the United States. May God bless America as we strive to maintain liberty and justice for all in the midst of an unsettled world.

GREETERS: Gail Correll

USHERS: Barbara Backensto, Gail Correll

LAY READER: Gail Correll

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.

Scriptures

Psalm 30 NRSV

Thanksgiving for Recovery from Grave Illness

A Psalm. A Song at the dedication of the temple. Of David.

- ¹ I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.
- ² O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,
and you have healed me.
- ³ O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the
Pit.
- ⁴ Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.
- ⁵ For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.

⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity,
“I shall never be moved.”
⁷ By your favor, O LORD,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.
⁸ To you, O LORD, I cried,
and to the LORD I made supplication:
⁹ “What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?
¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!
O LORD, be my helper!”
¹¹ You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,
¹² so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Galatians 6: 7 – 16 NRSV

⁷ Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸ If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹ So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰ So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

Final Admonitions and Benediction

¹¹ See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹² It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised—only that

they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴ May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. ¹⁵ For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶ As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Luke 10: 1 – 11 NRSV

The Mission of the Seventy-Two

10 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴ Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ ⁶ And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸ Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹ cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ ¹⁰ But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹ ‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’

Many thanks to trumpeter Chris Rumble for his participation in this morning's service!

A note about our anthem "River in Judea"

"River in Judea" is a gospel style song based on a secular text spun from the river-is life metaphor. The river that freely flows is an allusion to the salvation found in Jesus Christ and the song uses such parallelism to remind the believer of being washed from sin and thus walking through life in the fullness of Hope in Christ. A river has historically been used in gospel music as symbolism for change and redemption.



My Country, 'Tis of Thee

731

1 My coun - try, 'tis of thee, sweet land of lib - er - ty,
2 My na - tive coun - try, thee, land of the no - ble free,
3 Let mu - sic swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees
4 Our fa - thers' God; to thee, Au - thor of lib - er - ty,

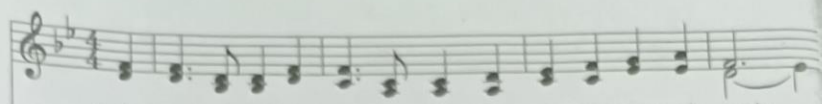
of thee I sing: land where my fa - thers died, land of the
thy name I love; I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and
sweet free-dom's song: let mor - tal tongues a - wake, let all that
to thee we sing: long may our land be bright with free-dom's

pil - grims' pride, from ev - ery moun - tain - side let free - dom ring!
tem - pled hills; my heart with rap - ture thrills like that a - bove.
breathe par - take; let rocks their si - lence break, the sound pro - long!
ho - ly light; pro - tect us by thy might, great God, our King!

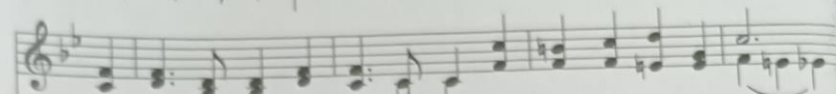
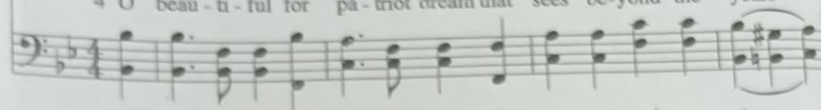
God Bless America



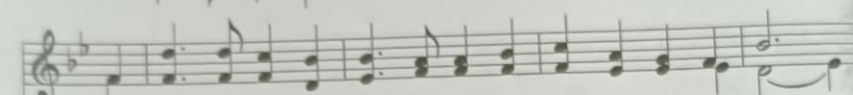
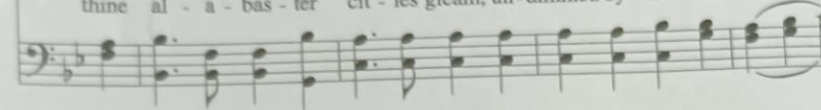
America, the Beautiful



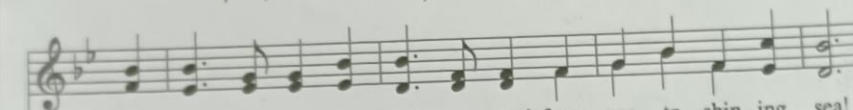
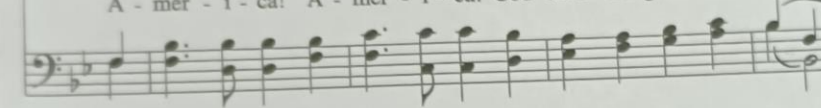
1 O beau - ti - ful for spa - cious skies, for am - ber waves of grain,
 2 O beau - ti - ful for pil - grim feet, whose stern, im - pas - sioned stress
 3 O beau - ti - ful for he - roes proved in lib - er - at - ing strife,
 4 O beau - ti - ful for pa - triot dream that sees be - yond the years



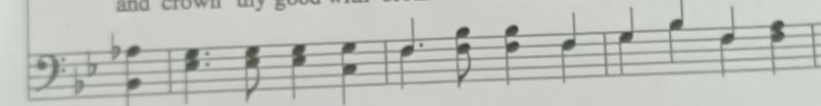
for pur - ple moun - tain maj - es - ties a - bove the fruit - ed plain!
 a thor - ough - fare for free - dom beat a - cross the wil - der - ness!
 who more than self their coun - try loved, and mer - cy more than life!
 thine al - a - bas - ter cit - ies gleam, un - dimmed by hu - man tears!



A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God mend thine ev - ery flaw,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! May God thy gold re - fine,
 A - mer - i - ca! A - mer - i - ca! God shed his grace on thee,



and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea!
 con - firm thy soul in self - con - trol, thy lib - er - ty in law!
 till all suc - cess be no - ble - ness, and ev - ery gain di - vine!
 and crown thy good with broth - er - hood from sea to shin - ing sea!



Upcoming events here at Bethany!

July will see us celebrate the baptism of Ella Jane Sutter on July 17th in the Sanctuary followed by cake and punch in Fellowship Hall. That same weekend there will be an oldies dance sponsored by our own Barry Smith please contact him if you are interested in attending @ 610-868-5495.

August 20th is a return of our Bethany Breakfast. There will be two seating's, 9am and 10am. Breakfast will include scrambled eggs, sausage, hashbrowns, juice and coffee at a cost of \$7 while those under 5 are free. In spite of his shyness the pastor will be mingling with all those who attend.

September 11th finds us gathering at Louise Moore Park for our annual picnic. As of right now the only information is the date and location. Once plans are finalized, we will share that information.

October 16th brings a talk by Kelly who represents The Alzheimer Research organization Bethany has donated to for many years. After a brief talk during the service, we will have a lunch in Fellowship Hall then Kelly will share more information with us as well as any others who would like to attend. We will extend the invitation to the other UCC churches as well as West Side Moravian and Star of Bethlehem.

August will also see the masonry work done by Don Sorenson. Please avoid using the front entrance at this time.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

SUNDAY, JULY 3

10AM Worship in Fellowship Hall as we celebrate our country's birthday with special music. Wear your red, white and blue!

MONDAY, JULY 4 Independence Day!

Office Closed

TUESDAY, JULY 5

9:30AM 1:30PM Office hours

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6

No Rehearsals

THURSDAY, JULY 7

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 10

10AM Worship in Fellowship Hall led by Len Kesselring

Sponsor a Bill

As many of you know we had plumbing issues involving the sewage lines here at Bethany. Thanks to Agentis /Mr. Rooter Plumbing this issue has been resolved. As you may imagine this service was not cheap and we received a bill for almost \$2000. If you would like to contribute under our Sponsor a Bill program, please mark your donation Plumbing. All donations gratefully appreciated!