

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

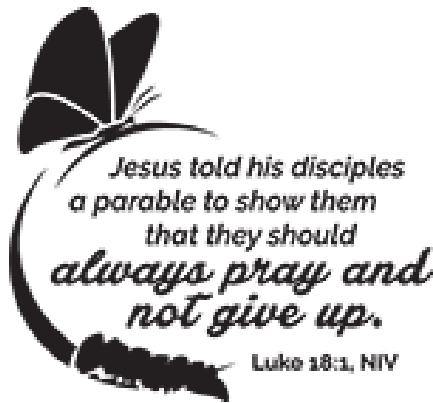
E-Mail: bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com

Web address: www.uccbethany.org

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



October 16, 2022

Nineteenth 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 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, masks are optional here at Bethany.

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

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Like A River Glorious" ...J. Mountain, arr.
Bennett/ Berry Piano/ Organ duet

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: God, help us to be good stewards of Your Grace,

P: In celebration of all that You have given to us.

L: Help us serve one another, as Jesus taught us,

**P: For all creation is precious to You. To You alone, be
the glory, for we are but instruments of Your love.**

*HYMN: #136 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**Gracious God, open our eyes to the work of Your Spirit
in our world. Help us to strive for peace and compassion
in all things, seeking to act in love rather than in anger.
Heal our brokenness, and create in us new hearts to
reflect Your light and love, in the name of the one who
calls us to serve, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.
Amen.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison): #50 Great is the Lord. vs 1

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; by his power we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; by his mercy he proves he is love. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise. Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice; Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Psalms 121

2 Timothy 3:14 -4:5

* Luke 18: 1-8

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "Counting on God"

GREETINGS and THANKS by Kelly Schoenberger, Manager of Major Gifts for the Bright Focus Foundation which specializes in Alzheimer's, Macular Degeneration, and Glaucoma research.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Jubilate Deo" ...J. Althouse
Chancel Choir

English translation -Sing Joyfully to God

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

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

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy God, You are the maker of heaven and earth. Accept these offerings we present to You today. May they become vessels of support for your work in this church and in Your world. Consecrate us anew as living sacrifices, to Your service. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

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: #2 O Worship the King**

***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!



FLOWERS and BULLETINS are presented by Ruth Smith in honor of her husband Barry's birthday.

GREETERS: Gail Correll

USHERS: Barbara Backensto, Gail Correll

LAY READER: Gail Correll

Scriptures

Psalm 121 NRSV

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
⁴ He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day
nor the moon by night.
⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
⁸ The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.

2 Timothy 3: 14 – 4: 5 NRSV

⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is^[a] useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: **2** proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. **3** For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires **4** and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. **5** As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Luke 18: 1 - 8 NRSV

18 Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. **2** He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. **3** In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' **4** For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, **5** yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" **6** And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. **7** And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? **8** I tell you; he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

The leaves are changing and the weather is getting cooler. That means we are less than one month away from the opening of the Bethlehem Emergency Shelter! Bethany UCC has the privilege of taking care of our homeless neighbors again this season on three different occasions. Our schedule includes providing the dinner meals on Friday, December 9th, Tuesday, February 14th and Friday, March 3rd. Sign-up sheets for all three days are posted on the bulletin board. If you have been guided by the Holy Spirit to participate this season, please sign up for the position you would like to fill. For those of you that have volunteered in the past, THANK YOU, and I hope you will consider joining us again this season. You will note that this season there are no spots to sign up for registration. This particular task will now be done by the paid staff at the shelter as this year begins a new automated registration! Of course, we still need you fabulous bakers to assist us with dessert selections and there is a spot on the sign-up sheets for you too! We are also accepting monetary donations to purchase the items to prepare the dinners. If you have any questions or would like more information, please do not hesitate to call me at (610) 807-9438 or talk to me in church! Thank you to all of you who have already expressed an interest in volunteering this season and I look forward to working with you and sharing God's grace in our community! Blessings,

Sherri Gangewere

Trick or Treat!

We are collecting Halloween treats and bottled water for our annual Trick or Treat October 28th from 6-8pm at Bethany. There will also be a sign-up sheet for those who wish to help distribute the goodies. This is always a fun evening and we are a popular stopping point for lots of families in the neighborhood!

Nuts!

Not that we are approaching the holidays our thoughts turn to gatherings with family and friends and what better to serve than our own Bethany Nuts! We will do our nut prep on Nov. 5th and 7th with orders due by October 31st. For December we will prep nuts on Dec. 3rd and 5th with orders due on Nov. 28th.

Please mark your calendars and talk to your friends and relatives. We need orders as well as workers. Due to rising costs, we will be charging \$5 per 8oz. bag for Peanuts, Cashews, and Almonds. Any questions please call me @ 484-358-3735.

Thanks, Debbie

Alzheimer's Education Opportunity

Today, Sunday October 16th, we will hear from Kelly Schoenberger from Alzheimer's Research. Due to our support with their work for the last 11 years she would like to both thank us as well as share with us what has been accomplished during that time. She will speak briefly during church after which we will adjourn to Fellowship Hall for a soup and salad lunch. After that we are extending an invitation to the other UCC churches as well as our neighboring churches and the neighborhood to join us for an educational talk and question and answer time. Kelly would like to make us aware of the resources that are available to anyone who needs them. Please let friends and family know that they are welcome to join us!

October 16, 2022

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Planting Life

Access Sunday and Disabilities Awareness Week

Jacob Nault is a member of the UCC Disabilities Ministries. On this Disabilities Awareness Week, he checks in about how music connects us to God, and how the church can do better in welcoming people with disabilities.

“The church where I am a member is the Congregational UCC of Neenah-Menasha, in Neenah, WI. My pastor is Rev. David Frey.

I started playing piano at age 5. As my cerebral palsy affects primarily the left side of my body, learning to play the piano with both hands was a challenge. I taught myself a workable method which involves playing piano with six fingers—one in use in my left hand. My right hand takes care of melody and bass clef “fill” notes. In high school, I had the opportunity to take private piano lessons with an experienced professor who helped me refine that technique.

I feel very supported and affirmed as a musician. Music connects people to God in several important ways. Hymn lyrics, for example, can help us cement our theology. The experience of sharing music together can help worship become more communal and engaging. If implemented well, music can help us connect to the full range of the human experience—uncontainable joy or raging lament. Sharing the full range of human emotion deepens our relationship with God.

The wider church perspective on disability needs work. For example, many churches are unable to prioritize full inclusion of disabled people because building modifications are cost-prohibitive or accommodating neurodiverse needs in worship spaces seem too difficult. We miss an opportunity when we are inclusive of other marginalized populations but do not put the same energy into drawing the circle wider to the disability community.”

You can connect with Jacob Nault - Six-Fingered Pianist - on Facebook and Soundcloud to hear more of his wonderful music, including a new verse to Amazing Grace he wrote just for the UCC Disabilities Ministries.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary! Join us as we welcome Kelly Schoenberger during the service and then stay for lunch and her talk after.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours
7PM Darts @ Bethany against East Hills Moravian

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19

5:30PM Handbell Rehearsal
7PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

NEXT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary with Handbell Prelude and Guest Minister, Rev. Richard Teitsworth. Please give him a good Bethany welcome!

Rummage Sale

A Fall Rummage Sale will be held in Fellowship Hall on Friday Nov. 18 from 8-4 and Saturday Nov. 19 from 8-2. We need volunteers to give time setting up for the sale, serving at the sale and helping with clean up. Gail Correll is in charge of this project and will be putting up a sign-up sheet. Donations of clothing and small household items can be brought to the 5th Ave Sunday School room. Please do not bring electronics, TVs, or furniture. Please ask relatives and friends for donations as well.

136 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

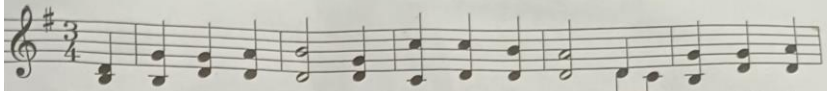
Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Mer - ci - ful and might - y!

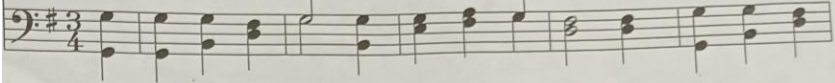
God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

O Worship the King

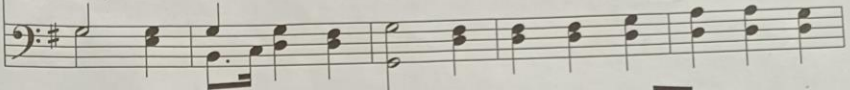
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1 O wor-ship the King, all glo-rious a - bove, O grate - ful - ly
2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace, whose robe is the
3 Thy boun-ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the
4 Frail chil-dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail, in thee do we



sing his power and his love; our Shield and De - fend - er, the
light, whose can - o - py space. His char - iots of wrath the deep
air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it de -
trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mer - cies how ten - der, how



An - cient of Days, pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
thun - der clouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
scends to the plain, and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
firm to the end, our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er and Friend.

