

# BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

Hours: Mon, Tues and Thurs. 9:30-1:30

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**Web address:** [www.uccbethany.org](http://www.uccbethany.org)

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



October 9, 2022

Laity 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

October 9, 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: "Brother James' Air" ...arr. D.E. Wagner  
Handbell Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come, let us gather in the awareness of God's love.

**P: God's love has brought us to this place; it has made  
of us a church.**

L: We can live with confidence and hope, in the assurance  
that we are forgiven and accepted by a power greater  
than ourselves.

**P: Let us praise this god of endless grace, and offer our  
hearts' true worship.**

\*HYMN: #56 "Sing Praise to God"

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

**God of the faithful in every time, today You have called  
us into Your church to be one body in Jesus Christ. You  
have blessed us with the gifts that we need for Your  
service. Grant that we may willingly take our part; that  
we may support one another; and that we may seek the  
greatest gift, which is love. Knead us together into one  
loaf with all Your people throughout the world, through  
Your Spirit of unity. 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 111

2 Timothy 2: 8-15

\* Luke 17: 11-19

Leader: This is the Good News

**People: Thanks be to God**

**SERMON:** What does prayer mean to you?

When have you experienced the power of prayer?

Rebecca Kesselring

Jean Fennell

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY:** "This Little Light of Mine" ...arr. N.A. Johnson  
Chancel Choir

**\*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 sacrifice, to Your service. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.**

**SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**CALL TO PRAYER – PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

(We are singing the Lord’s Prayer for music turn to pg. 740)

**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: #566 Your Servant Comes This Hour**

**\*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 Fred Ackerman in loving memory of Dolly

GREETERS: Cindy Beck

USHERS: Cindy Beck, Bob Ruhe

LAY READER: Barbara Reiniger

## Scriptures

### Psalm 111 NRSV

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup> Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.

<sup>3</sup> Full of honor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup> He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

<sup>5</sup> He provides food for those who fear him;  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

<sup>6</sup> He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the heritage of the nations.

<sup>7</sup> The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.

<sup>8</sup> They are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

<sup>9</sup> He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name.

<sup>10</sup> The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever.

### 2 Timothy 2: 8 - 15 NRSV

<sup>8</sup> Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, <sup>9</sup> for which I suffer

hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. <sup>10</sup> Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. <sup>11</sup> The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

<sup>12</sup> if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he will also deny us;

<sup>13</sup> if we are faithless, he remains faithful—

he cannot deny himself.

<sup>14</sup> Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. <sup>15</sup> Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

## **Luke 17: 11 - 19 NRSV**

<sup>11</sup> On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. <sup>12</sup> As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, <sup>13</sup> they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” <sup>14</sup> When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. <sup>15</sup> Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. <sup>16</sup> He prostrated himself at Jesus’s feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup> Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? <sup>18</sup> Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?” <sup>19</sup> Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

**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](mailto: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.

### **Alzheimer's Education Opportunity**

**Next Sunday October 16<sup>th</sup> 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!**

*Trick or Treat!*

*We are collecting Halloween treats and bottled water for our annual Trick or Treat 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!*

October 9, 2022

## **Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

Luke 18:1-8

Ask Boldly; Live Justly

*Children's Sabbath/Laity Sunday*

Holy One,

Today we open our mouths and these words travel from our hearts all the way to Your ear. As we pledge to be a voice for all who are voiceless, we pray also that our words may impel us to action. *Like the widow, who knocked and pounded and BANGED on the doors of oppression until they were opened, make us tireless, as we seek and find You and Your way of justice.*

We pray today for those children who lack safe water to drink. We know that water is life, but for too many, water is poison. We know that water is abundant, but for too many, water must be carried or painfully rationed. *Like the widow, who knocked and pounded and BANGED on the doors of oppression until they were opened, make us tireless, as we seek and find You and Your way of justice.*

We pray today for those children in need of access to medical care. As you healed all whom you touched, make us healers in your name - not only of individuals but of sick health care systems. Use us to ensure that medicines and healthcare are available to all. *Like the widow, who knocked and pounded and BANGED on the doors of oppression until they were opened, make us tireless, as we seek and find You and Your way of justice.*

Today we pray for children in captivity. For those caught up in the swirling storm that is modern-day slavery, for those separated at the border from the parents who only sought a better life for them, for those incarcerated unjustly, we vow to break down walls and fling open doors. *Like the widow, who knocked and pounded and BANGED on the doors of*

*oppression until they were opened, make us tireless, as we seek and find You and Your way of justice.*

We pray for those children who have no home, or whose home is a place of violence. We especially today remember your beloved LGBTQ children, made in Your beautiful image and yet too often cast out of their families and faith traditions in Your name. Open our arms wide, that we might embrace all of your children as we welcome all of them home. *Like the widow, who knocked and pounded and BANGED on the doors of oppression until they were opened, make us tireless, as we seek and find You and Your way of justice.*

### **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. 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> with orders due by October 31<sup>st</sup>. For December we will prep nuts on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> with orders due on Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>.***

***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***

*Please keep Tom Hoffert in your prayers as he suffered and injury at work. Also keep Ted and Marion Hendricks in your prayers as they adjust to life at Cedarbrook. Remember as this week's sermon reminds us there is power in prayer!*

# Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above 56

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -  
 2 What God's al - might - y power has made, in mer - cy he is  
 3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy  
 4 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God the praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our  
 keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his eye is nev -  
 hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness and came with peace  
 glo - ry. Let all who know his power pro - claim a loud the won -

sal - va - tion. My soul with com - fort rich he fills, and  
 er sleep - ing. And where he rules in king - ly might, there  
 to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord, who  
 drous sto - ry. Cast ev - ery i - dol from its throne; the

ev - ery grief he gent - ly stills: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 is by one and all a - dored: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry!

# Your Servant Comes This Hour 566

1 Your ser- vant comes this hour in true hu- mil - i - ty, be -  
2 Your ser- vant kneels in prayer, a - wait - ing from a - bove the  
3 Your ser- vant stands this day im - plant - ed in the word; pre -  
4 Your ser- vant leaves this place with con - fi - dence se - cure, and

liev - ing in your call, O God, and ans - wering, "Lord, send me."  
touch which sets their life a - part for min - i - stries of love.  
pared to share the ho - ly truth, pro - claim it lamp and sword.  
by the Ho - ly Spir - it bears the fruit which shall en - dure.

DS: Constance Cherry (1953-)  
C: William H. Walter (1825-1893)  
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FESTAL SONG  
S.M.

## 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.**

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9**

10:45AM      Worship in the Sanctuary! Laity Sunday with the Handbells playing

### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 10**

9:30AM      1:30PM Office Hours

7PM              Darts @ Bethany

### **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11**

9:30AM      1:30PM Office Hours

### **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12**

No Rehearsals

### **THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13**

9:30AM      1:30PM Office Hours

7PM              Consistory in FH

### **NEXT 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.

### Neighbors in Need

Last week as part of our service we collected for Neighbors in Need. As of now we have collected \$139.00. Envelopes are in the back of the Sanctuary and we will continue to collect until the end of the month for this cause.