

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

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

Church Office: 610-868-4441

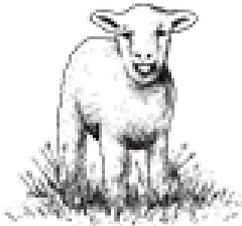
E-Mail: bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com

Web address: www.uccbethany.org

Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



Behold,
THE LAMB OF GOD,
who takes away
THE SIN
OF THE WORLD!"

JOHN 1:29, ESV

January 15, 2023

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 15, 2023

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: Fuga ...J. Pachelbel

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Sisters and brothers, today we recall; Jesus came to the waters of baptism. The heavens open. The Spirit descends.

P: Jesus emerges from the water.

L: And a voice echoes through the blue expanse.

All: "This is my child, the Beloved, with whom I am well-pleased."

P: Jesus is named. Claimed. As we gather for worship today, we remember that we are named. Claimed as God's own.

P: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.

*HYMN: #431 Jesus, Priceless Treasure

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

How we long to be affirmed, O God, to be told we are loved and valued. To hear such words would be almost too good to be true. Strengthen our hearts to hear your voice speaking those words to us today. Open our hearts to cling to your all-embracing love. In Jesus the light of the World we pray. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison): #647 We Have come to Join in Worship vs.1

We have come to join in worship and adore the Lord our God. Let us come in prayer, expecting God to speak his mighty Word. All in vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes Down. Christians, pray and holy manna will be showered all around.

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Psalm 40: 1-11

I Corinthians 1: 1-9

*John 1: 29-42

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "Come and See"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Lamb of Glory" ...arr. E. Thomas
Chancel Choir

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #720 With Grateful Heart, I Thank You, Lord vs. 3

I thank you Lord, for hand and heart to offer up your praise. I Thank you, Lord, for tongue to speak of all your loving ways. For health and strength, for work and play, for loved ones far and near, with grateful heart I thank you, Lord, for all that I hold dear.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God of life and love, Savior of all, receive with these gifts our gratitude for Your guidance, penitence for our pride and dedication to Your service in Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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: #241 When Jesus came to Jordan**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION: #715 God Be with You vs.1
God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you, with his sheep securely hold you; God be with you till we meet again.**

POSTLUDE

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS: are placed in honor of Jean Fennell's birthday by her husband Pastor Todd

BULLETINS:

GREETERS: Corey Tancin

USHERS: Len Kesselring, Tom Hoffert

LAY READER: Beverly Rumble

Scriptures

Psalm 40: 1 - 11 NRSV

- ¹ I waited patiently for the LORD;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- ² He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
- ³ He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear
and put their trust in the LORD.
- ⁴ Happy are those who make
the LORD their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.
- ⁵ You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.
- ⁶ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.
- ⁷ Then I said, "Here I am;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me.
- ⁸ I delight to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart."

⁹ I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
see, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O LORD.

¹⁰ I have not hidden your saving help within my heart;
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;
I have not concealed your steadfast love and your
faithfulness
from the great congregation.

¹¹ Do not, O LORD, withhold
your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
keep me safe forever.

I Corinthians 1: 1 - 9 NRSV

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, **2** To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: **3** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **4** I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, **5** for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—
6 just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—
7 so that you are not lacking in any gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. **8** He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** God is faithful, by whom you were called into the partnership of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1: 29 - 42 NRSV

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹ I myself did not know him, but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³² And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him." ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Chosen One."

The First Disciples of Jesus

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹ He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary. Please stay and help us remove the Christmas decorations.

MONDAY, JANUARY 16

Office Closed

7PM Darts @ St. Peters

TUESDAY, JANUARY 17

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18

Today is the start of a week of Prayer for Christian Unity

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary with Pastor Tammie Rinker from West Side Moravian Church as part of a pulpit exchange. After service a brief meeting to approve the 2023 Budget will take place. Please attend.

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.

February Beeline

Please submit any information you would like included in the February Beeline by January 16th. Thanks!

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Jesus, Priceless Treasure

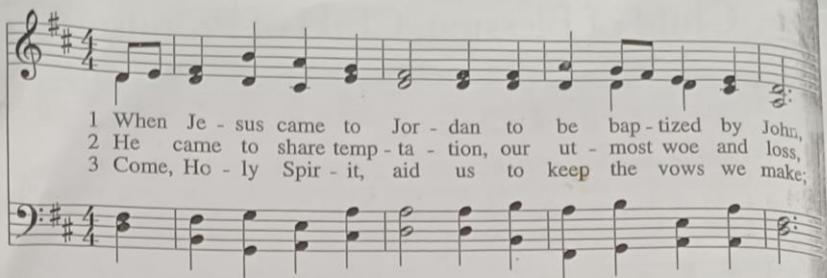
1 Je - sus, price - less treas - ure, source of pur - est pleas - ure,
 2 In thine arms I rest me; foes who would molest me
 3 Hence, all fears and sad - ness, for the Lord of glad - ness,

tru - est friend to me: Ah, how long I've pant - ed, and my heart has
 can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing, ev - ery heart be
 Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love the Fa - ther, though the storms may

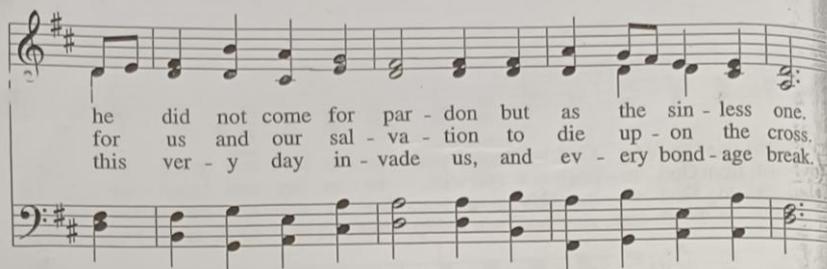
faint - ed, thirst - ing, Lord, for thee! Thine I am, O spot - less Lamb;
 quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear. Sin and hell in con - flict fell
 gath - er, still have peace with - in. Yea, what - e'er I here must bear,

I will suf - fer nought to hide thee, nought I ask be - side thee.
 with their bit - ter storms as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.
 still in thee lies pur - est pleas - ure, Je - sus, price - less treas - ure!

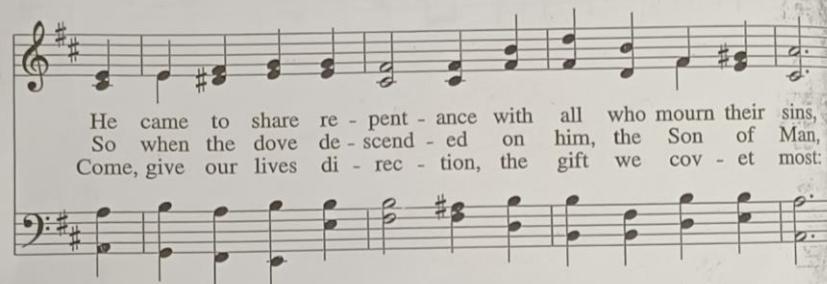
When Jesus Came to Jordan



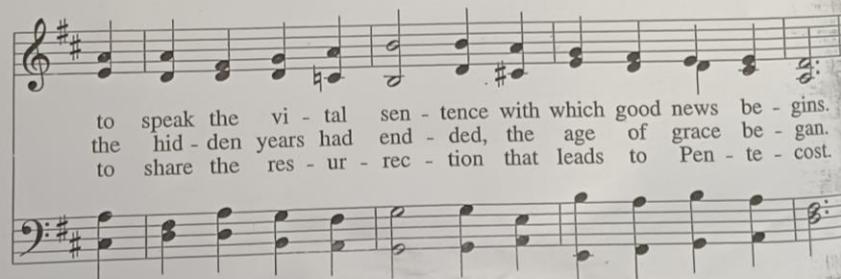
1 When Je - sus came to Jor - dan to be bap - tized by John,
 2 He came to share temp - ta - tion, our ut - most woe and loss,
 3 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, aid us to keep the vows we make;



he did not come for par - don but as the sin - less one.
 for us and our sal - va - tion to die up - on the cross,
 this ver - y day in - vade us, and ev - ery bond - age break.



He came to share re - pent - ance with all who mourn their sins,
 So when the dove de - scend - ed on him, the Son of Man,
 Come, give our lives di - rec - tion, the gift we cov - et most:



to speak the vi - tal sen - tence with which good news be - gins.
 the hid - den years had end - ed, the age of grace be - gan.
 to share the res - ur - rec - tion that leads to Pen - te - cost.