

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

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

Church Office: 610-868-4441

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Pastor Todd Fennell

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music



April 2, 2023

Palm 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

April 2, 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: "All Glory, Laud and Honor" ...Smith/Hustad
Piano-Rebecca Kesselring/Organ-Susan Wright

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Come! Come from the streets and the roads!

People: Join the happy throng that gathers to honor Jesus!

Pastor: Come! Come from your busy homes and places of business.

People: Put down your work in joyful celebration!

Pastor: Turn your eyes toward the Savior whom God has sent!

All: Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is Jesus Christ, who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen!

*HYMN: "The Palms" ...J. Faure
Trombone-Tim Rumble

**O'er all the way, green palms and blossoms gay,
Are strewn this day in festal preparation
Where Jesus comes, to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome Him prepare.
(Refrain)**

(Refrain)

**Join all and sing, His name declares,
Let ev'ry voice resound with joyous acclamation,
Hosanna! Praised be the Lord!
Bless Him, who cometh to bring us salvation!**

**His word goes forth, and people by its might.
Freedom regains once more from degradation.
Humanity doth give to each his right.
While those in darkness are restored to light.
(Refrain)**

**Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem
Of all thy sons sing the emancipation,
Thro' boundless love, the Christ of Bethlehem
Brings faith and hope to thee forevermore. (Refrain)**

***PALM SUNDAY CHEER**

***INTROIT: "Lo, He Comes" ... J. D. Horman
Chancel Choir**

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)**

**Gracious God of love and infinite power, we praise You
for Jesus Christ, who came riding into the city of
Jerusalem on a lowly beast, victorious through love and
not by might. Help us understand His servanthood and
His suffering and move us to deeper faith and service. In
His name we pray. Amen.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison): #271 Lift Up
Your Heads**

Full Verse Introduction by Handbell Choir

Lift up your heads to the coming King. Bow before him and adore him, sing! To his majesty, let your praises be pure and holy, giving glory to the King of kings.

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Philippians 2:5-11

*Mark 11: 1- 11

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "After the Parade"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Today is the Day" ...Garrett, arr. B. Red
Chancel Choir

Percussion- Jenna Nguyen, Cindy Cressman, Tim Rumble

*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

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: #All Glory Laud and Honor” ...arr. C. Dobrinski
Handbell Choir, Organ, Trombone**

**All glory, laud, and honor to thee, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David’s royal Son,
Who in the Lord’s name comest, The King and blessed
One.**

**The company of angels are praising thee on high,
And mortal men and all things Created make reply.
The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we
present.**

**To thee, before thy passion they sang their hymns of
praise; To thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we
bring, who in all good delightest, Thou good and
gracious King.**

***BENEDICTION**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION: 267 “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna
Full verse introduction by the Handbell Choir
“Hosanna in the highest” That ancient song we sing, for
Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven our King. O
May, we ever praise him with heart and life and voice,
and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice!**

**POSTLUDE: “Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”
Trombone and Organ**

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS and BULLETINS are presented as a thank you to everyone who works so hard to keep Bethany alive. You are appreciated.

GREETERS: Barbara Backensto

USHERS: Barbara Backensto, Tom Hoffert

LAY READER: Barbara Reiniger

Scriptures

Philippians 2: 5 - 11 NRSV

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Mark 11:1 - 11 NRSV

11 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, ² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which

no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'" ⁴ They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, ⁵ some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" ⁶ They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. ⁷ When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. ⁸ Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹ Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" ¹⁰ "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" ¹¹ Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courts. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Alzheimer Joyful Noise

What a great collection we have received so far in our Joyful Noise for March. We have currently collected \$1090. You may still contribute until today Palm Sunday April 2nd. If you wish to pay by check please write Alzheimer's in the memo part of your check. Thank you!

One Great Hour of Sharing

Last month we began our collection for One Great Hour of Sharing. So far, we have collected \$193 to provide immediate aid and long-term support to people experiencing hunger, thirst, disaster, or crisis around the world. Contributions may be made until today, Palm Sunday.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

SUNDAY, APRIL 2 Palm Sunday

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary as we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Today is the last day to donate to Alzheimer Research.

MONDAY, APRIL 3

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

TUESDAY, APRIL 4

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5

5:30PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, APRIL 6

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

7PM Maundy Thursday service with Communion

FRIDAY, APRIL 7

7PM Good Friday service

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 Easter Sunday

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary as we celebrate Jesus rising from the grave

Heartfelt gratitude is extended to Cindy Cressman for polishing our entire 4 octave set of handbells!

Many Thanks to all our Bethany Musicians for their joyful participation in this morning's Palm Sunday Service.