

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



Whoever
finds their life
will lose it,
—— and ——

Whoever
loses their life
for my sake
will find it.

MATTHEW 10:39, NIV

June 25, 2023 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

June 25, 2023

10:00 AM

We encourage our visitors to include their name, address, and phone number in the Guest Book at the top of the steps and come again. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to become part of the community of faith and mission 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: "Jesus Lover of My Soul" ... Marsh arr.
Thompson Choir Chimes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus calls us this day and every day to a journey of discipleship that will radically transform.

People: We hear Your summons as You call us by name, and our desire is to say "yes".

Leader: Jesus calls us to a joining of "followship" that will challenge us as it challenged Him to live the truth of His identity.

People: Jesus calls us to a journey of "followship" that offers life without fear, eternally bound in the love and shelter of our Creator. Let us worship God!

*HYMN: #345 Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

Eternal Giver, as we thank you for the wondrous, precious gift of life, we are aware of how time slips

through our fingers. Caught up in yesterday's dreams and tomorrows hopes we miss the opportunities of today. Grant us courage to meet the challenges of today motivated by the vision of Your reign and power. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also, with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison): #657 He Has Made Me Glad

I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart; I will enter his courts with praise. I will say "This is the day that the Lord had made!" I will rejoice for he has made me glad. He has made me glad; he has made me glad; I will rejoice for he has made me glad. He has made me glad; he has made me glad; I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Psalm 86 1-10

Romans 6: 1-11

*Matthew 10: 24 – 39

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "Fearless Sparrows"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "O For A Song" ... D. Govenor see text on page 9

Chancel Choir

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

**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:

**Holy God, thank you for sending the gift of your Holy
Spirit. Fill our hearts and minds with Your gifts of faith,
hope and love. We dedicate ourselves and these
offerings to Your good purposes in the world. Bless us
and bless them, 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: #346 O Come to Me, the Master Said

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION: Bind Us Together

**Bind us together, Lord; Bind us together with cords
that cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord; Bind us
together, Lord, Bind us together with love.**

POSTLUDE

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS and BULLETINS: are sponsored by Len & Rebecca Kesselring to celebrate the season of summer and witness the beauty of God's Majesty unfolding upon our earth.

GREETERS: Ina Denninger

USHERS: Corey Tancin, Tom Hoffert

LAY READER: Debbie Brown

Scriptures

Psalm 86: 1 - 10 NRSV

- ¹ Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
- ² Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you;
save your servant who trusts in you.
You are my God; ³ be gracious to me, O Lord,
for to you do I cry all day long.
- ⁴ Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
- ⁵ For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you.
- ⁶ Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
listen to my cry of supplication.
- ⁷ In the day of my trouble I call on you,
for you will answer me.
- ⁸ There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.
- ⁹ All the nations you have made shall come

and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.

¹⁰ For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.

Romans 6: 1 - 11 NRSV

6 What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 10: 24 – 39 NRSV

²⁴ “A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶ “So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not

become known. ²⁷ What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸ Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell.^[a] ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰ And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹ So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³² “Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, ³³ but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴ “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

³⁵ For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, ³⁶ and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

³⁷ “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, ³⁸ and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹ Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Blessing Bags

For the summer we are collecting items to be used at the shelter. The most urgent needs are Travel size shampoo, conditioner, body wash, face wipes, washcloths, razors, shaving cream, tampons, pads, deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

SUNDAY, JUNE 25 66th Anniversary of the UCC

10AM Worship in Fellowship Hall followed by
Congregational Meeting

MONDAY, JUNE 26

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hour

TUESDAY, JUNE 27

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

5:30PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

7PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, JUNE 29

9:30AM 1:30PM Office Hours

SATURDAY, JULY 1

6:35PM Iron Pigs Game

SUNDAY, JULY 2

10AM Worship in Fellowship Hall as we celebrate the
birth of our nation.

Welcome to the Rev. Dr. David Deremer! Dave has served congregations and social ministry agencies for more than 40 years. He was an Adjunct Faculty member in Pastoral Theology at Princeton and Moravian Theological Seminaries. (Dave was very instrumental at matching Linda Wisser to be Bethany's Pastor during her time at Moravian Seminary) Dave is a consultant for the Penn Northeast Conference, helping churches with their futuring projects. He has been hired by Bethany's consistory to help Bethany with its future. Thank you, Dave!

O For a Song

O for a song to praise my Lord, O for a heart to trust his word, A soul to bless His holy name, A voice His message to proclaim. O for a song to praise my king, For a melody to sing the praise of him who died for me, a song to sing eternally. If sorrow finds me on my way, give me a song, I pray, to guide me through the darkest night and lead me onward to the light. If joy be mine, then, Lord, I pray, give me a song to sing that day to fill my heart with sweet surprise, and lift my spirit to the skies. Throughout my life His praise I'll sing no matter what the years may bring; whatever path my feet have trod, I am content to walk with God. O for a heart to worship Him, O for a faith that grows not dim, A hope when death draws nigh that I may dwell with Him on high. O for a song to praise my Lord, O for a heart to trust His Word, O for a voice that I may sing eternal praises to my King.

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Please send thinking of you cards for Darlene and Ken Yocum. As Pastor mentioned Darlene has been moved to hospice care. I think it would mean a lot to them to know that we are thinking of them. Maybe include a memory of something you shared with them.

1573 Primrose Lane

Daytona Beach, FL 32117


345 Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult

1 Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
 2 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
 3 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
 4 Je - sus calls us— by thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,

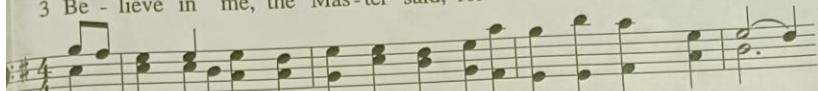
life's wild, rest - less sea; day by day his sweet voice
 vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
 toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
 may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thine o -

sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
 keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
 pleas - ures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
 be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

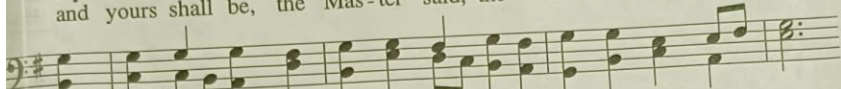
O Come to Me, the Master Said 346




1 O come to me, the Mas-ter said, my Fa-ther knows your need;
 2 A - bide in me, the Mas-ter said, the true and liv - ing vine;
 3 Be - lieve in me, the Mas-ter said, for I have called you friends,



and I shall be, the Mas-ter said, your bread of life in - deed.
 my life shall be, the Mas-ter said, poured out for you as wine.
 and yours shall be, the Mas-ter said, the life that nev - er ends.



By faith in him we live and grow and share the bro - ken bread,
 His bod - y to the cross he gave, his blood he free - ly shed,
 And so, with sin and sor - row past, when death it - self is dead,



and all his love and good-ness know, for so the Mas-ter said.
 who came in love to seek and save, for so the Mas-ter said.
 the Lord shall raise us up at last, for so the Mas-ter said.

Be like the Sparrow!

How lovely is your dwelling place,

LORD Almighty!

² My soul yearns, even faints,

for the courts of the LORD;

my heart and my flesh cry out

for the living God.

³ Even the sparrow has found a home,

and the swallow a nest for herself,

where she may have her young—

a place near your altar,

LORD Almighty, my King and my God.

⁴ Blessed are those who dwell in your house;

they are ever praising you.

⁵ Blessed are those whose strength is in you,

whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.

⁶ As they pass through the Valley of Baka,

they make it a place of springs;

the autumn rains also cover it with pools.

⁷ They go from strength to strength,

till each appears before God in Zion.

⁸ Hear my prayer, LORD God Almighty;

listen to me, God of Jacob.

⁹ Look on our shield, O God;

look with favor on your anointed one.

¹⁰ Better is one day in your courts

than a thousand elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God

than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹¹ For the LORD God is a sun and shield;

the LORD bestows favor and honor;

no good thing does he withhold

from those whose walk is blameless.

¹² LORD Almighty,

blessed is the one who trusts in you.