

# BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018

Hours: Mon and Fri 9:00-1:00 and Wed 1:00-5:00

Church Office: 610-868-4441

E-Mail: [bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com](mailto:bethanyunitedchurch@rcn.com)

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

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music

Rev. Dr. David H. DeRemer, Supply Pastor



## **Peter Denies Jesus**

March 17, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent

### **“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

March 17, 2024

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.

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

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: "Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown" ... arr. J. Krug  
Flute – Meghann Wright

CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Welcome, travelers, to the journey of faith.

**C: We come to join with Christ in his journey to the cross**

P: God says that we shall be raised from our living graves and we shall be filled with Spirit.

**C: Sometimes we are cut off from one another and our joy fades.**

P: God says that we shall be at home with one another and we shall live with celebration.

**C: God reveals to us wondrous works of love as we come to know God.**

\*HYMN: #502 Be Thou My Vision (Irish Melody)

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Eternal and Almighty God, you have long sought us and we have fled. You have offered us an easy yoke, and we have weighed ourselves down with worries and burdens. You have forgiven us, and we have complained against our sisters and brothers. Teach us a repentance that thrives through works of love. Lead**

**us into the narrow path. Guide us through the valley of the shadow of death. Call us to follow Jesus Christ, and in his way, to live and suffer, die and rise again. Amen.**

**\*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

Leader: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you" Let us offer each other a sign of peace. The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also, with you.**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (unison): #736**

Celtic Alleluia

**Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**READING OF SCRIPTURES**

Philippians 2: 5 - 11

\*Mark 14: 66 - 72

Leader: This is the Good News

**People: Thanks be to God**

**SERMON: "Jesus and Peter"**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY: "Irish Shepherd's Psalm" ... arr. K. L. Scott  
(Trad. Irish) Chancel Choir**

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #720 With Grateful Hearts 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 OF OFFERINGS, GIFTS AND SELF**

**God of light and promise, we bring our gifts to further your work in a dark world. Accept these gifts of money and time, indeed, the gift of our very selves. May they bring your light to those overwhelmed by darkness, pain, and loneliness. Let them shine for all to see. 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: #350 The Summons (Scottish Melody)**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**(Please be seated)**

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION: “Irish Blessing” ... D. Tuck  
Chancel Choir**

***Our worship ends, our service begins!***



FLOWERS: and BULLETINS: are presented by Ruth and Barry Smith in celebration of their 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

GREETERS: Volunteer

USHERS: Volunteer, Tom Hoffert

LAY READER: Bill Rumble

## Scriptures

### Philippians 2: 5 - 11 NRSV

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

<sup>6</sup> who, though he existed in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be grasped,

<sup>7</sup> but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
assuming human likeness.

And being found in appearance as a human,

<sup>8</sup> he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him even more highly  
and gave him the name  
that is above every other name,

<sup>10</sup> so that at the name given to Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

<sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

### Mark 14: 66 - 72 NRSV

<sup>66</sup> While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the female servants of the high priest came by. <sup>67</sup> When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, “You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.” <sup>68</sup> But he denied it,

saying, “I do not know or understand what you are talking about.” And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. <sup>69</sup> And the female servant, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, “This man is one of them.” <sup>70</sup> But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, “Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean, and you talk like one.” <sup>71</sup> But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, “I do not know this man you are talking about.” <sup>72</sup> At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, “Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.” And he broke down and wept.

**2024 Flower and Bulletin Charts** are posted on the BB on the left side of the main entrance. Please note two vases will cost \$60. A rectangular arrangement will cost \$30. Silk (S) flowers will be \$10. Bulletins will cost \$10. Be sure to indicate what type of flowers you want – real or silk. We are now working with Country Rose Florist in Westgate.

**Any questions, contact the church office.**

As in the past, contact the office with your information for the bulletin no later than the Tuesday before your sponsored date. Thank you.

**Please consider signing up to support these programs. For \$20 you can celebrate someone’s special day or something as simple as you saw the first robin of spring. With so much bad news let’s look for the good.**

## **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.

# A worthy CAUSE

Once again, we will be collecting for Alzheimer's Disease Research during the month of March. The official day for collection will be at the Joyful Noise offering this Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. Last

year we raised over \$1,000 for this worthy cause and one very near and dear to our hearts here at Bethany Church. We have been supporting this program since 2011 and have raised over \$10,000 which thanks to generous programs have been doubled to over \$20,000. Checks need to be made out to Bethany UCC with Alzheimer's written in the memo. Bethany will send one check to the organization. Thank you in advance for your most generous donations. Any questions can be directed to Sue Wright.

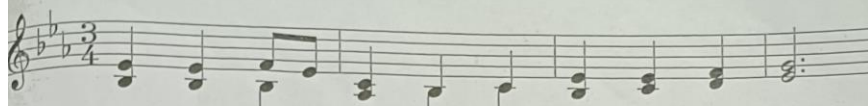
P.S. If you are not able to be in attendance on March 17th, your donation will be accepted any time before that date in the offering plate or through the church office. We will be accepting donations up to and including Sunday April, 7.

**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.

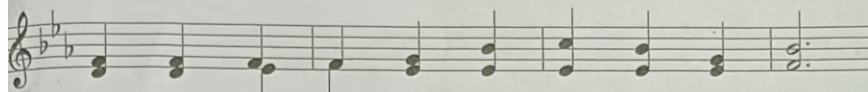
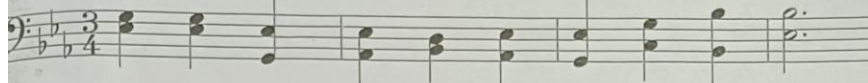


# Be Thou My Vision

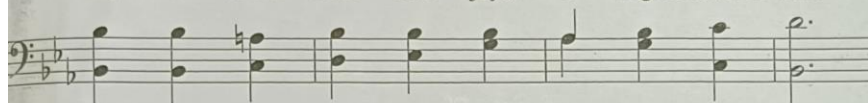
502



1 Be thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my Wis - dom, and thou my true Word,  
3 High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,



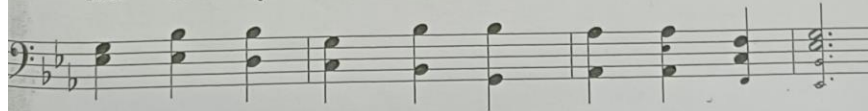
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!



thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
high King of heav - en, my Treas - ure thou art.  
still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.





# The Summons

*Unison*

1 Will you come and fol - low me if I but  
 2 Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but  
 3 Will you let the blind - ed see if I but  
 4 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but

call your name? Will you go where you don't  
 call your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 call your name? Will you set the pris - oners  
 call my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same? Will you  
 kind and nev - er be the same? Will you  
 free and nev - er be the same? Will you  
 you and nev - er be the same. In your

let my love be shown, will you let my  
 risk the hos - tile stare should your life at  
 kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

350 CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

name be known, will you let my life be  
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?  
prayer in you and you in me?  
mean in you and you in me?  
grow in you and you in me.

## Nominations for Consistory

### **Elder (3 year terms 2024 to 2027)**

Tim Rumble  
Phil Haines  
Bob Ruhe  
Gail Correll

### **Deacon (3 year terms 2024 to 2027)**

Tom Wright  
Lisa Nguyen  
Corey Tancin  
Tom Hoffert

## THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

### **TODAY SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

10:45AM      Worship in the Sanctuary with Rev. Dr. Dave DeRemer. Week 5 of "Journey to the Cross" Joyful Noise for Alzheimer's Research will be collected.

### **MONDAY, MARCH 18**

9:00AM      1:00PM Office Hours  
7PM          Darts @ Trinity UCC  
Beeline Articles Due and last day to order Easter flowers

### **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20**

1:00PM      6:00PM Office Hours  
7PM          Chancel Choir Rehearsal

### **FRIDAY, MARCH 22**

9:00AM      12:00PM Office Hours

### **SUNDAY, MARCH 24 Palm Sunday**

10:45AM      Worship in the Sanctuary with Rev. Dr. Dave DeRemer. Join us as we usher in Holy Week.

**The Consistory of Bethany UCC Bethlehem declares that this year's Annual Meeting of the congregation will be held on April 7, 2024 in the sanctuary.**

**Worship on that Sunday will begin at 10:00 AM**

**The Annual Meeting will immediately follow the conclusion of worship.**



Anyone wishing to place a tulip, daffodil or mum in our sanctuary or make a donation for an artificial lily for Easter Sunday is asked to fill in the necessary information below and return it to the Church Office accompanied by a check. Checks can be made out to "Bethany UCC" marked Easter flowers. **The deadline for all orders is Monday, March 18.**

Thank you.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tulips @ \$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Daffodils @ \$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

Number of mums @ \$10 each \_\_\_\_\_

Artificial lily donation \_\_\_\_\_

In Loving Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

or

In Honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_