

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

Web address: www.uccbethany.org

Matt Miller, Consistory President

Susan Wright, Director of Music

Rev. Dr. David H. DeRemer, Supply Pastor

*You always have
the poor with you ...
but you will not
always
have
me.*



March 3, 2024

Third 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 3, 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: "Jesus the Very Thought of Thee" & "O Master Let Me Walk with Thee" ...arr. M. L. Thompson & F. L. Callahan Handbell Choir

Jesus, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast; but sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free; tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.

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: We worship of God of extravagant hospitality and forgiveness

C: We try to live us to God's extravagant welcome but it is hard

P: Our God shows us the way to loving acceptance.

C: May we follow in the ways of our gracious Savior.

*HYMN: #474 I Surrender All

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Eternal God, from the beginning of time you have called your children into communion with you. Yet we confess that like all the rest, we have turned to our own way and refused your love and grace. Restore us to the joy of knowing you, and of recognizing your reign among us, through Jesus Christ, the bringer of your good news. 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): #491

Open Our Eyes

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus, to reach out and touch him, and say that we love him. Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen, open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

READING OF SCRIPTURES

Psalm 31: 9-16

*Mark 14:1-9

Leader: This is the Good News

People: Thanks be to God

SERMON: "Jesus and the Extravagant Woman"

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY: "Holy Ground" ... arr. L. Larson
Chancel Choir

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE: #470(E&R) Savior Thy Dying
Love

**Savior thy dying love Thou gavest me, Nor
should I aught with-hold, Dear Lord, from Thee; in
love my soul would bow, My heart fulfil its vow,
Some offering bring Thee now, Something for Thee.**

*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: #408 I Am Thine, O Lord

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION: "God Be with You" ...arr. W. G. Tomer
Handbell Choir & Congregation
Handbells will play response one time thru as the introduction.

God be with you till we meet again, By His counsels' guide uphold you, With His sheep securely fold you God be with you till we meet again.

Our worship ends, our service begins!



FLOWERS: and BULLETINS: are presented by Len and Rebecca Kesselring to honor the Glory of God.

GREETERS: Judy & George Morgan

USHERS: Gail Correll, Corey Tancin

LAY READER: Sue Wright

Scriptures

Psalm 31: 9 - 16 NRSV

⁹ Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
my eye wastes away from grief,
my soul and body also.

¹⁰ For my life is spent with sorrow
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery,
and my bones waste away.

¹¹ I am the scorn of all my adversaries,
a horror to my neighbors,
an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.

¹² I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.

- 13 For I hear the whispering of many—
terror all around!—
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.
- 14 But I trust in you, O LORD;
I say, “You are my God.”
- 15 My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.
- 16 Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.

Mark 14: 1 - 9 NRSV

14 It was two days before the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him, ²for they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”³ While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. ⁴But some were there who said to one another in anger, “Why was the ointment wasted in this way? ⁵For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor.” And they scolded her. ⁶But Jesus said, “Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. ⁷For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish, but you will not always have me. ⁸She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. ⁹Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her.”

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.

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. 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.

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.





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 on Sunday, March 17th. 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.

One Great Hour of Sharing® is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This Lenten Offering supports the disaster, refugee, and development ministries of the UCC. Collection for OGHS will be March 10.

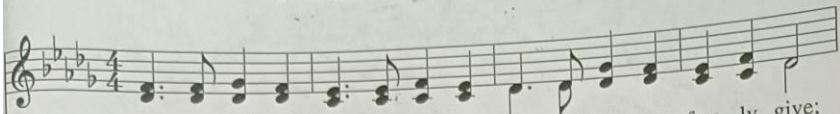
INVITE FROM ST. THOMAS!

Our 50PLUS group will meet from 10am to noon on Tuesday, March 12 at St. Thomas, 902 East Macade Rd., Bethlehem.

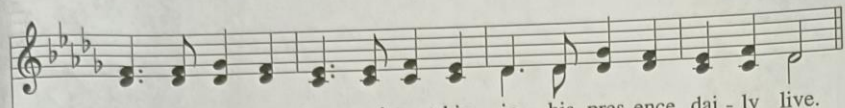
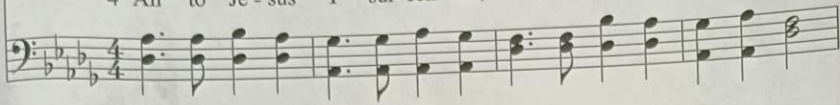
Drumming and shamrock shakes! What could be more fun! Moe Jerant will lead the program. To register, call the church office at 610.868.9167. You may bring a snack to share if you like.

I Surrender All

474



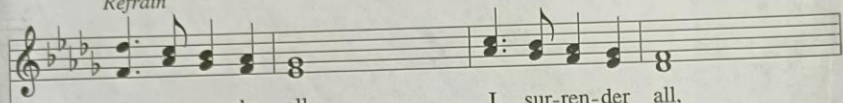
1 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, all to him I free-ly give;
2 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, hum-bly at his feet I bow,
3 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, make me, Sav-ior, whol-ly thine;
4 All to Je - sus I sur-ren-der, Lord, I give my - self to thee;



I will ev - er love and trust him, in his pres-ence dai - ly live.
world - ly pleas-ures all for-sak - en: take me, Je - sus, take me now.
may thy Ho - ly Spir - it fill me, may I know thy power di - vine.
fill me with thy love and pow - er, let thy bless-ing fall on me.



Refrain



I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all,
I sur-ren-der all, I sur-ren-der all,



all to thee, my bless - ed Sav - ior, I sur - ren - der all.



I Am Thine, O Lord

1 I am thine, O Lord—I have heard thy voice, and it told thy
 2 Con - se - crate me now to thy serv - ice, Lord, by the power of
 3 O the pure de - light of a sin - gle hour that be - fore thy
 4 There are depths of love that I can - not know till I cross the

love to me; but I long to rise in the arms of faith
 grace di - vine; let my soul look up with a stead - fast hope
 throne I spend, when I kneel in prayer and with thee, my God, reach
 nar - row sea; there are heights of joy that I may not reach

Refrain

and be clos - er drawn to thee.
 and my will be lost in thine. Draw me near - er, near - er, bless - ed Lord,
 I com - mune as friend with friend.
 till I rest in peace with thee.

to the cross where thou hast died; draw me near - er, near - er,

near - er, bless - ed Lord, to thy pre - cious, bleed - ing side.

THIS WEEK AT BETHANY

TODAY SUNDAY, MARCH 3

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary with Rev. Dr. Dave DeRemer. Week 3 of "Journey to the Cross"

MONDAY, MARCH 4

9:00AM 1:00PM Office Hours
7PM Darts @ Holy Cross

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

1:00PM 5:00PM Office Hours

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

9:00AM 1:00PM Office Hours

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

10:45AM Worship in the Sanctuary with Rev. Dr. Dave DeRemer. OGHS offering will be collected.

From the Secretary,

Since things have changed here at Bethany there will be some changes made to the office hours. I will still be here three days a week but some of the days and times will change. Starting January 8th, I will work Monday from 9am – 1pm, Wednesday from 1pm – 5pm and Friday from 9am – 1pm. I will change the bulletin and answering machine to reflect these changes. As always it never hurts to call first if you are stopping by.

Thank you,

Debbie



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:
