

Worship Bulletin - Bethel Congregational Church, UCC
April 21st, 2024 —4th Sunday of Easter
Membership Sunday - “Good Shepherd”



Centering Words

(Acts 4, 1 John 3, Psalm 23, John 10)

*Be bold before God, for Christ, the rejected one, has become the cornerstone of our faith.
Through the Good Shepherd, you are found, comforted, and loved.*



www.betheluccontario.org

536 N Euclid Ave Ontario CA 91762

In Person & Live Streaming Sundays at 9:55am

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Bethel Congregational Church, UCC

Sunday – April 21st , 2024

Prelude

Call to Worship (Responsive) (*Psalm 23, 1 John 3, John 10*)

The Lord is my shepherd, I will fear no darkness.

We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

Christ, the Good Shepherd, has compassion for all.

We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

Open your hearts to goodness and mercy today.

We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

Love, not merely in thought and word,
but in truth and action.

We will love one another, as Christ loves us.

Unison Invocation

Shepherding God, guardian of our souls,
you offer us rest in the safety of green pastures.

Shower us with your love,
and offer us fullness of life in your name.

When our spirits are parched,
you lead us beside still waters
and quench our thirst for righteousness;

you restore our souls
and heal our battered spirits.

Touch our hearts and minds,
that your goodness and mercy may follow us
every day of our lives.

May we abide in your love and grace
for all eternity. Amen.

(B. J. Beu)

***Gathering Hymn Part of the Family**

by Jim Manley

Chorus

*Come in come in and sit down, You are a part of the family
We are lost and we are found, And we are a part of the family*

Verse 1

You know the reason why you came,
Yet no reason can explain
So share in the laughter and cry in the pain,
For we are a part of the family
God is with us in this place
Like a Mother's warm embrace
We're all forgiven by God's grace, For we are a part of the family

CHORUS

Verse 2

Wealthy or homeless, we all belong
Wheel-chaired or walking our spirits are strong
If we're Trans or we're Queer, we join in the song
For we are a part of the family
Greeters and shoppers longtime and new
Nobody here has a claim on a pew
And whether we're many or only a few, We are a part of the family

CHORUS

Verse 3

There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine
We are the branches and Christ is the vine
This is God's temple it's not yours or mine
But we are a part of the family
There's rest for the weary and health for us all
There's a yoke that is easy and a burden that's small
So come in and worship and answer the call, For we are a part of the family

CHORUS

6. Part of the Family

words and music by
JIM MANLEY

For Judy Wagner and Tim

Chords: G, Am, D, G

Come in, come in and sit down You are a part of the fam - 'ly. We are

Chords: Am, D, G, (C) G fine, G

lost and we are found, and we are a part of the fam - 'ly.

1. You know the God is
2. Weal - thy or Greet - ers and
3. There's life to be There's rest for the

Chords: Am, D, G

rea - son why you came Yet no rea - son can ex - plain, So with us in this place Like a moth - er's warm em - brace, home - less, we all be - long Wheelchaired or walk - ing our spirits - are strong, If shop - pers, long time and new, No - bod - y here has a claim on a pew. And shared in the bread and the wine, We are the branch - es, and Christ is the vine, wea - ry, and health for us all, There's a yoke that is eas - y and a bur - den that's small, So

Chords: Am, D, G, (C), 1 G, 2 D.C. G

share in the laugh - ter and cry in the pain For we are a part of the fam - 'ly.
We're all for - giv - en by God's grace For we are a part of the fam - 'ly.
we're trans or we're queer we join in the song, for We are a part of the fam - 'ly.
wheth we're man - y or on - ly a few We are a part of the fam - 'ly.
This is God's tem - ple, it's not yours or mine But we are a part of the fam - 'ly.
come in and wor - ship and an - swer the call For we are a part of the fam - 'ly.

Passing the Peace

Welcome/Announcements

- Spiritual Studies continues Wednesdays at 7pm – The “OTHER” Books
- Southland Wind Ensemble Concert – Saturday April 27 4pm
- Saturday May 4 - Cello Recital (Garibaldi Caputo) 6pm
- Sunday May 5 - Southland Symphony Season Final with Ruslan Biryukov – 4pm
- Sunday May 19 3pm – Ontario Youth Symphony Concert

*Special Music

Psalm 23

Pastor Sylvia and Sandy Gunn

Children's' Time

Gloria

Glory to the Creator

The Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be

World without end, Amen, Amen.

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Glory to the Creator

The musical score is written for guitar and voice in 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system (measures 1-4) has a treble clef and a bass clef. The treble clef staff contains the melody with lyrics underneath. The bass clef staff contains the guitar accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: C, G/D, C, G/B, G, C, G/B, Am/C. The second system (measures 5-8) starts with a measure rest in the treble staff. Chords are G/D, D7, G, C, G7, G7. The third system (measures 9-12) starts with a measure rest in the treble staff. Chords are C, G, G/F, C/E, C/G, G7, C. The score ends with a double bar line and a bass clef.

C G/D C G/B G C G/B Am/C
Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, the Christ the Ho - ly Spi - rit

5 G/D D⁷ G C G⁷ G⁷
three in one; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

10 C G G/F C/E C/G G⁷ C
shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

1 John 3:16-24

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us--and we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything.

Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us.

All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away--and the wolf snatches them and scatters them.

The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.

For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

New Member Liturgy

Invitation

Questions of the Candidate(s)

CONGREGATION (when directed): *We promise, with the help of God*

Affirmation of Faith

Congregation please stand as able

(People respond as indicated)

The congregation may be seated

Address

Question About Participation

Welcome *(The congregation may stand as able)*

PASTOR: Let us, the members of Bethel express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

PEOPLE: *We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.*

(The congregation may be seated)

Greeting of Christian Love

PASTOR AND REPRESENTATIVES

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Bethel United Church of Christ, we extend to you the hand of Christian love.

Prayer (Pastor) ... and serving the world for the sake of Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen

Song

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above

1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love;

The first system of musical notation is for the first line of the song. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "1. Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love;"

The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove.

The second system of musical notation is for the second line of the song. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "The fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove."

PRAYER OF YEARNING (Unison) (*Acts 4, 1 John 3, Psalm 23, John 10*)

Good Shepherd, help us become your bold acolytes,
lighting the way of your truth for all to see.

Help us choose honorable paths
through green pastures and still waters
amid the darkest valleys of our lives.

For you are greater than our fears
and you know how to bring us peace.

As you laid down your life for us,
may we strive to live for others.

We choose you this day,
for no other name under heaven
inspires us to greater joy. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE (*Psalm 23, Acts 4, John 10*)

You are welcome at the table of the Lord.
The Good Shepherd beckons all to come
and be restored.

Rejoice in the knowledge that you are loved!

Prayers of the People

Joys and Concerns

Silent Prayers – *Call to mind the joys and concerns on your heart*

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors
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

Call to the Offering - Invitation

Dr. Mann

Please remember to send your offerings in so that we can continue our ministries.

(If you want a portion of your offering to be designated as something specific, just write that in the message area.) If you forget to write a note with the offering – just email us (info@BethelUCCOntario.org) or message us through Facebook.

Giving Options: In person – *We are not yet “passing the plate”. You may leave your offering in one of the offering plates (front of the sanctuary, or usher’s table in the rear).*

Give online at www.betheluccontario.org,

To use a credit or debit card, use the yellow “Donate” button (processed by PayPal – no PP account required), or the green Tithe.ly button (Processed by Tithe.ly)



Use **ZELLE** (through your bank website or via the stand alone app) to transfer your offering to us directly from your bank. When you use Zelle, we are “Bethel Congregational Church” Our verified Zelle email is info@betheluccontario.org



MAIL - Just mail your check to Bethel Congregational
536 N Euclid Ave, Ontario CA 91762.



Church

QR Code – Scan the code to send your offering to us through PayPal

Scan. Pay. Go.

Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving (Unison) (Psalm 23, John 10)

As the Good Shepherd lays down his life for his sheep,
may we, too, strive to serve our neighbors.

Whether next door, across town, or around the world,
may God bless our prayers, our gifts,
and our ministries.

In Christ’s name, we present these gifts. Amen.

***Singing into Mission** *Jesu Jesu*

Refrain:

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.*

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, silently washes their feet,
Jesu, you acted as servant to them. [Refrain]

2 Neighbors are rich and poor, varied in color and race,
neighbors are near and far away. [Refrain]

3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. [Refrain]

4 Loving puts us on our knees, showing our faith by our deeds,
serving the neighbors we have from you. [Refrain]

5 Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you. [Refrain]

Jesu Jesu

Words and Music by
Tom Colvin

CHORUS

C/E

C

C/E

C

G⁷/D

G⁷



Je - su, _____ Je - su, _____ fill us with Your love, show

4

G⁷/D

G

C

C/E Dm/F

G⁷

C

Fine



us how to serve the neigh - bors we have from You.

VERSE

7

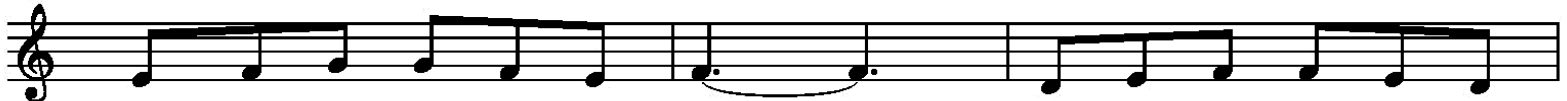
C

Am

Dm

Dm/F

G



1. Kneels at the feet of His friends, _____ si - lent - ly wash - ing their
2. Neigh - bors are rich _____ and poor, _____ var - ied in col - or and
3. These are the ones we should serve, _____ these are the ones we should
4. Lov - ing puts us on our knees, _____ show - ing our faith by our
5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, _____ si - lent - ly wash - ing their

10

C

C/E

Am

Dm/F

G⁷

C

D.C. al Fine



feet, _____ Je - su you act - ed as ser - vent to them. _____
hue _____ Neigh - bors are near _____ and far _____ a - way. _____
love, _____ all these are neigh - bors to us _____ and You. _____
deeds _____ serv - ing the neigh - bors we have _____ from You. _____
feet, _____ this is the way we should live _____ with You. _____

Benediction (Unison)

May you show boldness before God in all you do.
Following Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd,
act with kindness, love, and humility.
Bring comfort to others, acting with love and truth.

Go in peace, Go in Love, Go in Joy.

AMEN



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Live Stream Worship Sundays at 9:55am
on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Twitch](#) - (Videos remain available for access any time)

Also available on [Roku](#) and [Amazon Fire TV](#).

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God sends us to serve, but God does not send us alone.

The Spirit is with us in the world, guiding our steps and protecting our paths. Christ yearns for us to be one in ministry and service, and one in community and faith—a unity that we discover through the Spirit's miraculous power in our lives. Sent to serve, we are sent not only with the power of the Spirit, but also with the power of unity with one another.

Embracing this unity with both the Holy Spirit and one another opens a path to the "complete joy" that Christ prays we may one day know.