

Bethania Moravian Church



Praise God with Song!

Sunday, August 30th - 11:00 AM

Bethania Congregational Watchword for 2026: *"Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. I know my own, and my own know me."*

- John 10:14

Watchword for the Week: *"Jesus said, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."*

- Matthew 16: 24

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

The Bethania Band

11:00 AM Chiming of the Trinity

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

“Jesus, Name Above All Names”

Naida Hearn

Call to Worship *“Come Let Us Sing the Song of Songs”*

Come, let us sing the song of songs,
With hearts and voices swell the strain,
The homage which to Christ belongs;
"Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

Slain to redeem us by his blood,
To cleanse from ev'ry sinful stain,
And make us kings and priests to God;
"Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

To him who suffered on the tree
Our souls, at his soul's price, to gain,
Blessing, and praise, and glory be,
"Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

To him, enthroned by filial right,
All pow'r in heav'n and earth proclaim,
Honor, and majesty, and might;
"Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

Long as we live, and when we die,
And while in heaven with him we reign,
This song, our song of songs shall be:
"Worthy the Lamb, for he was slain!"

Announcement of the New Music Campaign

Special Music

“What a Friend”

Arr. Jack Scharader

Br. Alex Coulson, *Piano*

The Liturgy

***Hymn: What brought us together, what joined our hearts?
The pardon which Jesus, our High Priest, imparts;
'Tis this which cements the disciples of Christ,
Who are into one by the Spirit baptized.***

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made! Let us rejoice and share our happiness with one another.

**All: Our joy is in knowing Christ as Lord, and in experiencing the Holy Spirit working within us.
We are thankful for the love that binds us together in Christ's Name.**

This is a special time for us today as we gather together in your holy sanctuary, set apart to glorify you.

We are thankful for this place and the closeness we share. We are family, and we grow together. We are grateful to experience God's creation, to worship together, fellowship together, and know each other better so that we may learn to follow Christ in a new way.

It is because we love that we greet each other joyfully in your name.

Paul says of love: Love does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrong but rejoices in right. Love is not selfish. Love bears all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

***Hymn: Is this our high calling, harmonious to dwell,
and thus in sweet concert Christ's praises to tell,
in peace and blessed union our moments to spend
and live in communion with Jesus our Friend?***

Today, with music, we celebrate our love and our joy. We rejoice in these days we spend with our sisters and brothers. We praise

God for leading us in his love, but the love we receive from God must not be kept only to ourselves but passed on to all of creation. Now, let us share in prayer, uplifting the ancient charge of sharing God's love with all his children.

Almighty God, thank you for the closeness we share while we're together, and for allowing us to work and play together in the fulfillment of your kingdom. We thank you for each other, and for us all being made in your holy image; for the uniqueness and individuality that we have, and for the special gifts you have given us. We are grateful for the strengths we gain through our relationship with you and with each other. We pray for the strength to truly be your people in this hurting world. Teach us to be patient, remembering that you know our needs even before we ask. May we live each day knowing that you are alive and loving in the world with and through us.

***Hymn: O yes, having found in the Lord our delight,
He is our chief object by day and by night;
This knits us together; no longer we roam;
We all have one Father, and heav'n is our home.***

Scripture

Psalm 150

Br. Henry Gough

Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his exceeding greatness! Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with timbrel and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with sounding cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Sharing our Tithes and Offerings

Prayer

Anthem

"Down to the River to Pray"

Arr. Mary McDonald

The Bethania Choir

Response: Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above the Heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Scripture

Psalm 8

Sr. Wilma Harvey

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is thy name in all the earth! Thou whose glory above the heavens is chanted by the mouth of babes and infants, thou hast founded a bulwark because of thy foes, to still the enemy and the avenger. When I look at thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou hast established; what is man that thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that thou dost care for him? Yet thou hast made him little less than God and dost crown him with glory and honor. Thou hast given him dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the sea. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is thy name in all the earth.

Hymn

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

All: For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies,

**[REFRAIN] Lord of all, to you we raise
This our hymn of grateful praise.**

Sisters: For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Brothers: Hill and vale, and tree and flow'r,
Sun and moon, and stars of light, **[REFRAIN]**

Sisters: For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child.
Brothers: Friends on earth, and friends above,
Pleasures pure and undefiled, **[REFRAIN]**

All: For your church that evermore
Lifts its holy hands above,
Off'ring up on ev'ry shore
Its pure sacrifice of love, **[REFRAIN]**

Scripture

Psalms 98

Sr. Lawana Yarbrough

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord! Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Special Music

"This Is My Father's World"

Arr. Stan Pethel

The Bethania Choir

Scripture

Psalms 95: 1-7

Sr. Joy Stapleton

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it; for his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Hymn

"How Great the Bliss to Be a Sheep"

How great the bliss to be a sheep of Jesus,
And to be guided by his shepherd-staff!
Earth's greatest honors, howsoever they please us,

Compared to this are vain and empty chaff.
Yea, what this world can never give,
May, through the Shepherd's grace, each needy sheep receive.

Here is a pasture, rich and never failing,
Here living waters in abundance flow;
None can conceive the grace with them prevailing,
Who Jesus' shepherd-voice obey and know.
He banishes all fear and strife,
And leads them gently on to everlasting life.

Whoe'er would spend his days in lasting pleasure
Must come to Christ and join his flock with speed;
Here is a feast prepared, rich beyond measure,
The world meanwhile on empty husks must feed.
Those souls may share in ev'ry good
Whose Shepherd does possess the treasures of God.

Responsive Reading

Leader: Creator God, we have indeed searched for you on this day.

**All: We search for you in the beauty of the music
you have given to us so that we might glorify
your name and show others your goodness.**

Gracious God, we seek you with our minds.

**Through our psalms, we praise you for your
steadfast love.**

Joyous God, we seek you with psalms and prayers and songs.

**We raise our voices together; we share your
creative Spirit.**

Today we claim your presence in our midst.

In our music, we see your face.

In the beauty of music, we are able to feel and touch your power and wisdom.

In the voices of friends, we hear you.

In the carols the birds raise, we sense your presence.

And our spirits know that you are there.

In the movement of the trees and the babbling of the brook, we sense your presence.

And our spirits know that you are there.

Forgive us when we refuse to hear and see you.

Remove from us what clouds our visions.

Let us know that you are in everything we see and hear and feel.

We are surrounded by your Spirit.

We are searching for you, Lord.

And we will indeed find you.

We seek your presence.

And you are always in our midst. Amen.

The Jude Benediction

Sr. Nicki Yarbrough, *Guitar*

***All: Now to him who is able to keep you,
Who is able to keep from stumbling,
And to make you stand in the presence
Of his glory blameless with great joy.
To the only God our Savior,
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
Be glory, majesty, dominion, and power,
Before all-time both now and forever. Amen.***

Postlude

"On Eagle's Wings"
Arr. Wagner
Br. Alex Coulson, *Piano*