

Celebration of Worship

Bethany Presbyterian Church
3000 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616

August 22, 2021

Worship
10:00 AM

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

“Arabesque”

Louis Vierne

WELCOME

GOD’S CHURCH IN ACTION

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Let us come before God with open minds to learn from God’s word;

People: open spirits to receive God’s Spirit;

Pastor: open hearts to bask in God’s love;

People: and open hands to share God’s gifts.

HYMN #263

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

All hail the power of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem,
and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
and crown him Lord of all!

Let every kindred, every tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!
To him all majesty ascribe,
and crown him Lord of all!

O that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all!

We'll join the everlasting song,
and crown him Lord of all!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: The way of life is this: First, you shall love God who made you.

And second, love your neighbor as yourself, and do not do to another what you would not want done to you. Do not initiate divisions, but rather let us bring peace to our hearts and to the world.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Leader: If we have failed to present our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to God,

People: forgive us and cleanse us.

Leader: If we have been more eager to be conformed to this world than to be transformed by the renewing of our minds,

People: forgive and renew us.

Leader: If we have thought of ourselves more highly than we ought to think,

People: forgive and restore us. Amen.

Leader: Let us in silence confess our own personal sins.

(Silence)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Once we were in darkness, but now in the Lord we stand in the light.

People: Let us live as children of light so all that is good and right and true will shine through us. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

(Baptism is a sacrament, and therefore an attitude of reverence is in order. Please refrain from using cameras or video equipment during the service. A reenactment after the service, specifically for picture taking, may be arranged.)

Congregational Question

Elder Julie Bauman

Our Lord Jesus Christ ordered us to teach those who are baptized. Do you, the members of this church promise to tell this new disciple, Bridgette Ann Burns, the good news of the gospel, to help her know all that Christ commands and by your fellowship, to strengthen her family ties with the household of God?

Congregation: "WE DO."

Congregation Prayer (Unison)

God our Father, we thank you for your faithfulness, promised in this sacrament and for the hope we have in your Son Jesus. As we baptize with water, baptize us with Holy Spirit, so that what we say may be your word and what we do may be your work. By your power, may we be made one with Christ our Lord in common faith and purpose. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that, hearing, we may also obey your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 111

page 490 in the pew Bible

Leader: The word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God**

ANTHEM

“How Beautiful”

Twila Paris

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 5:15-20

page 952 in the pew Bible

Pastor: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Dr. Bob Spratt

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Unison) The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ, his Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN #260

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone!
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation
has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us;
faith believes nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him,
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise:
"I am with you evermore"?

Alleluia! Bread of angels,
here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful
flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth your footstool, heaven your throne.
As within the veil you entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest;

here on earth both priest and victim
in the eucharistic feast.

SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Congregational Response: **“Lord, we praise you.”**
“Lord, hear our prayer.”

THE PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY #606 (Unison) **“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore.
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

We give these gifts because we believe: we believe in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord; we believe we have an obligation to spread the good news; and because we believe, the Holy Spirit will empower our gifts. Amen.

WE GO OUT TO SERVE GOD AND OUR NEIGHBORS IN THE WORLD

HYMN #836

“Abide with Me”

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see.
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.

Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“God of Grace”

Paul Manz

This morning we celebrate the baptism of Bridgette Ann Burns. The parents of Bridgette: Amber & Don Burns. Godparents: Brandy & Jeffrey McNulty. Proud grandmother Linda Taylor and Aunt Tracey and family.

The flowers on the communion table are in honor of The Burns family, given by Linda Taylor and Tracey Melville and family.

CHILDCARE is not available.

THOSE ASSISTING IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE:

DEACONS: Craig Foreman, Mike Haskins, Gail Kuhner, Sue Kretovic

LAY LITURGIST: Karen Bolinger

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Peg Cameron, Carole (friend of Beth Thomsen), Wilma Chadwick, Wayne Crawford, Donna Hancock, Debbie Leipold (friend of Bev Murray), Nancy Ann (friend of Virginia Britton), Richard Platt, Cliff Streams and Helen West.

Monroe County-wide Prayer Initiative 2021 for the week of August 22nd is the Swillburg.

BETHANY CALENDAR

Sunday	8/22	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Zoom, Facebook, Boxcast)
Wednesday	8/25	7 pm	Budget & Finance – Zoom
Thursday	8/26	7 pm	C&GM - Zoom
Thursday	8/26	7 pm	Choir meeting - (Zoom)
Friday	8/27	3 pm	Bible Fellowship – Large Hall – All are welcome!
Saturday	8/28	10 am	Women’s Gathering – Sawyer Park
Sunday	8/29	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Zoom, Facebook, Boxcast)

BETHANY STAFF - Pastoral: Dr. Bob Spratt, Head of Staff/Sr. Pastor, drspratt.bethany@gmail.com;

Music Team: Jacob Montgomery, Music Director, jmontgomery.bethany@gmail.com; Jean Coniber, Bell Choir Director, jconiber233@gmail.com; Jeff Tabor, Staff Singer; **Office Team:** Eileen Sengillo, Administrative Assistant, sengillo.bethany@gmail.com; Tom Olney, Bookkeeper and Contributions Secretary, tolney.bethany@gmail.com; **Custodian:** Jim Cruppe; **Nursery:** Jennifer Watt.

Bethany Family,

As you know, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified Monroe County as an area of substantial transmission.

Our church will remain fully open for worship this Sunday, but ask that all attending, regardless of their vaccination status, wear a mask, per the guidance of Monroe County Executive Adam Bello and Commissioner of Health Dr. Michael Mendoza.

If you are not feeling well, please join us from your home for on-line worship.

Please continue to pray for our health care workers and for the health and safety our congregation, friends, families, and neighbors.

Blessings,
Jim Hetzler

Personnel and Operations Chairperson

TOWN HALL MEETING: Bethany's Session invites you to a Town Hall Meeting on October 10, 2021 immediately following the 10:00 worship service. The meeting will include updates from the Contemporary Worship Service, Designated Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, Sunday School/youth programming, and Organ Taskforce. Please bring your thoughts and questions, an open mind and creative solutions as we strive to make Bethany a dynamic and exciting place to worship! Also, if you would like to be part of a committee or a member of Session, we would love to have you! The Property Committee, Welcoming Committee, and Stewardship Committee have open positions. We are also looking for a Clerk of Session. If you feel called to serve and/or would like to offer your talents to Bethany, please contact Bev Murray of the Nominating Committee at 865-8507. Thank you.

2021-22 ACTIVITY BROCHURE: With Eileen Sengillo's assistance, the Spiritual Growth Committee is gathering information for the 2021-22 Activity Brochure. We will base the brochure on last year's rendition but expect a number of changes as things are beginning to look more "normal" again and last year's brochure was modified for COVID. If you have any updates (date/time/meeting place/new material being studied/discussed) or additional activities to be included, please email Eileen at sengillo.bethany@gmail.com. Also, if your activity is no longer happening, please let Eileen know to delete it so it doesn't get included. If you have any questions, you can also call Carrie Buri at (716)390-8941. Thank you!

PRESENT WORD: The Present Word will resume meeting in person every Sunday at 9:00 am beginning September 19th. What is The Present Word? The Present Word Bible Study is based on a uniform Series, a plan for reading and studying the Bible. The objectives of the series are to help persons increasingly:

1. to know the content of the Bible,
2. to understand the message of the Bible in light of their experiences and relationships, and
3. To be aware of God's self-disclosure, especially God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ, that they may respond in faith and love-to the end that they may know who they are and what human situation means, grow as the children of God rooted in the Christian community, live in the spirit of God in every relationship, fulfill their common discipleship in the world, and abide in the Christian hope.

All are invited to participate in The Present Word on Sundays at 9:00 am in the Small Hall.

SAVE THE DATE: WORSHIP IN THE PARK 2021 - Please join the Spiritual Growth committee as we return to Greece Canal Park's Millennium Lodge September 12, 2021 at 11:00 for Worship in the Park 2021. More information to follow. We hope to see you there!

LEADERSHIP VOLUNTEERS - [Donna Bour-Purdy, Audit Committee Chair], [Craig Johnson, Budget and Finance Committee Session Elder and Chair], [Wendy Watt, Christian Education], [Judy Price, Community and Global Mission Committee Session Elder and Cheryl Fisher, Chair], [Jennifer McGarrity, Congregational Life Committee Session Elder and Chair], [Judy Montanari, Investment Management Committee Chair], [Craig Foreman, Liturgical Deacons Chair], [Al Adaskin, Memorial Committee Chair], [Bev Murray, Nominating Committee Session Elder and Chair], [Karen Dobbins and Judy Price, Pastoral Care Deacons Co-Chairs], [Jim Hetzler, Personnel and Operations Committee Session Elder and Chair], [Dick Livoti, Presbytery Delegate], [Steve Watt, Property Committee Session Elder and Chair], [Carrie Buri, Spiritual Growth Committee Session Elder and Craig Covert, Chair], [Ron Fisher, Jim Hetzler, Mike Kuitunen and Jacob Montgomery, Technology Team], [Carl DeGraff, Treasurer], [Cheryl Fisher, Webmaster], [Bev Bennett, Welcoming Committee Session Elder and Chair], [Connie Slapar, Worship and Music Committee Session Elder and Chair].

EMERGENCY CONTACT: At times, families or individuals may find they need pastoral support for various reasons ranging from a long-term matter or an emergency. In the event of a pastoral emergency, this can be sought by calling the church office (585) 663-3000 during normal business hours or after hours at (585) 496-4699. In addition, there are several members of the congregation that can be called on for support called Stephen Ministers. Stephen Ministers are congregation members trained by Stephen Leaders to offer high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to people going through tough times. To receive support from a Stephen Minister contact Kim Bolinger at (585) 227-2540 or Wendy Watt (585) 415-2351.

Bethany Presbyterian Church

We are a welcoming Christian family who worships God and nurtures spiritual growth through friendship, learning, music and serving others.

Bethany's phone number: 663-3000 ~ Bethany's website: www.bethanyrochester.org