

Celebration of Worship

Bethany Presbyterian Church
3000 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616

August 29, 2021

Worship
10:00 AM

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

"Prelude"

Alan Gray

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

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 45:1-7

page 449 in the pew Bible

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

“Ave Verum Borpus”

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Vocalists: Kayla Stein, Alli Rose Hotz, and Jeff Tabor

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 7:1-8

pages 818,819 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 #835

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

Refrain:

Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea,
daily walking close to thee:
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

I am weak, but thou art strong;
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk, let me walk close to thee. [Refrain]

Through this world of toil and snares,
if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. [Refrain]

When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore. [Refrain]

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Praeludium in G Major”

Nicolas Bruhns

CHILDCARE is not available.

THOSE ASSISTING IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE:

DEACONS: Dick Bauman, Sandy Ericson, Brenda Spratt, Beth Thomsen

LAY LITURGIST: Polly McCubbin

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.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the Blum family at the passing of Sue Blum.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to the Rudd and Vanderburgh families, at the passing of Michael Vanderburgh.

Monroe County-wide Prayer Initiative 2021 for the week of August 29th is the FOCUS – Business Sector.

BETHANY CALENDAR

Sunday	8/29	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Zoom, Facebook, Boxcast)
Sunday	8/29	11:30 am	Contemporary Service – (in person, Zoom, Facebook, Boxcast)
Thursday	9/2	7 pm	Choir meeting - (Zoom)
Thursday	9/2	7 pm	Spirituality & Social Justice Group – (Zoom)
Saturday	9/4	9 am	Men's Club Breakfast – Sawyer Park
Sunday	9/5	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

SHIPMATES:

We welcome the congregation to join us on Saturday, September 18 at 1 pm in the Large Hall. Save the date, please note the change of date from our regular Saturday meeting. Make your reservations with Beth Thomsen e-mail hawaiinnana@gmail.com or 865-7181. Check in with Martha and George Hubbard with your \$2.00 and get set for an interesting program about the architecture of James H. Johnson by Katie Eggers Comeau and Christopher M. Brandt. They spent 18 months exploring Johnson's drawings and slides, interviewing his colleagues and family members, and visiting his buildings. Some of his designs include the Liberty Pole, the "Mushroom House", Temple Sinai, and St. John the Evangelist Church in the town of Greece. Please join us after a short meeting for coffee and dessert.

TOWN HALL MEETING, PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE: Bethany's Session invites you to a Town Hall Meeting on **September 12, 2021 immediately following the 11:00 Worship Service in the Park**. The meeting will include updates from the Designated Associate Pastor Nominating Committee, Sunday School/youth programming, Contemporary Worship Service 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.

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.

Worship in the Park for 2021 is almost here! Sunday, September 12 at 11:00 we will come together for food, fellowship and our worship service at Greece Canal Park in the Millennium Lodge. This year we will be asking that you bring your own picnic lunch and beverages. Spiritual Growth will provide individually wrapped frozen treats for dessert. There will be relay races and a mission project thanks to Community and Global Mission, along with Sunday school sign up, and a Town Hall meeting following the service. This service will not be available live through Zoom or Facebook but will be recorded in order to be viewed later. We hope to see you at this special annual event.

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