



Do to others

as you would have them do to you.

Luke 6:31

Celebration of Worship

Bethany Presbyterian Church
3000 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616

February 20, 2022
10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

"Plein Jeux"

Pierre Du Mage

WELCOME

GOD'S CHURCH IN ACTION

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: Welcome, travelers.

People: Welcome.

Pastor: Sometimes it is harder to cross an unrepaired sidewalk than travel a thousand miles.

People: Sometimes it is harder to forgive an old friend than to welcome a stranger.

Pastor: Yet God is leading us to welcome old friends and strangers as we would welcome Jesus Christ.

People: However far we have come this week, we bring gifts of ourselves, our minds, our compassion, our love and our dedication. Let us continue our journey together.

***HYMN #307**

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.

***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 only treat others the way you wish to be treated. Do not initiate divisions, but rather let us bring peace to our hearts and to the world.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, we confess our disobedience to your law of love: of being overly critical of other people and overly anxious to see their faults, of being insensitive to the life circumstances of others and unappreciative of their struggle to cope with them, of being more than willing to condemn others and less willing to forgive. Lord God, because we have been more concerned to throw stones than to spread good will, we humbly seek your forgiveness. Amen.

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

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Christ comes into every shadowed corner of our lives with the light of grace. Christ comes into the locked rooms of our faults, and gifts us with

grace and hope. Christ comes to fill us with peace, that we may proclaim the good news of mercy and forgiveness.

People: Thanks be to God. Christ has come to us. Amen.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS [Children may leave for "Roots and Wings" activities in the Large Hall, and return to their pews after the sermon.]

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (Unison)

O God by your Spirit tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do, to obey Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 37:1-11

pages 443,444 in the pew Bible

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

BELL ANTHEM

"A Joyful Alleluia"
Celebration Ringers

Cynthia Dobrinski

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 6:27-38

page 838 in the pew Bible

Leader: 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 #754**

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us
and bring us to believe

we are ourselves accepted,
and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people,
for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them,
or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us,
so that we may be moved
in living situations
to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance
until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness,
and laughter's healing art.

Lord, for today's encounters
with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance,
for justice and for bread,
we need new eyes for seeing,
new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit;
Lord, free us; make us one!

SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Congregational Response: "Lord, we praise you." or "Lord, hear our prayer"

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES and OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Behold Now, Praise the Lord"

Everett Titcomb

***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

***OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)**

O God, plentiful in love and mercy, we greet you with our worship and praise. We offer hymns of joy and thanksgiving. We offer our time and talents. We now pause to offer to you our coins which we pray will be used in your service and for your glory. In the name of Jesus Christ, the one who was rich but for our sakes became poor. Amen.

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

***HYMN #753**

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred let me bring your love
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord
And where there is doubt true faith in You

Make me a channel of your peace
Where there is despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness only light,
and where there's sadness ever joy.

Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving our ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Oh, Master grant that I may never seek
So much to be consoled as to console
To be understood as to understand
To be loved as to love with all my soul

***BLESSING**

ANNUAL MEETING

CHILDCARE is available from 9:30 AM to 11:15 AM in the Church Nursery located across from the Church Library for newborns through Pre-K.

THOSE ASSISTING IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE: David Covert, Craig Foreman, Mike Haskins, Sue Kretovic, Gail Kuhner, Cindi Sywulski

LAY LITURGIST: Karen Dobbins

ACOLYTES: Catherine Tedji, Deborah Tedji

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Peg Cameron, Wilma Chadwick, Donna Hancock, Mark Leavitt, Debbie Leipold (friend of Bev Murray), Melanie (Debbie Haskin's sister), Nancy Ann (friend of Virginia Britton), Bill Phillips, Richard Platt, Dee Steiner, Cliff Streams.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Linda Taylor, Tracey Melville and Amber Burns and family at the passing of Linda's brother, Norman Connor Jr.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Mark & Carrie Buri and family, at the passing of Mark's mother, Joan Buri-Shaffer.

Christian love and sympathy is extended to Jean Coniber at the passing of her dad.

BETHANY CALENDAR

Sunday	2/20	9 am	Present Word - (Small Hall)
Sunday	2/20	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Youtube, Facebook, Boxcast)
Sunday	2/20		Congregational Meeting – (Sanctuary)
Sunday	2/20	11:15 am	Sunday School
Monday	2/21	7 pm	Stephen Ministry – (Large Hall)
Tuesday	2/22	10 am	Belles & Beaux – (Sanctuary)
Wednesday	2/23	12:30 pm	Staff meeting – (Library)
Wednesday	2/23	7:30 pm	Celebration Ringers – (Sanctuary)
Thursday	2/24	7:15 pm	Choir - (Sanctuary)
Friday	2/25	3 pm	Bible Fellowship – (Large Hall)
Sunday	2/27	9 am	Present Word - (Small Hall)
Sunday	2/27	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Youtube, Facebook, Boxcast)
Sunday	2/27	11:15 am	Sunday School

The **Annual Meeting** of Bethany Presbyterian Church has been called for **this morning immediately following the worship service** for the purpose of hearing reports, receiving the 2022 annual budget and the pastors terms of call, and for any other business that may properly come before the meeting.



Please welcome Jennifer Smith to Bethany as the #2 Custodian. I am a wife and mother. I have been married for 17 years. I have a 16 year old daughter and a 24 year old step daughter. I love to clean and am happy to be here at Bethany.

CHILDREN = FUTURE With Sessions' approval, the Personnel and Operations committee is forming a **search committee** for the purpose of hiring a **Christian Youth Leader**. This is a part-time, non-ordained position. The Youth Leader would be responsible for coordinating and organizing Sunday School curriculum, providing training and support to our Sunday School teachers, and leading Bethany Youth Fellowship (BYF) programs, events, activities, and missions. If you are interested in supporting Bethany's children and young adults by working on the Christian Youth Leader Search Committee, please contact Jim Hetzler (585-317-1956 or jmshetzler@gmail.com) or Craig Johnson (585-415-1578 or crjohnso@msn.com)

ASH WEDNESDAY OFFERING: The Ash Wednesday offering will be collected on Wednesday, March 2. The Community and Global Missions Committee has designated ROCovery Fitness as the recipient of this year's donation. Jonathan Westfall, Executive Director, will be presenting a Minute for Mission at the Worship Service on Sunday, February 27.

ROCovery Fitness is located in the Maplewood neighborhood at 1035 Dewey Avenue. They are a supportive community of physically active individuals brought together by sober living, committed to creating an environment of healing and recovering. Members, friends and families are empowered to discover their inner strength and confidence through adventure, fun and camaraderie.

Programs are free and open to anyone with 48 hours of continuous sobriety. Founded in 2015, ROCovery Fitness welcomes friends, family members and those who choose to live sober. Additional information can be found at <https://www.rocoveryfitness.org/>

SHIPMATES: Saturday, March 12 meeting starts at 11AM – Bethany Large Hall. U.S. Customs and Border Control, Agent Steve Wasser will be joining us to share: border patrol history, overview, special operations, border patrol sectors, strategy, air and sea, international initiatives, canine program human trafficking. Please call Charlie Dennett at 739-3689 or cdennett@gmail.com with your reservation by March 6. Lunch will include pizza, cookies and drinks. Cost per person to be determined when all attendees have made their reservation.

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.