



You are the
God who works
wonders.

PSALM 77:14

Celebration of Worship

Bethany Presbyterian Church
3000 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616

July 31, 2022

10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

“Partita”

Joseph Jenkins

WELCOME

GOD’S CHURCH IN ACTION

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come into this sacred space to worship God

People: whose teaching and directions are sure.

Leader: Come into this holy place to worship God

People: whose standards are right and whose commandment is clear.

Leader: Come seeking the presence of God, to be given life and made wise, to have your heart stirred and your eyes opened wide.

People: Let the words of our mouths and the whispering of our hearts be according to your will, O God.

***HYMN #65**

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty.
Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more;
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar

lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield;
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

***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 (Unison)**

**When we hesitate to speak of your hope, forgive us, and give us voice.
When we find it difficult to love another, forgive us, and give us new
compassion. When we stay locked behind our fears and doubts, forgive
us, and send us out to share your grace. Amen.**

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

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Unison)**

**Christ comes into every shadowed corner of our lives. 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. Amen.**

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you!

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 FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

O God, your word is more precious than fine gold, and sweeter than the purest honey. As we turn to your Scripture, send your Holy Spirit to infuse your word with truth and grace; so that the good news of your love would shine before our eyes and delight our senses, so that we cannot help but respond with wonder, faith and trust. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 77:11-15

page 467 in the pew Bible

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

ANTHEM

"I Know That My Redeemer Liveth"

George Frideric Handel

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 12:35-48

pages 847,848 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 #720**

"Jesus Calls Us"

Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth
saying, "Christian, follow me."

Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,

still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thy obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.

SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Congregational Response: **"Lord, we praise you."**

"Lord, hear our prayer."

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

(As the offering is received, please sign, pass, and return the pew pads. Please provide your full name, address, phone number, and check if you are a visitor or a member.)

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)

Gracious God, we give because you have so generously given to us. Take these gifts and multiply them. Send these gifts to places and people where they are needed so that others may see Jesus. Amen.

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

***HYMN #724**

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

O Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
be thou forever near me,
my Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
if thou art by my side,

nor wander from the pathway
if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me!
The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle;
the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw thou nearer
and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me,
to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised
to all who follow thee
that where thou art in glory
there shall thy servant be.
And, Jesus, I have promised
to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
my Master and my friend.

***BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

“Festival March”

David German

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: Dick Bauman, Richard Britton,
Wayne Crawford, Brenda Spratt, Beth Thomsen

LAY LITURGIST: Karen Dobbins

ACOLYTES: Catherine Tedji, Deborah Tedji

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Wilma Chadwick, Donna Hancock, Jim (Mike Haskin's brother), Karen Henry, Mike Kuitunen, Mark Leavitt, Melanie (Debbie Haskin's sister), Richard Platt, Linda Ryhal (Liz Whittingham's cousin), Dee Steiner, Cliff Streams, Cindi Sywulski, Linda Wood.

BETHANY CALENDAR

Sunday	7/31	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Youtube, Facebook, Boxcast)
Wednesday	8/3	12:30 pm	Bethany Staff Meeting – (Library)
Wednesday	8/3	6:30 pm	Worship Committee – (Library)
Saturday	8/6	9 am	Men's Club Breakfast – (Sawyer Park)
Sunday	8/7	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Youtube, Facebook, Boxcast)
Sunday	8/7	11:30 am	Contemporary Worship Service - (In person, Youtube, Facebook, Boxcast)

SHIPMATES: September 10th is the visit to the Seneca Park Zoo. Meet at 10 AM where Theresa and Sue Kretovic will guide you through the zoo. All are invited. \$10 includes entry and a ride back in the zoo tram. Lunch will be at the new zoo café after our 2 hours of visiting the animals. Hopefully the animals will be out entertaining you. Lunch is your choice of: hamburgers, hots, salads or ice cream. We will also be collecting Shipmate dues of \$10 for 2022-2023. If possible let Sue know if you are planning on coming LKRETOVIC@gmail.com.

PART-TIME CHRISTIAN YOUTH LEADER: We are looking for a Christian Youth Leader that would be able to start in September. Please refer to the job description inserted in the bulletin and reach out to anyone that you know that would be a good candidate for this position. Interested parties can contact Jim Hetzler (jmshezler@gmail.com / 585-317-1956)

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Please join Congregational Life for an ice cream social after the worship service on August 14th in the large hall.

SAVE THE DATE: WORSHIP IN THE PARK 2022 - Please join the Spiritual Growth committee for Worship in the Park, September 11, 2022 at 11:00 AM. More information to follow. We hope to see you there!

LIBRARY NEWS: "**WISH YOU WELL**" by David Baldacci
Although the author is known for suspense novels, this is a departure - more of a family oriented story which takes place in his native Virginia. Louisa May Cardinal, a precocious twelve year old is living in New York City in the 1940's, along with her underpaid writer father, her mother and brother Oz. Then their lives change in a single terrifying moment Louise and Oz will be raised by their great-grandmother, Louisa. In

the meantime, their mother fights for her life. Suddenly Lou finds herself coming of age in a strange environment. When a dark, destructive force encroaches on their home, Lou and her brother find themselves in a different struggle which takes place in a courtroom. Beth Thomsen, Library Volunteer

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