

F O U R T H

Sunday in Lent



Celebration of Worship

Bethany Presbyterian Church
3000 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616

March 27, 2022
10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

“Chromorne sur la taille”

François Couperin

WELCOME

GOD’S CHURCH IN ACTION

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: We approach God as Creator God,

People: For in God we live, and move and have our being.

Pastor: We approach God as Savior God,

People: For God so loved the world that God sent Jesus Christ.

Pastor: We approach God as Sustainer God,

People: For God’s Holy Spirit moves among us.

***HYMN #39**

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness!

Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

***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**

Leader: If we have looked after our own interests while neglecting the needs of others,

People: Forgive us and teach us to love.

Leader: If we have judged others by the color of their skin or by the style of their clothing,

People: Forgive us and teach us not to judge others.

Leader: If we have complained about what we don't have rather than being grateful for what we do have,

People: Forgive us and teach us the skill of thanksgiving.

Leader: If we have been critical and difficult to live with,

People: Forgive us and teach us the grace of kindness. Amen.

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

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Unison)**

God is a God who keeps promises, promises of forgiveness and pardon, promises of hope and joy. 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)

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of Your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and Your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what You say to us today. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 32

pages 440 in the pew Bible

Leader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 15:1-10

page 850 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 #183**

“Come to Me, O Weary Traveler”

Come to me, O weary traveler,
come to me with your distress,
come to me you heavy burdened,
come to me and find your rest.

Do not fear, my yoke is easy,
do not fear, my burden's light;
do not fear the path before you;
do not run from me in fright.

Take my yoke and leave your troubles;
take my yoke and come with me.
Take my yoke, I am beside you;
take and learn humility.

Rest in me, O weary traveler,
rest in me and do not fear.
Rest in me, my heart is gentle,
rest and cast away your care.

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

***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)

Help us, Lord, always to contribute with the right motives, reflecting and sharing the love you have first shown us. Amen.

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

***HYMN #265**

"Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name, like sweet perfume, shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to loose their chains;
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring
honors peculiar to our King;

angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen!

***BLESSING**

***POSTLUDE**

“Postlude in A minor”

George Calkin

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, Bev Murray, Brenda Spratt, Beth Thomsen

LAY LITURGIST: Polly McCubbin

ACOLYTES: Catherine Tedji, Deborah Tedji

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

BETHANY CALENDAR

Sunday	3/27	9 am	Present Word - (Small Hall)
Sunday	3/27	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Youtube, Facebook, Boxcast)
Sunday	3/27	11:15 am	Sunday School
Sunday	3/27	12 pm	Session – (Zoom)
Monday	3/28	7 pm	Life Group (Small Hall)
Tuesday	3/29	10 am	Belles & Beaux – (Sanctuary)
Wednesday	3/30	12:30 pm	Staff meeting – (Library)
Wednesday	3/30	7 pm	Lenten Bible study – (Zoom)
Wednesday	3/30	7:30 pm	Celebration Ringers – (Sanctuary)
Thursday	3/31	7:15 pm	Choir - (Sanctuary)
Saturday	4/3	9 am	Men’s Club breakfast – (Jim’s at the Mall)
Sunday	4/3	9 am	Present Word - (Small Hall)
Sunday	4/3	10 am	Worship Service – (In person, Youtube, Facebook, Boxcast)
Sunday	4/3	11:15 am	Sunday School
Sunday	4/3	11:30 am	Contemporary Worship Service – (In person, Youtube, Facebook, Boxcast)

SAVE THE DATE:

WHAT: Women's Retreat- *Wonderfull World- Where Women Explore God's Wonder and Love*

WHEN: Saturday, April 23, 2020 @ 9:30 a.m.

WHERE: Bethany Church Large Hall

WHO: All women in the congregation

Lunch will be provided by Bethany Women in the Congregation

*Sponsored by Bethany Presbyterian Women in the Congregation and the Spiritual Growth Committee

OGHS: Thank you, God for neighbors with needs and gifts to share, The ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING will be collected on April 10th, Palm Sunday. This offering goes for hunger relief and disasters in this troubled world.

THE BETHANY TECHNOLOGY TEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP: We are looking for people who would be willing to help livestream Bethany's Sunday worship services by operating the camera or soundboard. No experience necessary. You will receive all the training you need by completing our "5 Minutes or Less" certification program, so that you are fully qualified to learn as you go, just like the rest of the team. Livestreaming has become an important component to sharing the Good News and supporting our congregation. We average about 30 people watching live on-line each Sunday through Boxcast, YouTube, or Facebook. Each worship service is archived on these sites and linked to the Bethany webpage for those who want to watch or rewatch the service later. We need your help to keep this going. Please consider joining us for one Sunday a month. If interested, contact Jim Hetzler (jmshezler@gmail.com / 585-317-1956) or stop up in the choir loft after the service any Sunday.

BUDGET TASK FORCE: As discussed at the Annual Congregational Meeting, we have a budget shortfall that requires using the General Endowment Fund to balance the budget. Our income has steadily declined year over year while expenses increase. This is not a sustainable way to operate. To address this issue, Session approved the formation of a task force to study the long term trends and propose ways to bring income and expenses into balance. The task force needs help from members of the congregation to accomplish this. If you are interested in participating please contact Craig Johnson at 415-1578.

PER CAPITA: This is a reminder to pay the per capita assessment for 2022. Per capita is the dues we pay to Presbytery, Synod, and General Assembly to help fund their operations and cover the services they provide us. The amount this year is \$35.58 for each member of the congregation. The amount is printed on the offering

envelope box. If you don't make your contribution, Bethany will end up paying for your share using funds that could be used elsewhere in the budget. Thank you to those who have already made their payment!

SHIPMATES: SAVE THE DATE April 9, 2022 We will meet at the Long Pond Family Restaurant at 11:00am for Breakfast or Lunch. Your choice! You will receive individual checks which are your responsibility. 12:30pm we are off to the History Center & Museum at 595 Long Pond Road for a tour given by Docents Faye Cole and David Seibert. There also is plenty of material to read and Faye and David will be happy to answer any questions you may have. This is the town's bicentennial year. GHS is planning quite a project. Will be an interesting day. Reservations deadline is April 4 and may be made by calling Irene Crawford, 227-2696 or Edna Hamlin, 752-8115. Guests are always welcome... Faye and David have been invited to join us for lunch.

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