



Celebration of Worship

Bethany Presbyterian Church
3000 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616

September 19, 2021

Worship
10:00 AM

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

“Prelude No. 5 in G, Op. 101”

C.V. Stanford

WELCOME

COMMITMENT SUNDAY – Gary Gullo

GOD’S CHURCH IN ACTION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: As we come to worship,

People: we ask that you will warm our hearts,

Pastor: clear our minds, purify our thoughts, and motivate our wills,

People: through Jesus Christ our Savior.

*HYMN #268

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end;
and round his pierced feet

fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time;
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

***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)**

We address you as a gracious God, for we know that you are indeed merciful, but we confess that we have difficulty in being gracious to others. We reenact old hurts in our minds. We pamper old grievances. We refuse to set down our burdens of resentment. Enable us, Lord, not only to receive forgiveness with joy, but also to become channels by which forgiveness is conveyed to others. Amen.

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

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: Even in an uncertain world where we sometimes muddle our way through,
People: we can be confident of the grace and the love of God, expressed through Jesus Christ. 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 FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

O Lord our God, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, that we may be obedient to your will and live always for your glory; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Psalm 1

People: Thanks be to God

page 424 in the pew Bible

ANTHEM

"Day by Day"
Bethany Choir

Peter Dyke

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Pastor: The word of the Lord.

Mark 9:30-37

People: Thanks be to God.

page 821 in the pew Bible

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 #409**

"God Is Here!"

God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

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)
Remembering the biblical command to love one another, we present these gifts as one of the proofs of our love – our love for you, O God, and our love for one another. Amen.

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

***HYMN #761** "Called as Partners in Christ's Service"

Called as partners in Christ's service
Called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment
Fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing
Side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring
To fulfil God's chosen end.

Christ's example Christ's inspiring
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow never faltering
Reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women richer poorer
All God's people young and old,
Blending human skills together
Gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission
In a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens
Breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort words of vision
Words of challenge said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action
Make us colleagues free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow
Ways to order human life

That surround each person's sorrow
With a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living
Our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith thus giving
Hope and confidence and peace.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Praeludium in G major”

Nicolas Bruhns

CHILDCARE is available.

THOSE ASSISTING IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE:

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

LAY LITURGIST: Cindi Sywulski

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 September 19th is Town of Village of Webster.

BETHANY CALENDAR

Sunday	9/19	9 am	Present Word - (Small Hall)
Sunday	9/19	10 am	10 am Worship Service – (In person, Zoom, Facebook, Boxcast)
Sunday	9/19	12 pm	Session – (Zoom)
Monday	9/20	7 pm	Stephen Ministry (Large Hall)
Tuesday	9/21	10 am	Belles & Beaux – (Sanctuary)
Tuesday	9/21	6:30 pm	Christian Ed – (Library)
Wednesday	9/22	10:30 am	Staff meeting – (Library)
Wednesday	9/22	7:30 pm	Celebration Ringers – (Sanctuary)
Thursday	9/23	7 pm	C&GM – (Zoom)
Thursday	9/23	7:15 pm	Choir meeting - (Sanctuary)
Friday	9/24	3 pm	Bible Fellowship – (Large Hall) – All are welcome!
Saturday	9/25	10 am	Women’s Brunch
Sunday	9/26	11 am	10 am Worship Service – (In person, Zoom, Facebook, Boxcast)

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

Greece CROP Hunger Walk - This year’s walk will take place on Sunday September 26th. Walkers will confirm their registration at Aldersgate Church and begin walking anytime between 1:30 and 2:30 pm, choosing either the 0.5 or 2.5-mile route. 25% of funds raised will be donated to the Greece Ecumenical Food Shelf and 75% will go to CWS for fighting hunger worldwide.

Join Bethany's team or make a donation online here:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/2021/team/bethany-presbyterian-church>

To make a cash donation, contact Deb Petersen or one of our walkers directly.

Peace and Global Mission Collection October 3, 2021 - On October 3, Bethany will be collecting the annual Peace and Global Mission offering. General Assembly will receive 50% of the donation, Genesee Valley Presbytery will receive 25%, and the Bethany Community and Global Mission Committee has designated the final 25% to be donated to Willow Domestic Violence Center. We will welcome someone from the Center to speak to us about the programs Willow provides to those in need within our community. Willow Domestic Violence Center was formally known as Alternatives for Battered Women. Its mission is "to prevent domestic violence and ensure every survivor has access to the services and supports needed along the journey to a safe and empowered life." Its vision is "a community free from domestic violence, where healthy relationships thrive." The Bethany CGM believes this is an organization worthy of our support.

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.

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