



With every Christmas

*we dream again,
we hope again,
we give thanks again...
for You, Lord Jesus.*

*And she brought forth her firstborn son,
and wrapped him in swaddling clothes,
and laid him in a manger;
because there was no room
for them in the inn.*

LUKE 2:7

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

December 30, 2018

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

"What Child Is This?"

Belles & Beaux

WELCOME

GOD'S CHURCH IN ACTION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Praise God from the heavens: Sun and moon, and shining stars.

People: Praise God's Holy Name, whose word speaks all things into being, who created the forces of the universe and the laughter of children.

Pastor: Praise the living God from the earth: clouds and storms and ocean currents fish in the sea and creatures of the deep, animals and cattle, insects and birds.

People: People and rulers, powerless and power brokers, young women, young men, children and elders together, praise God's Holy Name!

Pastor: Praise the living God, whose name alone is exalted, our Rescuer and Deliverer in all our distress.

People: Praise God's Holy Name whocame among us in person, whose living presence delivers us!

*HYMN #151

"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

KINGS OF ORIENT

*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)

Jesus of Nazareth, priest and minister of God, in every temptation and test you proved yourself faithful and merciful. Take us by the hand and lead us when we are tested and enticed, so that we may stay faithful and be merciful in your name. Infant Christ, star of hope, whose light brought seekers of wisdom and murderers with swords, shine among us, here and now that seekers may be touched by your presence and agents of hate may meet, in us, forgiving, persistent peace in your name. Amen.

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

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Leader: This is the good news:

People: Neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you. **People: And also with you!**

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)

Make of this moment now a miracle of both speaking and hearing. Let the fruit of this moment be the fruit of love, manifested in our joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Isaiah 63:7-9

page 605 in the pew Bible

People: Thanks be to God

SOLO

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Leader: The word of the Lord.

Matthew 2:10-23

page 784 in the pew Bible

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Jesus, the Fugitive Prince”

Dr. Val Fowler

***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 #110**

“Love Has Come”

BRING A TORCH

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

(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

***HYMN #606** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

O Lord, realizing that by the standards of the rest of the world, all of us are indeed rich, we give these gifts in obedience to your command to do good, to be rich in good works, and to be ready to share. Amen.

***HYMN #138** "Who Would Think that What Was Needed" WHITE ROSETTES

*BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

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:

Deacons: Mark Klotzbach, Dave Anderson, Sandy Ericson, Sue Kretovic,
Journey Spratt, Beth Thomsen
Lay Liturgist: Karen Gullo
Greeter: Beth Thomsen
Acolytes: Zach Melville, Jacob Melville

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS: Pam Auld, David Ballerstein, Pete Posson,
Frank Wood.

SHIPMATES: On January 12, 2019 at 11:30 am in the Large Hall at Bethany you will have an opportunity to meet the local author of "The Barns of Greece, NY," a recently published book now available at the Greece Historical Society museum by Jane Grant. This wonderful 64 page full-color book, signed by Janet, will be available for purchase at our meeting. A light luncheon will be served for only \$5 per person. Please contact Karen Henry at 663-8075 to make your reservation. Please let us know if you need a ride or you can share a ride. Send check to Bob Watt at 292 Malden street, Rochester, NY 14615. (check payable to Bethany Presbyterian Church). Reservation deadline is Friday, January 4, 2019.

BETHANY CALENDAR

Sunday	12/30	9 am	Serendipity (Small Hall)
Sunday	12/30	10 am	Worship (Small Hall)
Sunday	12/30	11:15 am	The Present Word (Small Hall)
Monday	12/31	10 am	Library Volunteers (Library)
Monday	12/31		Church Office open 9 am – 1 pm
Tuesday	1/1		Happy New Year! Church building closed
Wednesday	1/2	10 am	Staff meeting (Library)
Wednesday	1/2	7:30 pm	Celebration Ringers (Sanctuary)
Thursday	1/3	7:15 pm	Bethany Choir (Music Room)
Saturday	1/5	9 am	Men's Club Breakfast (Jim's at the Mall)
Sunday	1/6	9 am	Everyday Spirit (Library)
Sunday	1/6	9 am	Serendipity (Small Hall)
Sunday	1/6	9:15 am	Bethany Choir (Music Room)
Sunday	1/6	10 am	Worship (Small Hall)
Sunday	1/6	11:15 am	The Present Word (Small Hall)
Sunday	1/6	11:15 am	Sunday School

Bethany Presbyterian Church

We are a welcoming Christian family who worships God and nurtures spiritual growth through friendship, learning, music and serving others.

3000 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616

www.bethanyrochester.org

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Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM