

## CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

March 14, 2021

10:00 AM

### PRELUDE

“Da Jesus an dem Kreuze stund”  
 When Jesus on the cross was found,  
 His body pierced with many a wound,  
 With torture very bitter;  
 The dying words, which He then spake,  
 With a still heart consider.

J.S. Bach

### WELCOME

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We are busy people,

**People: but God has called us to rest for awhile.**

Pastor: We are anxious people,

**People: but God has invited us to share peace.**

Pastor: We are secular people,

**People: but God has invited us to look upward.**

Pastor: We are imperfect people,

**People: but God has invited us to be cleansed.**

#### HYMN #475

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Come, thou Fount of every blessing;  
 tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
 call for songs of loudest praise.  
 Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
 sung by flaming tongues above;  
 praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
 mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
 hither by thy help I'm come;  
 and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
 safely to arrive at home.  
 Jesus sought me when a stranger,

wandering from the fold of God;  
 he, to rescue me from danger,  
 interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor  
 daily I'm constrained to be!  
 Let that grace now, like a fetter,  
 bind my wandering heart to thee.  
 Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
 prone to leave the God I love;  
 here's my heart; O take and seal it;  
 seal it for thy courts above.

**CALL TO CONFESSION** Lay Liturgist – Cindi Sywulski

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)** Lay Liturgist – Cindi Sywulski

**Almighty God, you have given us new and abundant life through your  
 Son, but all too often we have lived as if a miracle had not occurred.  
 Sometimes we have ignored that new life by not living each day to the  
 fullest.**

**Sometimes we have misused that new life, proud of our spiritual  
 superiority over others.**

**Sometimes we have forsaken that new life and have gone back to our old  
 ways.**

**Sometimes we have even denied that new life, acting as if we powerless  
 to change.**

**Forgive us, God of miracles and help us to fully reflect what you have  
 done for us and in us.**

Leader: Let us in silence ask for forgiveness of our own personal sins.  
 (Silence)

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS** Lay Liturgist – Cindi Sywulski

Leader: As God opens our eyes to our sin and weaknesses,  
 God also opens our eyes to perceive the beauty of divine grace.

**People: Knowing we are forgiven, we go forward in peace. Amen.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)** Lay Liturgist – Cindi Sywulski  
**Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit,**  
**that in your light we may see light,**  
**in your truth find freedom,**  
**and in your will discover your peace;**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Numbers 21:4-9 Lay Liturgist – Cindi Sywulski

**ANTHEM** “God So Loved the World” John Stainer  
 Kayla Stein – Soprano, Laura O’Neil - Alto  
 Jeff Tabor – Tenor, Leif Pedersen - Bass

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** John 3:14-21

**SERMON** Dr. Bob Spratt

**HYMN #215** “What Wondrous Love Is This”

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
 what wondrous love is this, O my soul!  
 What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
 when I was sinking down, sinking down,  
 when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
 Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
 Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,  
 to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;  
 to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,  
 while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;  
 while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;  
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,

and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;  
and through eternity I'll sing on.

## SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

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

**INVITATION TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH** Lay Liturgist – Cindi Sywulski  
Leader: Let us remember to support Christ's church.

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** "O sacrum convivium" Thomas Tallis  
O sacred banquet, wherein Christ is received;  
the memorial of his passion is renewed;  
the soul is filled with grace;  
and a pledge of future glory is

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)** Lay Liturgist – Cindi Sywulski  
**We present our offerings without fanfare, without trumpets, without boasting, for no matter how much we give, we could never begin to repay you, O Lord, for all you have done for us. Receive these gifts as an act of our gratitude in Jesus name. Amen.**

**HYMN #209** "My Song Is Love Unknown"  
My song is love unknown,  
my Savior's love to me,  
love to the loveless shown  
that they might lovely be.  
O who am I  
that for my sake  
my Lord should take  
frail flesh, and die?  
  
He came from heaven's throne  
salvation to bestow;  
the world that was his own  
would not its Savior know.  
But O my Friend,  
my Friend indeed,  
who at my need  
his life did spend!

Sometimes we strew his way,  
 and his sweet praises sing,  
 resounding all the day  
 hosannas to our King.  
 Then "Crucify!"  
 is all our breath,  
 and for his death  
 we thirst and cry.

Unheeding, we will have  
 our dear Lord made away,  
 a murderer to save,  
 the prince of life to slay.  
 Yet steadfast he  
 to suffering goes,  
 that he his foes  
 from thence might free.

Here might I stay and sing,  
 no story so divine:  
 never was love, dear King,  
 never was grief like thine.  
 This is my Friend,  
 in whose sweet praise  
 I all my days  
 could gladly spend.

## **BLESSING**

## **POSTLUDE**

“Wir danken dir, Herr Jesu Christ”

J.S. Bach

*We thank you, God, we thank you and proclaim your miracles.*

*(Psalm 75: 1)*

Hallelujah, Strength and Power  
 Be the Name of the Most High!  
 Zion is still his city,  
 Since he has his dwelling,  
 Since he still remembered  
 the covenant of the fathers with our seed.

## BETHANY CALENDAR

|           |      |          |  |
|-----------|------|----------|--|
| Sunday    | 3/14 | 9 am     | Present Word (Zoom)                                      |
| Sunday    | 3/14 | 10 am    | Virtual Worship Service – (Zoom, Facebook Live, Boxcast) |
| Sunday    | 3/14 | 11 am    | Coffee hour – (Zoom)                                     |
| Monday    | 3/15 | 7 pm     | Stephen Ministry – (Large Hall)                          |
| Tuesday   | 3/16 | 7 pm     | Contemporary Worship Task Force – (Zoom)                 |
| Wednesday | 3/17 | 10:30 am | Staff meeting – (Zoom)                                   |
| Wednesday | 3/17 | 4 pm     | Organ Task Force meeting - (Large Hall)                  |
| Wednesday | 3/17 | 7 pm     | Lenten Book Study (Zoom)                                 |
| Wednesday | 3/17 | 7:30 pm  | Budget & Finance – (Zoom)                                |
| Thursday  | 3/18 | 7 pm     | Choir meeting (Zoom)                                     |
| Thursday  | 3/18 | 7 pm     | Spirituality & Social Justice Group – (Zoom)             |
| Sunday    | 3/21 | 9 am     | Present Word (Zoom)                                      |
| Sunday    | 3/21 | 10 am    | Virtual Worship Service – (Zoom, Facebook Live, Boxcast) |
| Sunday    | 3/21 | 11 am    | Coffee hour – (Zoom)                                     |

**Monroe County-wide Prayer Initiative 2021** for the week of March 14<sup>th</sup>  
– **Corn Hill.**

**PALMS** will be available for pick-up at the Clark entrance on Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup> between 11AM – 12PM.

Interested in sharing your musical gifts in worship? Please email our music director, Jacob Montgomery ([jmontgomery.bethany@gmail.com](mailto:jmontgomery.bethany@gmail.com)) about using your talents to praise God and enhance our online service. All are welcome for both traditional and contemporary service offerings.

**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.

**SERENDIPITY LIFE GROUP #3:** is one of the Life Studies groups at Bethany. The meetings are relaxed and based around passages from the Serendipity Bible. The discussions are not "heavy" and are relatable to our everyday lives and experiences. It is an enjoyable experience to get to know the other members of our church family. Any questions, please call Jack Bansbach at 227-1265. We are currently meeting via Zoom Monday's every other week at 3 PM.

**LIFE GROUP #4:** Are you looking for a light, casual Bible study that meets in the afternoon? Join Bev Bennett on Friday, March 26, 2021 at 3:00 in the Large Hall. Due to Covid-19 guidelines and session regulations, there is a maximum of 10 for in-person meetings. Please call Bev Bennett (585)-225-0206 in advance to sign-up.

### **LENTEN BIBLE STUDY**

Every Wednesday evening through March 31, 2021 from 7:00 pm to 7:30 pm, Dr. Spratt will lead a seven-week Lenten Devotional on the Stations of the Cross on Zoom. The Zoom account number is 243 911 4010, no password is required.

The exact origin of the devotional use of The Stations of the Cross is not entirely clear, though it is associated with Christian pilgrimages to Jerusalem in the early Christian centuries.

Those who were able to walk along the path Jesus walked on the way to his crucifixion were deeply moved by this experience. Yet, since the vast majority of Christians were not able to go to Jerusalem, The Way of the Cross enabled them to engage in a mini-pilgrimage of sorts, so they could focus on the key events of Jesus' last day.

March 17

Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem (Luke 23:27-31)  
Jesus is crucified (Luke 23:33, 47)

March 24

Jesus promises his Kingdom to the good thief (Luke 23:33-34, 39-43)  
Jesus on the cross, his mother and his disciple (John 19:25-27)

March 31

Jesus dies on the cross (Luke 23:44-46)  
Jesus is placed in the tomb (Luke 23:50-54)

Walk along The Way this Lent.



March 2021

Dear Bethany Family,

This has been a difficult year with the COVID quarantine and being unable to meet or attend church services. We all look forward to the ability to worship in-person once again.

During these difficult times the needs become even greater. As you know, Bethany Presbyterian Women have collected money from the congregation for the Church World Service Blankets program after a church service. That being said, we are unable to collect money in-person so we are asking you to consider mailing your donation.

We are grateful for your support. Because of your compassion,

- Families who have lost their homes to tornadoes, floods, earthquakes and other disasters are getting help with blankets, emergency food and shelter- and with rebuilding their lives and livelihoods.
- People struggling against crushing poverty and harsh climates and learning sustainable farming practices that will help them keep food on the table- and to market.
- Vulnerable children have access to clean, safe water and the nutritional food essential to growth, development and life itself.

Grace and peace,

Moderator – Karen Bolinger  
 Vice-Moderator – Kay Dennett  
 Secretary – Jeannette Johnson

Historian – Lisa Clement  
 Treasurer – Linda Lamb  
 Member-at-Large – Mary Leader

Below tear off and mail to: Tom Olney, 3000 Dewey Avenue Rochester NY 14616, or put it in Tom Olney's mail box in the Church office.

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Please write checks to: Bethany Presbyterian Church with Memo: Blanket Sunday- Designated Fund #16  
 Thank you and God Bless

**LIVESTREAMING:** If you have a Smart TV or connect to internet channels on your television with Roku, Amazon Fire Stick, Apple TV, or Chromecast you can add the BoxCast channel and view our Sunday Services live on your TV. Past services will also be available on the BoxCast channel, so you can get caught up or re-watch any time.



1. Add the BoxCast Channel to your internet-connected TV
2. Click on [Find an Organization]
3. Type: **bethany presbyterian**  
(Two organizations are named "bethany presbyterian", ours is the one with the picture of the sanctuary)
4. Click on our "bethany presbyterian" to select this channel
5. View a recent broadcast or live worship service here
6. Return to the BoxCast main page when finished
7. Bethany Presbyterian Church will be saved to the main page - just click for future viewing

Sunday services will continue to be available on Zoom and Facebook and you can continue to use Facebook chat for sharing your prayer requests during the service.

**New Boxcast Link** <https://boxcast.tv/view/bethany-sunday-service-391388>

Join Zoom by phone only by calling +1 (646) 558-8656 on your land line or (646) 558-8656 on your cellular phone (there may be a long distance charge) and enter the following Meeting ID# 243 911 4010 when prompted, followed by the # sign.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2439114010>



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

**Bethany Presbyterian Church**  
**3000 Dewey Avenue, Rochester, NY 14616**  
**[www.bethanyrochester.org](http://www.bethanyrochester.org)**  
**663-3000**