

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

July 12, 2020

PRELUDE

“Selections from Fiori Musicali (Musical Flowers)”

Girolamo Frescobaldi

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: As we gather this morning, let us be ready for worship;

People: ready to be touched,

Pastor: ready to be changed,

People: ready to be filled with God's Spirit.

HYMN

“Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud”

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud, Fortress, Fountain Shelter,
Light, Judge, Defender, Mercy, Might, Life whose life all life endowed:
May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name
But the truth behind all is the God whom we proclaim.

Word and Wisdom, Root and Vine, Shepherd, Savior, Servant, Lamb,
Well and Water, Bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I am:
May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name
But the truth behind all is the God whom we proclaim.

Storm and Stillness, Breath and Dove, Thunder, Tempest, Whirlwind, Fire,
Comfort, Counselor, Presence, Love, Energies that never tire:
May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name
But the truth behind all is the God whom we proclaim.

CALL TO CONFESSION – Lay liturgist – Karen Bolinger

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) – Lay liturgist – Karen Bolinger

We confess, holy God, that we are sometimes quick to criticize and slow to understand. We are often more ready to condemn than to approve and more likely to speak than to listen. We are apt to call what we do a "mistake," and what others do a "sin." Forgive us, Lord, for our readiness to identify the faults of others and our reticence to see our own. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON – Lay liturgist – Karen Bolinger

Leader: The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison) - Lay liturgist – Karen Bolinger

**Living God, help us so to hear your holy word
that we may truly understand;
that, understanding, we may believe,
and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience,
seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT READING Psalm 119:105-112 Lay liturgist – Karen Bolinger

SOLO

“The Lord is my Shepherd”

Jeff Tabor, tenor

Bob Chilcott (pub. 2007)

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 32:22-32

SERMON

Dr. Bob Spratt

HYMN

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness seems to hide his face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]

His oath, his covenant, his blood
support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]

SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

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

INVITATION TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH – Lay liturgist – Karen Bolinger

Leader: Let us remember to support Christ's church.

People: Eternal God, creator of the world and giver of all good, we thank you for the earth, our home, and for the gift of life. We praise you for your love in Jesus Christ, who came to heal this broken world, who died and rose triumphantly Because He lives, we live to praise you, our God forever. Amen

HYMN

“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

“Tocatta on Picardy”

Joseph Jenkins

BETHANY CALENDAR

Sunday	7/12	10 am	Virtual Worship Service – (Zoom/Facebook Live)
Sunday	7/12	11am	Virtual Coffee Half Hour – (Zoom)
Monday	7/13	7 pm	Stephen Ministry (Large Hall)
Wednesday	7/15	10 am	Staff Meeting (Zoom)
Wednesday	7/15	4 pm	Organ Task Force meeting - (Large Hall)
Thursday	7/16	7 pm	Bethany Choir - (Zoom)
Sunday	7/19	10 am	Virtual Worship Service – (Zoom/Facebook Live)
Sunday	7/19	11am	Virtual Coffee Half Hour – (Zoom)

LIFE GROUP OPPORTUNITY

A Life Group is a small group (ideally 8-10 people) who gather regularly to grow in faith and fellowship. At Bethany, we have had three Life Groups—two of whom study/discuss Christian books, and one which studies/discusses the Serendipity Bible. The format of the group and the topic/book choice is decided by the members of the group. Life Group 1 has decided that its group has run its course and will not be starting back up in September. If you would like to begin or be part of a new Life Group 1, please contact Carrie Buri at theburis@yahoo.com or (716)390-8941. Thank you!

Bethany's Virtual Coffee Hour is cooking with Gas!

Each Sunday after our live worship service we have a 30 Minute Virtual Coffee Hour where you will have the opportunity to talk with other members of our church family face to face in small groups of about 6 people! Remember we ask that you turn on your PC camera so we can all see your smiling faces, so be sure to wear your best PJ's!!

Here is an image of the group from a Sunday's Coffee Hour. All went very smoothly. Once you get online we break out into smaller groups so everyone gets a chance to talk or just listen, as you choose.

If you are having troubles using Facebook and or Zoom to watch the live Worship services or to join our coffee hour, please contact the church office at 663-3000 and they will get you in touch with someone who might be able to help.

Keep Safe, Stay Well and Be Kind,
God Bless, Ron

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>



Bethany Presbyterian Church

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

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