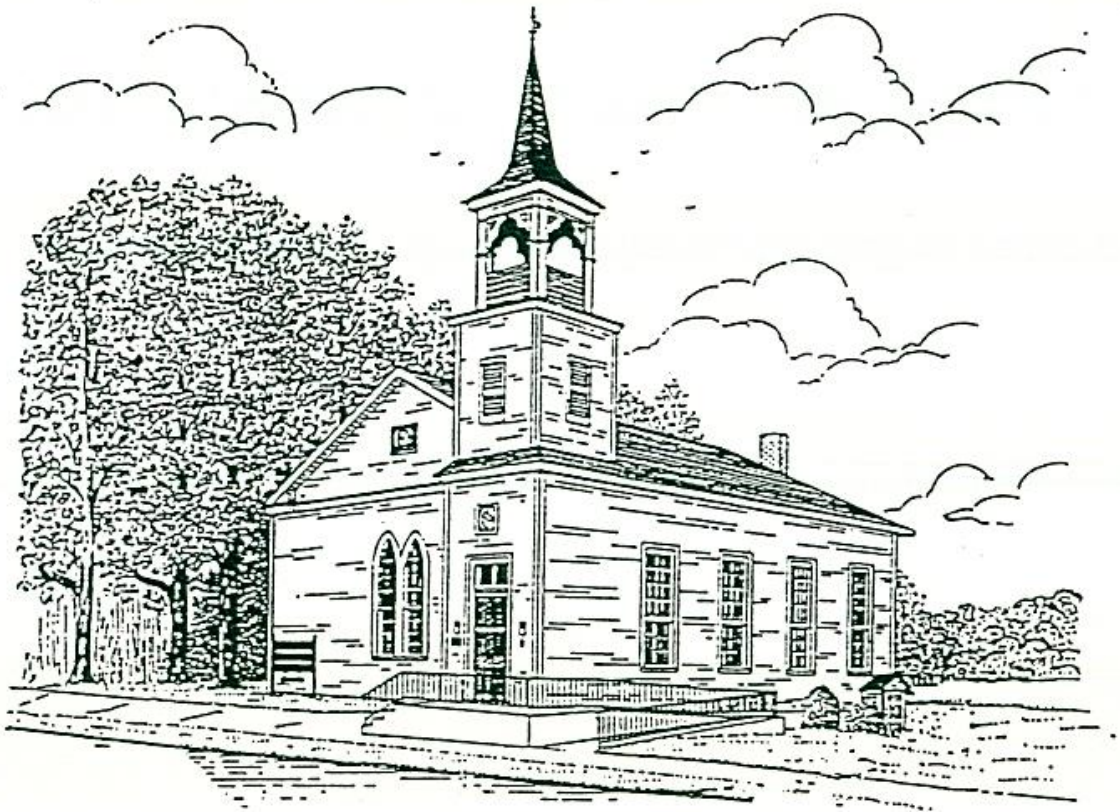


Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

~ a community of faith coming together,
for fellowship, study and service . . .
seeking God's peace, justice and love ~



Organized June 6, 1818

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS:

We extend a warm welcome from Bethel Presbyterian Church!

We invite you to participate in signing the Friendship Folders adding your name and address and if you desire a church newsletter or a pastoral call.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "sins...sin against us"
rather than "debts..." or "trespasses..."

Prayer requests can be noted on the cards provided in the pew racks
and placed in the offering plate.

**The Service for the Lord's Day
Bethel Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 17, 2021 - 11:00 AM**

** Indicates congregation standing if able.
Congregational responses indicated in bold.*

GATHERING AND GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the Friendship Pad found in your pew, passing it down the pew then back.

Prelude

Call to Worship (*L = Leader, P = People*)

L: O sing to the Lord a new song:

P: sing to the Lord, all the earth.

L: Sing, and give praise to God's name;

P: tell the glad news of salvation from day to day.

Prayer of Invocation

Let us pray:

God of all glory, on this first day you began creation,
bringing light out of darkness.

On this first day you began your new creation,
raising Jesus Christ out of the darkness of death.

On this Lord's Day grant that we,
the people you create by water and the Spirit,
may be joined with all your works in praising you for your great glory.

Through Jesus Christ, in union with the Holy Spirit,
we praise you now and forever. Amen.

Hymn No. 610 “O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING”

*O for a thou-sand tongues to sing
my dear Re-deem-er's praise,
the glo-ries of my God and King,
the tri-umphs of God's grace!*

*The name of Je-sus charms our fears,
and bids our sor-rows cease,
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears,
brings life, and health, and peace.*

*Christ speaks, and lis-tening to his voice,
new life the dead re-ceive;
the mourn-ful wak-en to re-joice;
the poor in heart be-lieve.*

*My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God,
as-sist me to pro-claim,
to spread through all the earth a-broad
the hon-ors of thy name.*

*To God all glo-ry, praise, and love
be now and ev-er given
by saints be-low and saints a-bove,
the church in earth and heaven.*

Call to Confession

The proof of God's amazing love is this:

While we were sinners Christ died for us.

Because we have faith in him,

we dare to approach God with confidence.

In faith and penitence,

let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Confession of Sin

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength.
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

...(silent and personal confession) Amen

Declaration of Forgiveness

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.
I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen

Sung Response No. 585

“GLORY TO GOD”

MACHU-PICHU

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!

To God be glo-ry for-ev-er!

Al-le-lu-ia, A-men!

Al-le-lu-ia, A-men!

Al-le-lu-ia, A-men!

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word.

Silence in us any voice but your own,
that, hearing, we may also obey your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Readings from Scripture

Wisdom Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 “*Everything Has Its Time*” Pg. 581
History Acts 1:1-11 “*The Promise of the Holy Spirit*” Pg. 110

Sermon “Like It Never Happened. But It Did.”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

* Affirmation of Faith Hymnal – pg. 37

*Taken from The Brief Statement of Faith, 1991,
The Book of Confessions, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God’s image
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

**Ignoring God’s commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.**

We deserve God’s condemnation.

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

**In everlasting love,
the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.**

Hearing their cry,

God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage.

Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.

**Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Prayer of the People

*(With the words "We pray to you, O God",
you are invited to respond "**hear our prayer.**"*

As God's people, called to love one another,
let us pray for the needs of the church,
the whole human family, and all the world,
saying: **Hear our prayer.**

That churches of all traditions,
may discover their unity in Christ
and exercise their gifts in service of all,
we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That the earth may be freed
from war, famine, and disease,
and the air, soil, and waters cleansed of poison,
we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That those who govern and maintain peace in every land
may exercise their powers in obedience to your commands,
we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That you will strengthen this nation to pursue just priorities
so that the races may be reconciled;
the young, educated; and the old, cared for;
the hungry, filled; and the homeless, housed;
and the sick, comforted and healed,
we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That you will preserve all who live and work in this community
in peace and safety,
we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

That you will comfort and empower
those who face any difficulty or trial:
the sick, the disabled, the poor, the oppressed,
those who grieve and those in prison,
we pray to you, O God: **Hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, as a potter fashions a vessel from humble clay,
you form us into a new creation.

Shape us, day by day, through the cross of Christ your Son,
until we pray as continually as we breathe and all our acts are prayer;
through Jesus Christ and in the mystery of the Holy Spirit, we pray.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (*sin / sin against us*)

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Invitation to the Offering

Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.
The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are you, God of all creation;
through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

Hymn No. 305

“COME SING, O CHURCH, IN JOY!”

DARWALL'S 148TH

*Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has led us through the a-ges long!
In bold ac-cord,
come cel-e-brate the jour-ney now and praise the Lord!*

*Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns su-preme,
Em-power-ing us to catch the vi-sion, dream the dream!
In bold ac-cord,
come cel-e-brate the jour-ney now and praise the Lord!*

*Let cour-age be our friend; let wis-dom be our guide,
as we in mis-sion mag-ni-fy the Cru-ci-fied!
In bold ac-cord,
come cel-e-brate the jour-ney now and praise the Lord!*

*Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!
For Christ the Lord has tri-umphed o'er the a-ges long!
In bold ac-cord,
come cel-e-brate the jour-ney now and praise the Lord!*

* Benediction

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen

* Sung Response No. 540 “SHALOM, CHAVERIM!”

(FAREWELL, GOOD FRIENDS!)

*Sha-lom, cha-ve-rim! Sha-lom, cha-ve-rot!
Sha-lom, sha-lom!
Le-hit-ra-ot, le-hit-ra-ot,
sha-lom, sha-lom.*

MUSIC ATTRIBUTIONS

“Come Sing, O Church, In Joy”

Text: Brian Dill, 1988

Music: John Darwall, 1770

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“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

“Glory to God”

“Shalom, Chaverim! (Farewell, Good Friends!)”

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