

\*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, your power makes the lame walk  
and the dead rise to new life.  
We give you thanks for the love poured into our world  
through Christ Jesus,  
who opened our minds to understand what you have made,  
whose appearance among his followers brings peace,  
and who creates faith through touch and taste.  
Show us Jesus, even now,  
through the mystery of your threefold presence,  
one God, abiding now and forever. **Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, by your Spirit  
reveal your radical, surprising love;  
come to us through your holy word,  
and let us hear what you are saying. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON: I John 3:1-7

PSALTER UMH # 741 *with sung response*  
Psalm 4

ANTHEM

*Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*  
*Come ye faithful, raise the strain*  
*Of triumphant gladness;*  
*God hath brought the people forth*  
*Into joy from sadness,*  
*Now rejoice, Jerusalem,*  
*And with true affection*  
*Welcome in unwearied strains,*  
*Jesus' resurrection.*  
*Tis the spring of souls today,*  
*Christ hath burst His prison,*  
*And from three days' sleep in death*  
*As a sun hath risen.*  
*All the winter of our sins,*  
*Long and dark is flying*  
*From His light to whom we give*  
*Laud and praise undying.*  
*"Hallelujah" we sing to our risen Lord!*  
*"Hallelujah!" now we cry*  
*To our King Immortal,*  
*Who, triumphant, burst the bars*

arr. Fred Bock

*Of the tomb's dark portal;*  
*"Hallelujah!" with the Son,*  
*God, the Father praising;*  
*"Hallelujah!" yes again*  
*To the Spirit raising.*  
*Hallelujah, Amen.*  
*Hallelujah, Amen. Amen, Amen!*

GOSPEL: Luke 24: 36b-48

SERMON

\*HYMN UMH # 175 *Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee*

Rev. Julia Webb-Bowden

ST. AGNES

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH UMH # 881

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
the third day he rose 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 Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen**

\*GLORIA UMH # 315 *verse 5*

**"Alleluia!" now we cry to our King immortal,  
who, triumphant, burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal;  
"Alleluia!" with the Son, God the Father praising,  
"Alleluia!" yet again to the Spirit raising.**

JOYS AND CONCERNS  
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CALL TO CONFESSION

The One who calls us to repent, hears us.  
In trust that our Creator knows us through and through,  
let us open our hearts to the healing of God's forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Good and gracious God,  
we are creatures of dust,**

ignorant of your revelation,  
misunderstanding your life, death, and resurrection among us,  
needing forgiveness.

We repent of our failure to give as you have given to us.

We beg your mercy for our fallen world.

We seek your Word, that we may live with the faith of Jesus.

Be our solace in this life and always.

We ask this as your own children, holy and incomplete.

Forgive us and lead us. Amen.

#### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your plea for absolution has been heard.

God's promises are sure: your sins are forgiven.

Peace be with you.

#### THE PEACE

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

#### OFFERING

As forgiven and reconciled people, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

#### OFFERTORY

*I Know That My Redeemer Liveth*

arr. Gordon Young

#### \*DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS UMH # 94

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise God, the source of all our gifts!**

**Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!**

**Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

#### \*PRAYER OF THANSIVING

#### \*LORD'S PRAYER

#### SENDING FORTH

#### \*HYMN UMH # 318

*Christ Is Alive*

TRURO

#### \*BLESSING

#### \*CHORAL BENEDICTION

*May the Grace of the Lord, Jesus Christ*

#### \*POSTLUDE

*Prelude and Fugue in G Major*

J. S. Bach

\*Please stand as you are able.

+You are invited to meditate on the text during the playing of the music.

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# Bethany United Methodist Church

## Order of Worship

Third Sunday of Easter

April 15, 2018



See what  
*great love*  
the Father has  
lavished on us,  
that we should  
be called  
*children*  
*of God!*

1 JOHN 3:1, NIV

#### ENTRANCE AND PRAISE

WELCOME AND LIFE OF THE CHURCH (10:50)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

*This Joyful Eastertide*

arr. Jan Bender

RECEIVING OF THE LIGHT

Garrett Mincey

GREETING (*responsively*)

The bread of life opens our eyes.

**The word of life opens our ears.**

The risen one shows us God's own brokenness,

**and by those wounds we are healed.**

Peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

\*HYMN UMH # 308

*Thine Be the Glory*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

April 15 – April 22

**Sunday, April 15 Preaching:** Rev. Julia Webb-Bowden **Liturgist:** Tricia Williams  
**Acolyte:** Garrett Mincey **Worship Nursery Workers:** Available – ask usher  
**Opening & Closing of Church Building:** Donald House

9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:50 a.m. Worship  
2:00 p.m. ROCA ETERNA  
4:00 p.m. Bible Study-FC  
5:30 p.m. A Table @ Bethany-FC  
8:00 p.m. Common Welfare Group-AA

**Tuesday, April 17**

7:00 p.m. ROCA ETERNA

**Wednesday, April 18**

11:00 a.m. JFF Singers-FC  
6:30 p.m. Daisies  
6:30 p.m. Choir  
8:00 p.m. Handbells

**Thursday, April 19**

11:00 a.m. Prayer Group-FC  
1:30 p.m. Backpack Buddies-Bethany  
7:00 p.m. ROCA ETERNA

**Saturday, April 21- Work Day @ Jubilee Home-meet at church @ 8:00 to carpool**

**Sunday, April 22 Preaching:** Rev. Julia Webb-Bowden **Liturgist:** Youth  
**Acolyte:** Parker Apisai **Worship Nursery Workers:** Available – ask usher  
**Opening & Closing of Church Building:** John Roberts

9:45 a.m. Sunday School  
10:50 a.m. Worship  
2:00 p.m. ROCA ETERNA  
4:00 p.m. Bible Study-FC  
5:30 p.m. A Table @ Bethany-FC  
8:00 p.m. Common Welfare Group-AA

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 27 – Feeding @ UMD  
April 28 – Free Breakfast  
May 1 – Fellowship Dinner

## UMM ACCEPTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The United Methodist Men will be accepting scholarship applications through April 29. It will be presented on Mother's Day, May 13. You may obtain an application and guidelines by stopping by the office or calling the office to have one emailed to you.

## FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

First Quarter Financial Statements have been run. Many of you received yours electronically (some twice). The others are printed and in the vestibule. Thank you for any errors you find.



Welcome to Bethany United Methodist Church! If you are a visitor we offer you a very special welcome as we gather to worship God and practice "Learning to Love as Jesus Loves." If you are in search of a church home, then we hope that you have found one. If you have questions, or would like to inquire about membership at Bethany, please speak with Pastor Julia. Our vow of membership is: *"As a member of Bethany UMC, I will faithfully participate in its ministries by my prayers, my presence, my gifts, my service, and my witness."*

**STEPHEN MINISTRY**



We are a Stephen Ministry Congregation. There is more information about this ministry on the pew cards or you may contact the church office if you or someone you know is in need of Christian Care giving.