* SONG OF GRACE

Insert: "Heaven Came Down"

Note: This gospel song was written in 1961 by John Peterson. Sometimes a random comment or meaningful phrase he overheard would give him an idea for a song. On one occasion he was assisting with the music at the Montrose Bible Conference. In a morning meeting, time was given for testimonies. An old gentleman rose to his feet to tell of the saving work of God in his heart. As he spoke, his face glowed, especially when he told about the night he came to Jesus for the first time. "Heaven came down and glory filled my soul" was the way he explained it. John jotted down the phrase and later that week he wrote both the words and the music for this joy-filled song.

(Children are invited forward during the final chorus for their special time.)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

SONG OF PREPARATION

Hymn #333: "Seek Ye First"

(As we sing, children may return to their seats.)

Note: Seek Ye First was written in 1962 by Karen Lafferty, following a Bible Study on Matthew 6:33. Its elegant and unpretentious melody reflects the text perfectly, which is taken verbatim from the King James Version.

SCRIPTURE *Romans* 13:1-3

ANTHEM "Spirit of the Living God"

SCRIPTURE Matthew 22:15-22

SERMON "Truth and Power"

SONG OF RESPONSE

Insert: "Surely Goodness and Mercy"

Note: Written in 1958 by Alfred B. Smith and John Peterson. As they worked on a new approach to singing Psalm 23, Alfred was reminded of a story of a little child who had learned the 23rd Psalm before he could read or write. The little boy's teacher's name was Miss Murphy and the little boy learned the Psalm this way: "Surely, good Miss Murphy shall follow me all the days of my life." While they were writing, Alfred was thinking of a little boy's misunderstanding and John was remembering his days in the air force in World War 2, when he often gave thanks to the Good Shepherd for taking care of His sheep. This song was born, emphasizing God's goodness and mercy as well as God's care in lonesome valleys and through cold nights.

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY "The Trees of the Field"

* DOXOLOGY

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND ILLUMINATION

All: God of great wonders, we join with you in the joy of giving. You give us life and breath, you fill the world with beauty, our hands with bounty and our hearts with the desire to give. Accept these gifts and ourselves in your service. Amen.

* CLOSING SONG

Hymn #467: "How Great Thou Art"

Note: This powerful hymn was written in 1949 by Swedish Pastor Carl Gustaf Boberg. During a walk, a thunderstorm suddenly appeared out of nowhere. A severe wind began to blow. After the storm was over, Mr. Boberg looked out over the clear bay. He then heard a church bell in the distance. And the words to How Great Thou Art begin to form in his heart -- O Lord, my God, When I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds Thy hands hath made ...

- * BLESSING
- * POSTLUDE

"Marching to Zion"

WORSHIP NOTES

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS, as well as audio listening devices, are available from the Worship Welcome Team.

MONTHLY CONGREGATIONAL LETTERS: On communion Sundays, five letters will be placed in the Narthex and then taken to Fellowship in Galbraith Hall. *Please add a quick note to each letter ... these letters provide an important link to those members unable to join us during worship each week.*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION: Will be observed on Sunday, June 2^{nd} , Team 3 – Stacey Lucidore.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

LITURGISTS: Mary Helen Burroughs; June 2nd Stacey Lucidore

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: No Fellowship due to the holiday; June 2nd Families C & D

CHILD CARE: Child Care rooms are opened, but not staffed due to the holiday; June 2^{nd} Carrie Virgin & Marilyn Beckstrom

WORSHIP WELCOME TEAM: Team 2: Heather & Jim Hunter, Lora Spence, Mary Helen Burroughs*, Kathy Crump*; June 2nd - Team 3: Pat Kaczmarek, Ken Niemeier, Ted Keenan, Jean Smith*, Ruth Stotesbery* (*Chairlift)

SANCTUARY COORDINATORS: Carol MacDonald; June 2nd Gary May

GRAPHICS TEAM: Courtney Kiesling; June 2nd Larry Jay

SOUND BOARD: Frank Jackson; June 2nd Steve Kloc

CHANCEL FLOWERS:

In Loving Memory of Roland W. Galbraith, given by his family. In Loving Memory of John Mundsinger, given by his family.

PRAYER CONCERNS: Rob Backstrom, Hartley Baird, Hank Barr, Betty Bauer, Gary Bittner, Marilou Booth, Art Brandenburg, Pat Brown, Michele Cobb, Sueann DeFurio, Bob Dare, Linda Dermotta, Bob Ericson, Cliff Fair, Jean Fishel, Ginny Flynn, Bettyjean Gamble, Linda Hackett, Dick Jones, Steve Kloc, Dick Kraft, Pat Kraft, Whitten Little, Russ Lautenschlager, Carol McDonald, Jack Miller, Emily Parise, Leanne Parise, Donna Puglisi, Betty Ramsey, Dave Rawlings, Ann Reid, Sue Schoenberger, Joan Sherbak, Sally Sinatra, Jean Smith, Anne Unger, Sheila and Rich Vandevander, Ansley Virgin Basso, Kristi Wade, Edith Wallace, Russell York, Sam Zimmerman

Congregation Life Weekly Newsletter May 26, 2019

SOUTH HILLS INTERFAITH MOVEMENT FOOD PANTRIES: SHIM needs donations for its cleaning supply shelves. These items include dishwashing soap, cleanser, furniture polish and window cleaner. As always, any nonperishable food donation is greatly appreciated.

RISE AGAINST HUNGER FOOD PACKING EVENT - SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH: Please join the movement to end hunger by signing up to help pack food, contributing to the cost of the food or praying for those all over the world who go to bed hungry. The sign-up sheet is located at the bottom of the Narthex stairs along with envelopes for contributions. Checks should be made payable to Bethel Presbyterian Church.

2019 PER CAPITA GIVING: Do you know that each year Bethel Presbyterian Church supports the missions and services of the larger Presbyterian Church through our Per Capita offering?

The Pittsburgh Presbytery, the Synod of the Trinity and the National Presbyterian Church U.S.A. are funded by these gifts from each member congregation. The Presbytery keeps an eye on the bigger picture serving needs such as poverty, disaster assistance, abuse and neglect, but the key source of funding is the Per Capita giving from each and every member of the Presbyterian Church. Bethel Presbyterian Church was the recipient in 2018 from disaster assistance for all the flooding in Bethel and we were able to help our neighbors financially.

Bethel Presbyterian Church's Per Capita assessment for 2019 is \$33.05 for each confirmed member of the congregation, totaling more than \$9,000. You can do your part and pay the \$33.05 all at once or throughout the year. If you don't pay, BPC still has to pay the larger Presbyterian Church for each confirmed member, so we ask that you prayerfully consider and submit your families expected contribution for each confirmed member and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office.

Bethel Presbyterian Church is a very giving congregation and our offerings directly support dozens of local and global missions as well as the needs of those in our own church family.

In Christ's service, BPC Finance Committee

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: Just a reminder that today is the last day we can accept donations for OGHS. "Special Thanks" to the children who filled their fish boxes! We are very close to reaching our goal.



APRIL 2019 PLEDGES

Pledges YTD \$67,351 Budgeted Pledges YTD \$70,332 Difference -\$2,981

As you can see, pledges received so far in 2019 have not kept pace with what is expected or needed to meet our ongoing ministry expenses. Because of this, in just the first three months of the year, we have needed to draw over half of the funds available to us from the endowment for the whole year. If you missed your pledges and offerings for a few weeks due to weather, illness or other reasons, please consider a catch-up donation to help the church continue its faithful ministry in the coming weeks and months. Thank you for your ongoing love and support of the church and all God is calling us to be and do.

NATIONAL CANCER SURVIVORS' DAY: On Sunday, June 2nd, your Stephen Ministers will hold the annual National Cancer Survivors' Day Prayer Circle to honor those who have won their battle with cancer. It will immediately follow the service.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CONTRIBUTE TO BPC "2019 PET PROJECTS": There are still plenty of opportunities for you to contribute, even just a small amount can make a big difference. Funding needed for Staff Training (\$1,000), Staff Appreciation (\$500), Supplemental Staffing (\$3,000), Small Groups (\$750), Student Ministry (\$2,750), Special Events (\$500), Special Musicians (\$2,500), Graphics/Listening (\$500), Mission Projects (\$5,000), Officer Training (\$500), Advertising (\$400). We are happy to report that Supportive Services is fully funded! Thank you.

Simply drop off your contribution to the Financial Secretary or place it in the offering plate with a note or subject line in the memo section stating your wishes.

Thank you, Finance Committee



Saturday, June 15 7:00 pm Summer Movie Night: Toy Story

Admission– bring any donation for South Hills Interfaith Movement Food Pantry

Summer Movie Worship Series: Pixar Favorites

June 16-July 7 9:30 am

Join us as we explore what we can learn about faith and life

through the Pixar classics: Toy Story, Cars, Finding Nemo, and Inside Out.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

2999 Bethel Church Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102 412/835-0405 Church Office 412/835-1037 Fax Website: www.bethelpresby.org Email: bethelpres@verizon.net

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cathie Smith, 412/965-4253 or pastorcathie.bethelpc@gmail.com

Director of Discipleship: Jessica Kotila, 412/835-0405 or *jessica.discipleship.bethelpc@gmail.com*

Director of Youth Ministries: Kasey Wilfong, 412/835-0405 Director of Music and Worship: Jason Wilcox, 412/651-4638

Organist: Cody Soska, 412/877-9139

Administrative Assistant: Kathy Young, 412/835-0405 Financial Secretary: Nancy Carr, 412/835-0405 Custodian (Day): Bob Murphy, 412/835-0405 Custodian (Evening): Rob Roche, 412/835-0405

CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR

Sunday, May 26 (Daily Readings: Psalm 93, 150, Deut. 15:1-11, 1 Tim. 3:14-4:5, Matt. 13:24-34a)

10:30 a.m. Worship

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cathie Smith

11:30 a.m. No Fellowship Hour this week.

4:00 p.m. REACH Meeting

Monday, May 27 (Daily Readings: Psalm 97, 145, Deut. 8:1-10 or Deut. 18:9-14, James 1:1-15, Luke 9:18-27)

Church Office and Child Care closed for the holiday. Mission Committee distributes water and freeze pops.

Tuesday, May 28 (Daily Readings: Psalm 98, 146, Deut. 8:11-20 or Deut. 18:15-22, James 1:16-27, Luke 11:1-13)

9:00 a.m. Preschool Summer Camp

10:00 a.m. Quilters Meeting

5:00 p.m. Soccer Shots

7:00 p.m. Deacons & Stephen Ministers Meeting

Wednesday, May 29 (Daily Readings: Psalm 99, 147:1-11, Deut. 19:1-7, James 5:13-18, Luke 12:22-31)

9:00 a.m. Preschool Summer Camp

10:00 a.m. Bible Study

6:30 p.m. Planning Team

7:00 p.m. Macdonald Pipe Band Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

7:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Study

Thursday, May 30 (Daily Readings: Psalm 47, 147:12-20, Ezek. 1:1-14, 24-28b, Heb. 2:5-18, Matt. 28:16-20)

9:00 a.m. Preschool Summer Camp

5:00 p.m. Kinder Karate

7:30 p.m. Personnel Committee Meeting

<u>Friday, May 31</u> (Daily Readings: Psalm 96, 148, Ezek. 1:28-3:3, Heb. 4:14-5:6, Luke 9:28-36)

9:00 a.m. Preschool Summer Camp

<u>Saturday, June 1</u> (Daily Readings: Psalm 92, 149, Ezek. 3:4-17, Heb. 5:7-14, Luke 9:37-50)

2:00 p.m. Painting for a Purpose5:00 p.m. Painting for a Purpose

<u>Sunday, June 2</u> (Daily Readings: Psalm 93, 150, Ezek. 3:16-27, Eph. 2:1-10, Matt. 10:24-33, 40-42)

10:30 a.m. Worship, Graduate Recognition
Communion Sunday, Team 3

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cathie Smith 11:30 a.m. Fellowship Hour – Families C & D

11:30 a.m. Mission Meeting

11:30 a.m. National Cancer Survivors' Prayer Circle

11:30 a.m. PW Ice Cream Social

1:00 p.m. Boy Scout – Eagle Court of Honor 6:00 p.m. REACH Dinner and Pre-Departure Party

7:00 P.M. Cub Scout Committee Meeting



Bethel Presbyterian Church Worship for the Lord's Day May 26, 2019 10:30 A.M.

"Changed by Christ So We Can Change the World"

* Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.

PRELUDE

Improvisations on the Day's Hymns

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

* SONG OF ADORATION

Insert: "Thou Art Worthy"

Note: Pastor Dick Mills was proud of his mother who raised six children, was a speaker for women's groups and had written more than 300 songs. Sometimes she could write a song in just a few minutes after someone suggested a topic or a Bible verse to her. So, in 1963, when Dick knew his mother was coming to visit him, he told his congregation that they could suggest a favorite Bible verse and she would come up with a song. During the evening service, a member of the congregation suggested she write a song from his favorite verse, Revelation 4:11. At the close of the service – a service that did not close until after 10 o'clock that night, Pauline Mills sang this song. She said God gave her this song ... and it soon became a praise song that is still sung in many churches today.

WELCOME

THROUGH ALL GENERATIONS: THE BOOMERS

* SONG OF PRAISE

Insert: "His Name Is Wonderful"

Note: This simple song was written by Audrey Mieir in 1959. At the conclusion of the Christmas play the children of her church led during the Christmas service that year, the Pastor stood up and slowly lifted his hands toward heaven and said, 'His name is Wonderful!' "Those words electrified me," Audrey remembers. "I immediately began writing in the back of my Bible. As I wrote I was thinking that God has something he wants said. I wrote a simple chorus and I sang it that night for the young people around the piano. They sang it immediately. It wasn't hard for them to learn." It has since been sung all over the world, in many languages.

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: You call us to love as you love, care as you care, seek justice, mercy and truth in a world that has yet to feel the warmth of your embrace. But we fail to heed your call, draw back from those in need, say nothing when we see injustice. Forgive us, you whose love is better than life, you whose grace extends to all. Forgive us and enable us to be the people we could be, that your name might be on the lips of all people. Amen.

Moment for Silent Prayer

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS