

PRAYERS

ς Continue to hold the family of Gordon Ekstrand who passed away the evening of March 3.

ς Beth Shelby

ς Monica

ς We pray for Ukraine.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ς Today, **March 13**, directly after worship, we will have a **Trustee Committee meeting**. All are welcome.

ς Saturday, **March 18**, **BUMMs** (Bethel United Methodist Men) meeting in person at 1 PM. Contact Greg Adams for more information.

ς Sunday, **March 20**, **Church Council meeting** directly after worship

ς **Prayer and Conversations** Tuesday 6:30-7:30 pm @ Bethel; Thursday 6:30-7:30 pm @ Woodrow.

ς **Sundays in Lent @ 4 pm Devotional Study on Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87516031052?pwd=RjkrVVNCR21LaUdFTDFraU5nRi9nZz09>

Meeting ID: 875 1603 1052 Passcode: 969270

Dial by your location 1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 875 1603 1052

ς **Contemplative Worship service** recording is added to our FB page Wednesdays around 7 pm.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/bethelumcsiny>

ς We are looking for people who were **married at Bethel!** Call us!

ς **Mobile Pantry:** Tuesdays: 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

ς **Offering:** mail/bring to church or give through PAYPAL.

(<https://tinyurl.com/2p99xyw8>)

ς St. Paul's is looking for volunteers to help with their **Food Pantry**. ([718](tel:7182272485)) [227-2485](tel:7182272485)



PRELUDE

Bea Jay

CALL TO WORSHIP © 2011 Joan Stott – ‘The Timeless Psalms’ RCL Psalms Year A. Used with permission.

We gather to praise the Lord, who is our Light:

Who shines the bright beam of love upon us all.

Come let us worship the God who lights our life.

We gather to praise the Lord, who is our Refuge:

Who is for us a safe haven in the storms of life.

Come let us worship the God who is our Security.

We gather to praise the Lord, who is our Strength

Who helps us to live in peace with our uncertainties.

Come let us worship the God who is our Foundation. Amen.

OPENING HYMN “We Sing to You, O God” vs. 1,2, 3 #2001 TFWS

Words: Gracia Grindal Music: John Darwall Words © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

We sing to you, O God, the Rock who gave us birth,

let our rejoicing sing your name in all the earth.

To you, O God, let songs be raised,

in joyful hymns, our feast of praise.

**We wandered far from home out in a desert land,
you shielded with your love our fearful pilgrim band.**

**You kept us safe within your arms
and sheltered us against the storm.**

**You bear us through the world, an eagle to her young,
who rises on her wings and bears us toward the sun.**

**We ride the vaults of light and air
and trust in your unfailing care.**

OPENING PRAYER

adapted from Marcia McFee

O God, we praise you for “gathering” us as a Beachcomber gathers and marvels at each precious surviving piece of beach glass she finds. We are never alone, the lost is found, and healing can be a real possibility in the hands of the Body of Christ. We pray that this Lenten journey will become a time of healing—on personal, communal and global levels—and we pray that the church will be the true Body of Christ, a place of “safekeeping,” a safe space for all. Amen.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

UNISON PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

Marcia McFee

Holy God, we come to you with clenched fists, angry voices, and bloodied spirits.

We have been at war with your children. We have not kept one another safe.

God of Peace, forgive us for the wars we have waged against your creation.

Help us keep your children safe, as you keep us safe.

Protect us from the ungodly violence that we store up in our hearts,
and teach us your ways of compassion.

Amen.

Silent Prayers may be offered

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In the days of trouble, God will keep us safe in God’s dwelling. We are welcomed home. We are forgiven.

I will come to the Lord with shouts of joy: We are forgiven.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass 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

HYMN “Be Still, My Soul”

Vs. 1, 3,

#534 UMH

Words: Katharina von Schlegel 1752; trans: Jane Borthwick 1855 Music: Jean Sibelius 1899; arr. from The Hymnal 1933 ©1933 renewed 1961 Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side.

Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;

leave to your God to order and provide;

in every change God faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend

through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on

when we shall be forever with the Lord,

when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,

sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.

Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

READING FROM THE PSALMS

Psalm 27:1-6

READING FROM THE GOSPEL

Luke 15:3-10

May these readings from the Psalms and Luke inspire us to live for love.

Thanks be to God!

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

“SafeKeeping” Rev. Bette Johnson Sohm

RESPONSE HYMN “Lead Me, Lord”

#473 UMH

Words: Psalms 5:8, 4:8 Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness;

make thy way plain before my face.

For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only, that makest me dwell in safety.

THE OFFERTORY
DOXOLOGY

Bea Jay
#95 UMH

**Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GATHERING SONG "*Song of Hope (Canto de Esperanza)*" #2186 TFWS

Words: Alvin Schutmaat Musc; Argentiine folk melody Irregular with Refrain Tune: Argentina

May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.

Refrain:

Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

CONGREGATIONAL SHARING

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*Go now, trusting in God's promises. Seek the presence of the Lord and
abandon yourself to prayer. Follow those who are faithful to God, stand
firm against evil and seek healing for all*

*And may God be your saving light and fortress; May Christ Jesus gather
you into the safe wings of mercy; And may the Holy Spirit make you
citizens of heaven.*

**We go in peace,
and the sure knowledge that love is the heart of the matter.**

POSTLUDE

Bea Jay

Music in this service is covered by CCLI: 3256161 and Streaming License: 20521955