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Facebook: Bethel United Church of Christ – Kansas City

**Bethel United Church of Christ Bulletin**

**January 31, 2021**

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

*“What finally counts is not what biblical texts or church doctrines tell us we may believe, but what humanity, reason, justice and Christ’s love tell us we ought to believe.”*

William Sloane Coffin, Credo

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **PRELUDE**

*"Fairest Lord Jesus"*

Bethel Praise Team

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come together from our separate spaces to be community.

**Help us to see your world more clearly.**

We come seeking Christ Jesus, so we may learn what it means to be compassionate.

**May we grow in holiness, justice and love.**

Let us praise you with our voices, hearts and minds.

**We give our whole selves to you.**

### **PRAYER OF INVOCATION** *(unison)*

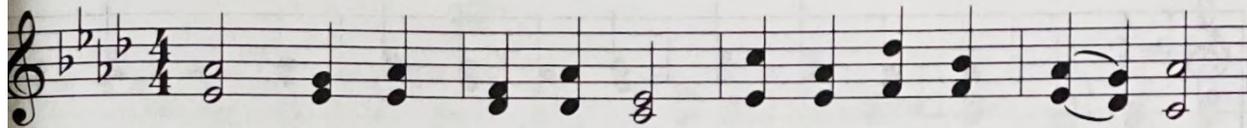
**O God, we want to live with integrity and wisdom, with a spirit of truth. Let our actions show love and compassion. Remind us that others are watching when we claim we practice what we preach. Come among us today holy God and show us how to live a life of faith with compassion and authority. For we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **OPENING HYMN#90**

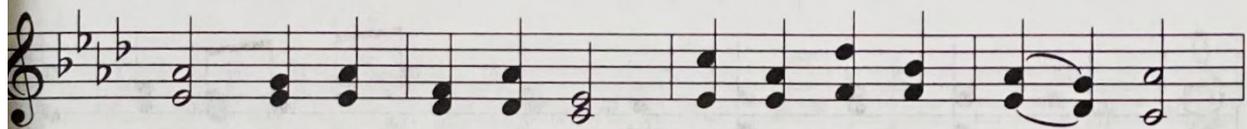
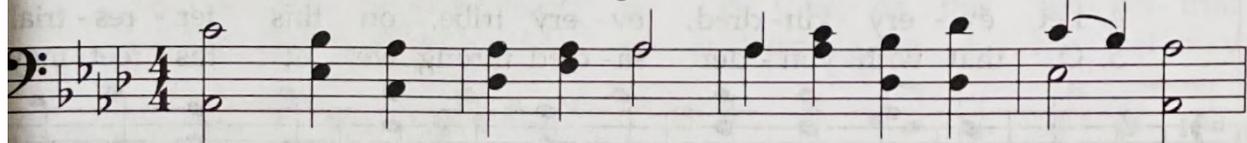
*"Come Christians Join to Sing"*

# Come, Christians, Join to Sing

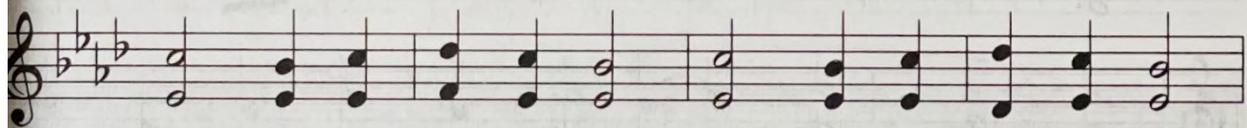
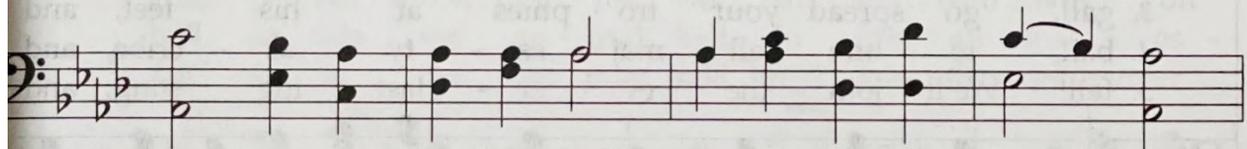
90



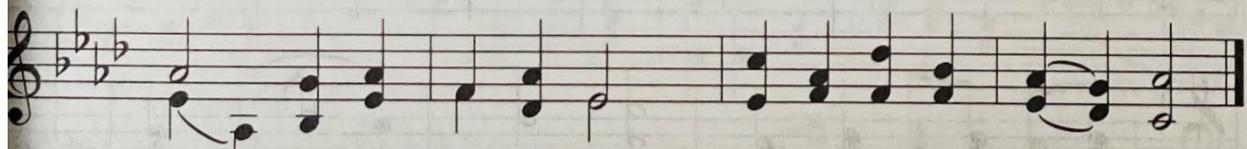
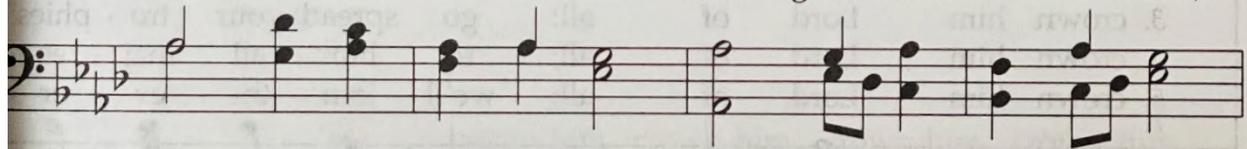
1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
2. Come lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



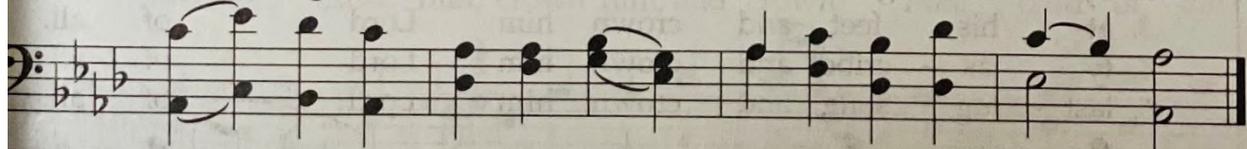
Loud praise to Christ we bring: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Let prais-es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



Let all with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - jice;  
Christ is our Guide and Friend on whom we can de - pend;  
On heav-en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,



praise we with grate-ful choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!



## OUR SACRED STORIES

### Psalm 111

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

### Mark 1:21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

## SPECIAL MUSIC

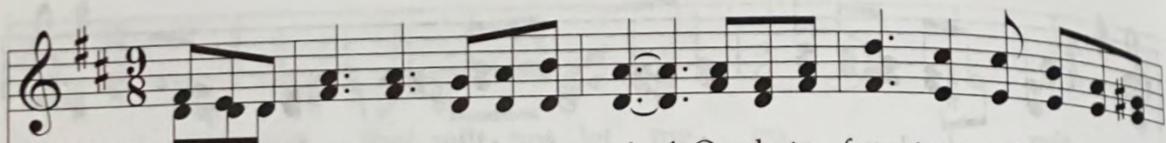
MESSAGE

*"When Have You Been Amazed?"*

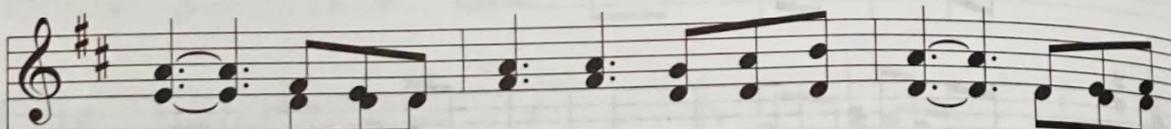
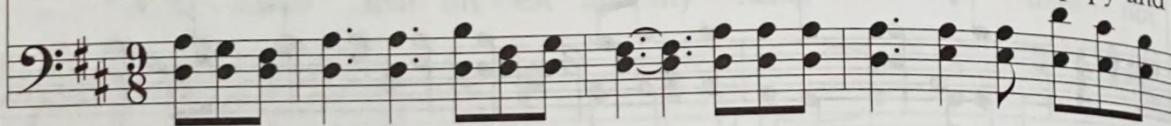
Rev. Karen J. Aitkens

HYMN#543

*"Blessed Assurance"*



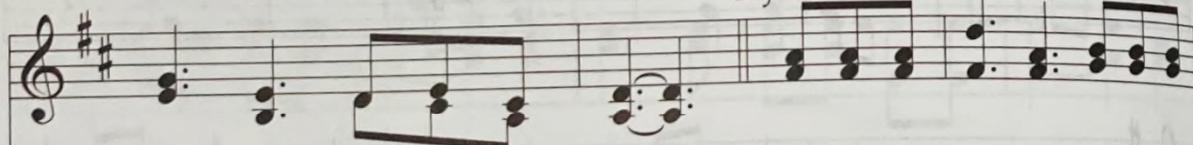
1. Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! O what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-
2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my
3. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and



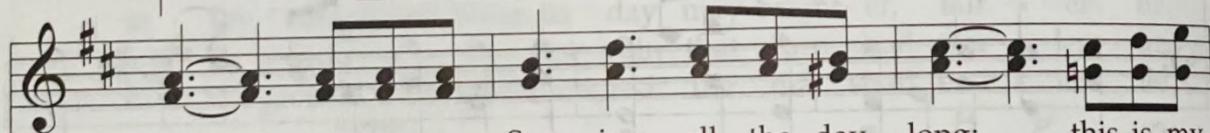
vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his  
sight; an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of  
blest, watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his



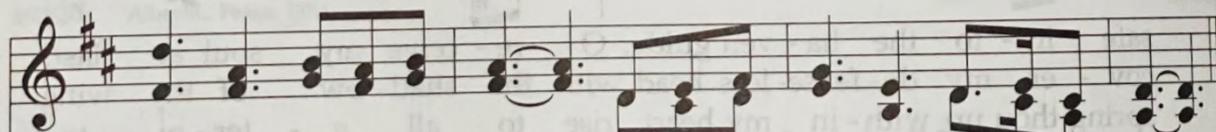
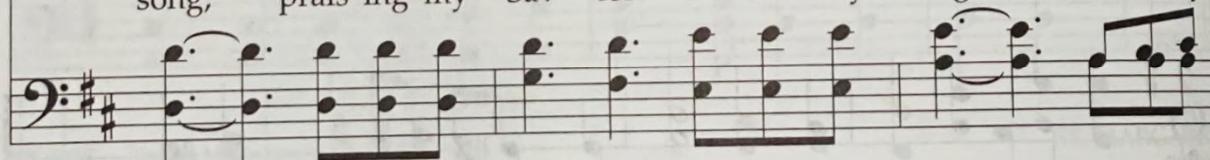
*Refrain*



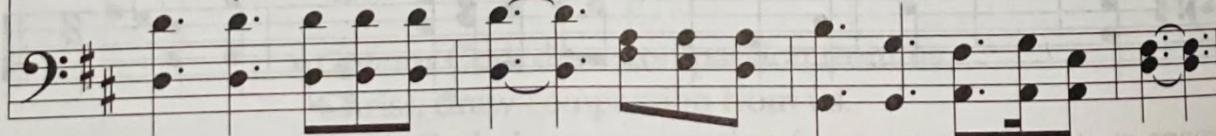
Spir - it, washed in his blood. This is my sto - ry, this is my  
mer - cy, whis - pers of love. love. This is my sto - ry, this is my  
good - ness, lost in his love.



song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long; this is my



sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.



**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER** (*forgive us our sins...*)

**RESPONSE#304**                    *"Into My Heart"*

*Into my heart, into my heart  
come into my heart, Lord Jesus;  
come in today, come in to stay,  
come into my heart, Lord Jesus.*

**OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

Invitation

Offering

*"Great is the Lord"*

Chad Willis, piano

Response of Praise

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God, above the heavenly host.  
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen*

Prayer of Dedication

**CLOSING HYMN and BENEDICTION#477**      *"Pass It On" (vs. 1 and 3)*

# Pass It On

477

1. It on - ly takes a spark to get a fire go - ing,  
2. What a won - drous time is spring when all the trees are bud - ding,  
3. I wish for you, my friend, this hap - pi - ness that I've found—

and soon all those a - round can warm up in its glow - ing;  
the birds be - gin to sing, the flow - ers start their bloom - ing;  
on God you can de - pend, it mat - ters not where you're bound;

that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per - i - enced it:  
that's how it is with God's love, once you've ex - per - i - enced it:  
I'll shout it from the moun - tain top, I want my world to know:

you spread God's love to ev - ery - one, you want to pass it on.  
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.  
the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

This ends the taping of the service. See you soon!

Leave the service-Take a quick break as you go to your e-mail to find the ZOOM link.

## THE WORK OF THE CHURCH-Bethel's Annual Meeting

Please log in on the ZOOM link that was sent to you by e-mail. (earlier this week and this morning).