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Facebook: Bethel United Church of Christ – Kansas City

Bethel United Church of Christ Bulletin

January 24, 2021

Third Sunday after Epiphany

“...we will leave everything ordinary and safe—we will leave into your calling, your changing, your grace.”

Tirabassi & Grant, An Improbable Gift of Blessing

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“How Great Thou Art”

Bethel Praise Team

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Did you hear the good news?

All: The kingdom of God has drawn near.

One: Do you know who brings us hope?

All: It is Jesus, the one who calls us to follow him.

One: Will you trust God enough to leave your former lives behind?

All: We will follow Jesus!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (unison)

O God, who wanders onto our seashore and uses our boats to reach others, we have let down our nets all week and have drawn them up empty. We come today weary and tired of trying and yet here we are. Make a miracle in our lives in this hour of worship, that we may hear your call to be fishers of all people. Amen.

OPENING HYMN # 545

“He Leadeth Me”

545 He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!

1. He lead - eth me: O bless - ed thought! O
 2. Lord, I would place my hand in thine, nor
 3. And when my task on earth is done, when,

words with heaven-ly com- fort fraught! What - e'er I do, wher -
 ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine; by wa - ters still, o'er
 by thy grace, the vic - tory's won, e'en death's cold wave I

e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
 trou - bled sea, still 'tis thy hand that lead - eth me.
 will not flee, since God thro' Jor - dan lead - eth me.

Refrain

He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me:

his faith-ful fol-lower I would be, for by his hand he lead-eth me.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mighty God, we hear the words of your Son, "The kingdom of God has come near; repent..." but we treat it as advice to others. We view the faithfulness of James and John, Peter and Andrew, who left their boats to follow Jesus, as a bewildering story of blind trust in a complete stranger. Our faith wavers and we find it impossible to leave familiar paths behind. Forgive us, bless us with your steadfast love, that we might truly trust and follow you. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE#305

"Lord, listen to your children praying.

Lord send you spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Send us love, send us power, send us grace."

OUR SACRED STORIES

Matthew 4:12-22

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Mark 1:14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

SPECIAL MUSIC

MESSAGE

"Fishing Stories"

UCC STATEMENT OF FAITH

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit, God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues and races.

You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service to others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world, to resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

HYMN#342

“Lord, You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

Tú Has Venido a la Orilla

(Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore)

Unísono (Unison)

1. Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla,
 2. Tú sa - bes bien lo que ten - go:
 1. Lord, you have come to the lake - shore
 2. You know so well my pos - ses - sions;

no has bus - ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos,
 en mi bar - ca no hay o - ro ni es - pa - das,
 look - ing nei - ther for wealth - y nor wise ones;
 my boat car - ries no gold and no weap - ons;

tan só - lo quie - res que yo te si - ga.
 tan só - lo re - des y mi tra - ba - jo.
 you on - ly asked me to fol - low hum - bly.
 you will find there my nets and la - bor.

Estribillo (Refrain)

Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos
 O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,

A G/B A D

y son-rien - do has di-cho mi nom - bre;
and while smil - ing have spo-ken my name;

D7 G F# F#7

en la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi bar - ca;
now my boat's left on the shore-line be-hind me;

B7 Em Em7 A D

jun - to a ti bus-ca-ré o - tro mar.
by your side I will seek oth-er seas.

3.
Tú necesitas mis manos,
mi cansancio que a otros descanse,
amor que quiera seguir amando.
Estrillo

3.
You need my hands, full of caring
through my labors to give others rest,
and constant love that keeps on loving.
Refrain

4.
Tú, pescador de otros mares,
ansia eterna de almas que esperan,
amigo bueno, que así me llamas.
Estrillo

4.
You, who have fished other oceans,
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,
my loving friend, as thus you call me.
Refrain

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

OFFERING OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Invitation

Offertory *"Rock of Ages"* arr. Craig Curry Chad Willis, piano

Doxology *Praise God from who all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above the heav'nly host.
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL AND COMMISSIONS

Friends, you have been called by God and chosen by the people of God for leadership in our church. This ministry is a blessing and a trusted responsibility. It recognizes your special gifts and calls you to work among us and for us.

In love, we thank you for accepting this obligation and challenge you to offer your best to Christ, to Bethel and to our ministry and missions locally and globally.

Today we install the following people in their roles of leadership: Our Council- Officers: President- Fulvio Hayes, Vice-President-David Schindler, Secretary-Ron Wendle, Treasurer: Mary Ann Pierson, Financial Secretary: Shirlee Mendon. The Council is made up of 9 at large members: Mary Fleener, Kim Heft, Elaine McDuff, Marty Pace, Gary Pierson, Jan Rickert, Betty Weger (Fulvio & David listed as officers) plus a representative from each of our Commissions: **Administration**-Chair-Randy Pace, Terry Aitkens, Ted Basch, Larry Jurgenson, Jay Marshall, Mike Mendon, Hance Pierson, Mary Ann Pierson-Treasurer (and Council Rep.) **Benevolence**-Chair: Cathy Leslie, Kathy Corn, Jamie Elder, Liz Guevel, Debbie Robinett-Council Rep. **Christian Education**-Chair-Susan Schindler, Shari Achille, Lauri Buck, Jessica Faust, Sophie Lane, Traci Pierson, Dale Rickert-Council Rep. **Evangelism**-Pat Armstrong, Peggy Burr, Kristen Marshall, Bobbi Wendle, Ron Wendle-Council Rep. **Membership**-Chair-Bev Duer, Laurie Arbuthnot, Stephanie Dodd-Council Rep., Jeanene Easley, Gerry Hendrix, Jody Meyer

REPRESENTING COUNCIL/COMMISSIONS ARE: Fulvio Hayes, Marty Pace and Gary Pierson. If you serve in one of these roles, please join us in the response:

To all serving on our Council and Commissions:

Do you acknowledge yourself as a faithful disciple of Jesus? If so answer: **I do.**

Will you devote yourself to the service of God in the world? If so answer: **I will.**

Will you so live that you enable Bethel to be a congregation of love and peace? If so, answer: **I will.**

Will you do all in your power to be responsible to the task for which you have been chosen? If so answer: **I will.**

Let us pray: Loving God, pour out your blessings upon these your servants who have been given these special ministries in your church, Bethel. Grant them grace to give themselves wholeheartedly to your service. May they feel our support and love. Amen.

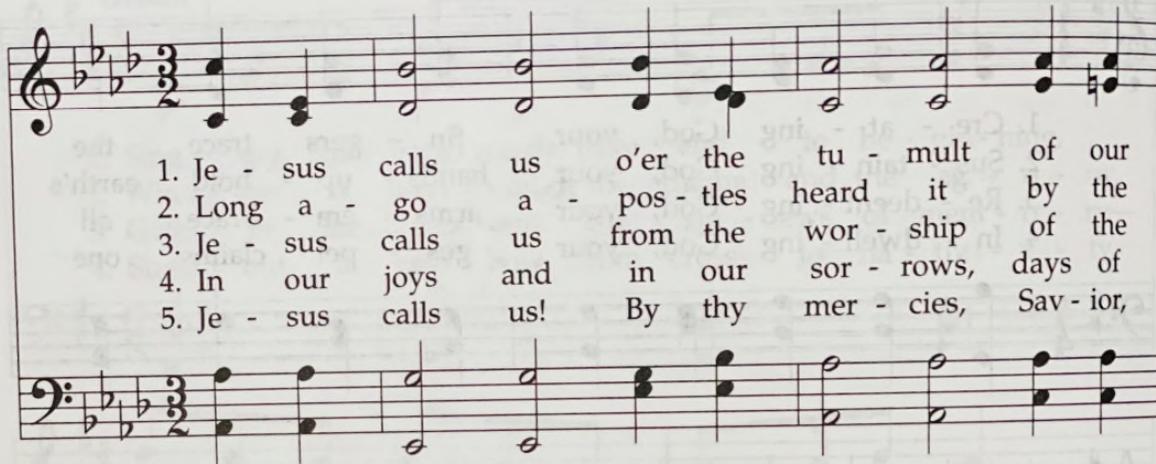
As the congregation , let us show our support with our response:

We gather in celebration of the joy that is ours to be partners with you in the service of Christ. We promise to love you, honor your leadership and assist you, so together we may be a faithful church of Jesus Christ, the one who calls us to serve. Amen.

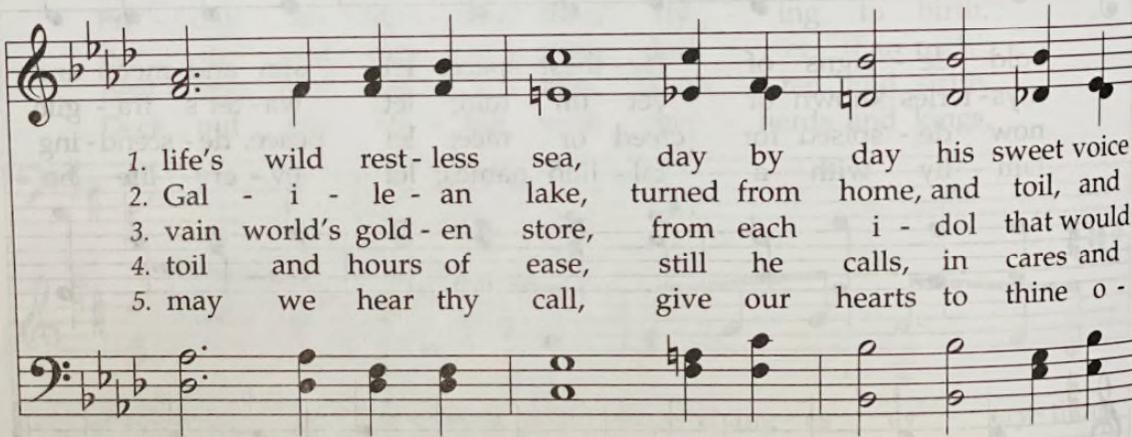
CLOSING HYMN#337

"Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult"

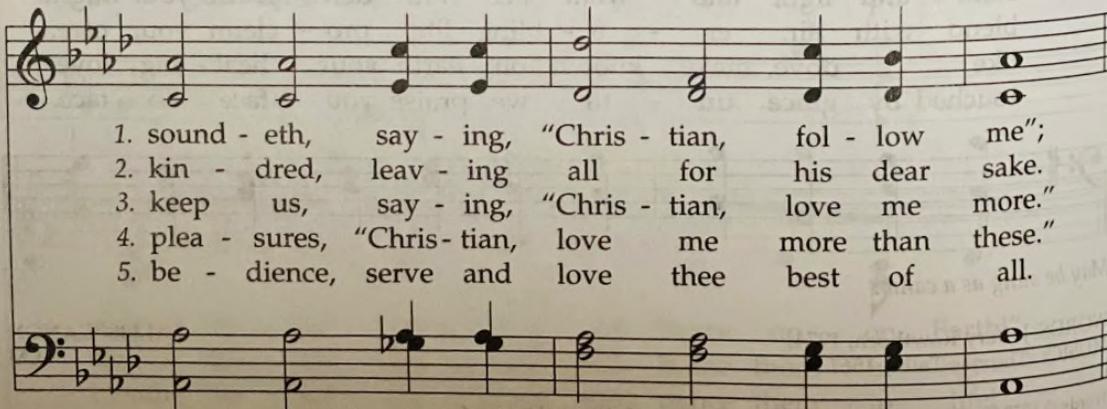
337 Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult



1. Je - sus calls us o'er the tu - mult of our
2. Long a - go a - pos - tles heard it by the
3. Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4. In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5. Je - sus calls us! By thy mer - cies, Sav - ior,



1. life's wild rest - less sea, day by day his sweet voice
2. Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home, and toil, and
3. vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
4. toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
5. may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thine o -



1. sound - eth, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me";
2. kin - dred, leav - ing all for his dear sake.
3. keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
4. plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
5. be - dience, serve and love thee best of all.

COMMISSION/BENEDICTION

One: Christ calls us to follow and sends us forth to be fishers of people.
Grab the nets!

Many: We go to change our world as Christ has changed our lives.

One: “The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has come near...” All the blessings of God our Creator, Christ our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Sustainer, be with you now and always. And let the people say, **AMEN.**

POSTLUDE

“Holly Ground”

arr. Mark Hayes

Chad Willis, piano