

Pastor Rev. Elizabeth Moses

Guest Preacher Rev. Abby Norton-Levering

Bethany's Music Director Catherine Schane-Lydon

2025 Consistory Members

Phyllis McClarty, VP (Elder) Nancy Murray (Elder)

Wendy Delehanty (Deacon) Jessica Fuglein, Clerk (Deacon)

Bethany Reformed Church seeks to be a caring and inclusive community called by Christ to glorify God —
empowered by the Holy Spirit to express God's love,
serve our neighbors and community, and invite others
to follow Christ in a life changing way.

Bethany Reformed Church 760 New Scotland Avenue Albany, New York 12208 Telephone: 518-482-7998

Email us: <a href="mailto:bethanyrca.info@gmail.com">bethanyrca.info@gmail.com</a>

Visit us: bethanyrc.org

### **Order of Worship**

April 27, 2025 Second Sunday of Easter

\*Means rise in body or spirit, if able. **Bold** print for congregational response.

There are **hearing assistance devices** in a box by the entrance to the Sanctuary for those who need them. Please ask a greeter for assistance. **Offerings** may be placed in the basket by the Sanctuary door.

**WELCOME** 

**PRELUDE** 

VOTUM & CALL TO WORSHIP (From Psalm 118)

The Lord is my strength and my might!

God has become my salvation.

I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

I thank God for answered prayers; God has become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

God's steadfast love endures forever! Amen.

\*OPENING HYMN #485 (Red Hymnal) "To God Be the Glory"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of Grace, you are ever more willing to forgive than we are to confess. Our burdens weigh heavily on us. Help us to lay our burdens down. We thank you that you hear us when we pray, that you share our suffering and pain, and that you forgive us.

(Personal prayers continued in silence.) God of New Life, as Christ was raised from the dead, raise us from the death of sin into life eternal. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*GLORIA PATRI #579 (Red Hymnal)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

### The Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 5:27-32 (pg. 123) John 20:19-31 (pg. 115) Liturgist: Bob Eberle

The Word of the Lord for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.** 

CHOIR ANTHEM

"O Breathe on Me, O Breath of God"

- 1. O breathe on me, O Breath of God, Fill me with life anew, That I may love the things you love And do what you would do.
  - 2. O breathe on me, O Breath of God,
    Until my heart is pure;
    Until my will is one with yours,
    To do and to endure.
  - 3. O breathe on me, O Breath of God,
    My will to yours incline,
    Until this selfish part of me
    Glows with your fire divine.

 O breathe on me, O Breath of God, So shall I never die, But live with you the perfect life Of your eternity.

**SERMON** 

"Sent by Jesus"

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Apostle's Creed)

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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again 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 Ghost, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #267 (Green) "Will You Come and Follow Me"

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/DEDICATION

\*DOXOLOGY #592 (Red) "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above ye heavenly host Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (debts)

ANNOUNCEMENTS (written announcements at the end of bulletin)

\*HYMN OF PARTING #282 (Green Hymnal) "Song of Hope"

\*BENEDICTION

### CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: #160 (Green Hymnal) "He Is Lord"

# He is Lord, He is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord! Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess That Jesus Christ is Lord.

He is Life, He is Life!
He has died to set us free and he is life!
And he calls us all to live ever more.
For Jesus Christ is Life.

### POSTLUDE

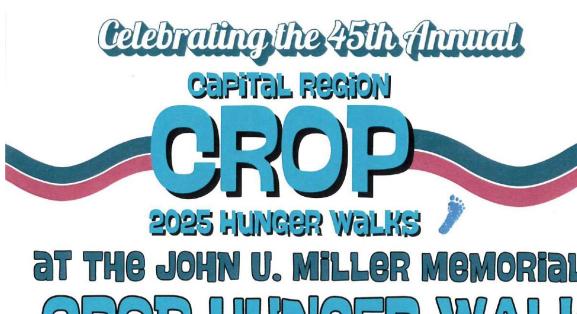
#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- -Please send any May Newsletter articles to the Church Office no later than Monday, April 28.
- -The Consistory will meet on Tuesday, April 29, at 6 PM.
- -The Annual CROP Walk is next Sunday, May 4! Visit the link on Bethany's website to learn more about the CROP Walk and support our team. Please see Pam Menton with questions.
- -A Congregational Meeting will be held after worship next Sunday, May 4. This meeting will also be on Zoom.
- -Mark your calendars for our Annual Plant and Flower Sale: Friday, May 9, 8 AM-6 PM, and Saturday, May 10, 8 AM-3 PM. We will have all of your favorites Patio Pots, Hanging Baskets, Veggies, Herbs, and Annuals! Want to help out? There is a sign-up sheet posted on the Narthex bulletin board for your convenience. Many hands make light work!
- -"Take Me Out to the Ball Game..." Join us for a Baseball Watch Party, Mets vs. Yankees, being held on Saturday, May 17, in the Errgong Room! The game will begin at 1:05 PM. Lunch will be provided (pizza, wings, and beverages).
- -Clynk Update: We have earned \$263.35! Keep up the good work and keep on Clynking! Need bags? They are available in the Narthex and on the kitchen counter.

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April 20, 2025 donations to the General Fund: \$561, and to the Mission Fund: \$100.

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in Albany, New York SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025

In Person starting at St. Vincent de Paul Church 900 Madison Ave., Albany, NY 12208 or WALK Virtually wherever you want during the month of May

- Register online at www.crophungerwalk.org/albanyny
- · Start a team for your congregation, family, or workplace.

Ask friends, relatives, neighbors and co-workers to support you.

- Walk Day check-in starts at 1:30pm
- Opening ceremony at 2:15pm official start of the walk at 2:30pm.
- Funds raised support global hunger fighting programs and local food pantries.



















### Plant & Flower Sale

Rain or Shine!

Friday, May 9 8 AM to 6 PM

Saturday, May 10 8 AM to 3 PM



ANNUALS

**Perennials** 



**Patio Pots** 

## **Hanging Baskets**

Geraniums

Vegetables

Herbs

Patio Garden Raffle

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