

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE (in unison)

#562

**Take whatever I can offer—gifts that I have yet to find,
Skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,
Things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:
Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**God of Love and Kindness, receive these gifts so that they may enable
this Church to continue to be a beacon that sends the light of love and
kindness into our community and our world. Amen.**

COMMUNION

*HYMN

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

#388

*BENEDICTION

*CHORUS OF SENDING (in unison)

#524

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let I shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let I shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let I shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES FORTH

POSTLUDE

"This Little Light of Mine"
Traditional spiritual

Setting by John A. Behnke
Tune "Lattimer"

Responses by arrangement with CCLI License #1694749

BETHANY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

140 E. MAIN STREET, EPHRATA, PA

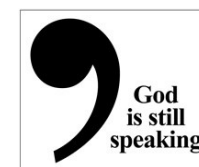
May 5 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter



Loaves and Fishes

By John August Swanson



THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

9:00 am

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE "Fanfare William Matthias (1934-1992)

*OPENING PRAISE #70

**God is here as we Your people meet to offer praise and prayer.
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts,
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Dear Friends, let us love one another, because love comes from God.

People: **Whoever loves is a child of God.**

Leader: Whoever does not love does not know God.

People: **For God is Love.**

*HYMN "I Sing the Praise of Love Almighty" #50

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Eternal God, companion of all who seek you, and seeker of all who turn away from you, draw near to us that we may draw near to you. Grant us the grace to love and to serve you that we may find in your will our true freedom, through Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PASSING THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

RESPONSE (in unison)

**Be still, for the Spirit of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.
Come, bow before God now, with reverence and with fear.
In Christ no sin is found, we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the Spirit of the Lord, the Holy One, is here.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in unison)

**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.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" Allen and Merman, arr. Ringwald

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 John 4:7-12, 16b

New Testament pg. 241

John 6:1-13

New Testament pg. 97

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE FOR MODERN LIFE

Rev. Bill Wealand

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY "God Will Take Care of You" Walter S. Martin, arr. Cindy Berry