

Bethel United Methodist Church

Easter Sunday

April 4, 2021

Pastor: Ralph Wrightstone

Music Director: Travis Oaks

Lectionary Scriptures

This Week: Acts 10:34-43; Ps 118:1-2,14-24; 1 Cor 15:1-11; John 20:1-18 or Mk 16:1-8

Next Week: Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133; 1 John 1:1-2:2; JOHN 20:19-31

Prelude: "Sing Alleluia to the Lord"

Welcome & Announcements, Birthdays, Anniversaries

***Hymn:** "Shout to the Lord" TFWS 2074

***Responsive Call to Worship:**on opposite page

***Affirmation of Faith** (Apostle's Creed).....UMH 881

***Gloria Patria**.....UMH 71

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

***Doxology**.....UMH 95

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 31:1-6

Joys, Concerns, Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Special Music "Then Came the Morning" Travis Oaks

Message: "All Wrapped Up"

Scripture: Mark 16:1-8

Holy Communion

***Hymn:** "Because He Lives" UMH 364

***Closing Chorus & Benediction** "Bind Us Together"

**Please stand if able*

Call to Worship

Leader: Arise! Shine! Give God glory for the life that has sprung from death this day!

People: FOR IN THE RISEN CHRIST, GOD HAS LIFTED THE VEIL OF DEATH THAT SHROUDED US ALL!

Leader: We have awaited God, and God has delivered the promised salvation.

People: LET US REJOICE AND BE GLAD FOR THE SALVATION THAT IS OURS THIS DAY!

Prayer of Confession: All-compassionate God, we confess our regrettable tendency to live as though we were still under the covering and veil of death, rather than as those who share in your victory in Christ over death and all its powers. Forgive us, we pray. Make us once again witnesses to your miraculous garden gift and Easter offering. Fill us with the eternal life that sprang forth that wonderful morning in your Son in whose name we pray. Amen.

Calendar of Events

TODAY: *Easter Sunday; 7 AM Easter Sunrise Service at the pond
Flowered Cross in front of church. Communion*

Next Sunday: *Second Sunday of Easter*

Always: *Be safe and Pray*

Worship, Educational and Outreach Opportunities

Today: *Interactive Online Service thru link on Bethel's Web Site, Service page*

Wednesday: *Midweek Worship service is temporarily suspended*

Prayer Concerns

Bethel UMC, The UMC, Our Country, Those in Military Service, Teachers, Students, Pastor Ralph & Judy Wrightstone, Kathie & Al Adams, Lexie Allen, Sarah Brown, Gina Davis, Mary Hall, Robyn Keeler, Sylvia Marsh, William McCloud, Tina & Travis Oaks, Tina & Greg Rucker, Don & Pat Singletary, David Trimble, Eddie White, Amy Smith Wadsworth, family & friends of Tom Moore, family & friends of Randy Morgan

Please use a prayer request form, in the narthex, to submit requests for adding to the Prayer Concerns in the worship bulletin and online

Devotionals: *The Upper Room and Our Daily Bread* are daily devotional booklets that are available in the Narthex. Please take one or both and enjoy!

Bethel Website: <http://www.bethelumctlh.org>

Recordings of recent sermons are available on the web site

Recordings of sermons or services are available on CD by request

Heifer Fund: "Youth Message" offering goes to support Heifer International

Contact: Church phone: 850 576-1454

Pastor phone: 591-9785;

email: wrightstone@embarqmail.com



1940's



1960's



Today

The History of Bethel UMC

The earliest historical record of Bethel Methodist Church is that in August of 1834, a campmeeting was held on the banks of Bethel Pond. Church meetings were held in neighborhood homes following this. In good weather brush arbors provided meeting places for these early worshippers. Later, services were held in a small log schoolhouse about a mile north of the present church.

On March 17, 1847, Joseph and Thirza Hale deeded two acres of land to the Methodist Episcopal Church with the provision that Bethel Meeting House be built in the center of the two acres. A small frame church with wooden shutters was built where our Sunday School rooms are today.

In 1909 the congregation started building the present sanctuary. The church building was originally roofed with wooden shingles. The windows contain the original panes with the imperfections of early glass. The interior of the church was not completed until 1947. The narthex was added in 1970 and the steeple in 1972.

The furniture in the Church constitutes one of the most interesting parts of its history. The Pulpit was used by Bishop Joshua Soule on February 6, 1845 when he convened the first Florida Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Trinity Methodist Church, Tallahassee, Florida. Trinity gave the pulpit to Bethel Church circa 1895. The chancel rail, communion table and two of the pulpit chairs were part of Trinity Church during the 1800's and were given to Bethel in 1946. The larger pulpit chair was a gift of John Sullivan, friend of our Church.

(history prepared for bulletin cover by Thelma Royce, church historian)



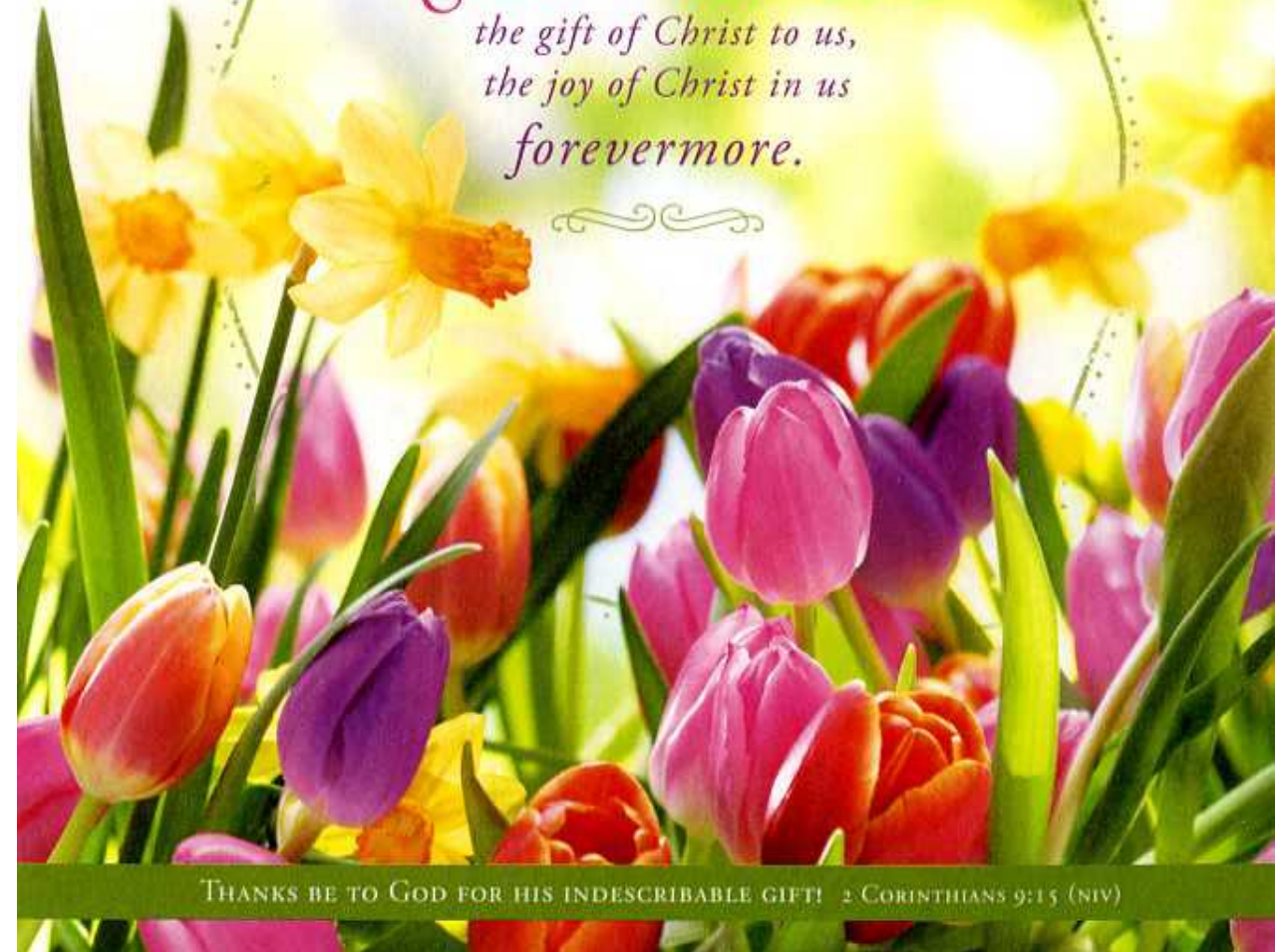
"Surely the Lord is in this place! This is none other than the house of God" Genesis 28:16

Easter Promises...

*an empty tomb, an open sky,
a risen Savior.*

Easter Promises...

*the gift of Christ to us,
the joy of Christ in us
forevermore.*



THANKS BE TO GOD FOR HIS INDESCRIBABLE GIFT! 2 CORINTHIANS 9:15 (NIV)