

Bethany Presbyterian, Johnstown, PA

**MORNING WORSHIP**

January 8th, 2023 Baptism of the Lord

**CALL TO WORSHIP\*\***

L: Baptized to begin lives of faith,

**P: we would witness to all you do in our communities, in our midst, in our world.**

L: Baptized to serve,

**P: we would speak up for the voiceless, we would bring justice to those who have none.**

L: Baptized to speak,

**P: we would heal, and not hurt; we would bless, and not curse.**

L: Baptized to do what is right,

**P: we would not play favorites, but treat each as your Beloved.**

**HYMN**

**"He Leadeth Me"**

**#461**

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION\*\***

L: Can you imagine a God who would rather forgive us than punish us, who calls us 'my delight,' rather than chiding us for being so foolish and wayward? This is why Jesus came, so we might know of God's tender mercy toward us. Let us confess our lives to the One who fills us with hope, as we pray together, saying,

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION\*\***

**ALL: We try to stop Jesus from coming into our lives, Patient God, for we know how disruptive he can be. He wants us to preach the gospel with our lives, but we prefer to complain how hard that is to do. He wants us to do what is right, yet wrong-doing comes so easily for us. He would like us not to give up until justice is done, but we just don't seem to have the time.**

**We confess because we know we need to be forgiven by you, Glory and Grace. Bathe us in the life giving waters of your mercy so we can come up from the water, ready to do good for others, to give you all the praise, to learn justice, grace, and hope from your Servant, Jesus Christ.**

**SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: You are God's Beloved. You delight God's heart. Believe this good news, my friends!

**P: The Spirit of God rests upon us, anointing us with mercy and peace. .**

L: Friends, Believe the Good News

**ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen**

**GLORIA PATRI**

**#623**

**CHURCH NEWS**

**THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*(Please greet your neighbor by saying, "The Peace of Christ be With You.")*

**REDEDICATION OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE**

**Offertory Doxology #625**

**Prayer of Dedication**

We leave the waters of baptism to offer grace to others; we give from our abundance to bless others with hope and healing; we offer our lives to you and others in serving with love and mercy. In Jesus' name, we pray you will bless these gifts and us. Amen.

**LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

**Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 42:1-9 p. 622**

**New Testament Lesson Acts 10: 34-43 p.957**

**Gospel Lesson Matthew 3:13-17 p.837**

**Message Denise Ann Todero, CP**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostle's Creed**

**HYMN**

**"Where He Leads Me"**

**#373**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and PASTORAL PRAYER**

L: Hear our prayers, O Lord. **P: And let our cry come unto Thee.**

L: Let us bless the Lord! **P: Thanks be to God.**

**CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*(All believers are welcome to celebrate Holy Communion.)*

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING\*\***

May the impartial God be with you! **And also with you!**

Lift your hearts to the One who anoints you with the Spirit.

**We come to God, our hearts' true delight.**

Sing praise to God, who calls you to the waters of life.

**Songs of thanksgiving are lifted to the One who prepared this Table for us.**

In a wild whisper you spoke to chaos.....

we lift our thanksgiving songs to you:

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of impartial love.**

**All creation gives you the glory Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who is your heart's true delight.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

We glorify your name, Holy God.....

we speak of our faith as a mystery:

**Christ came, to show us God's love; Christ was baptized, inviting us into the waters of life; Christ died, to fulfill all righteousness; Christ arose, to set us free from death; Christ will come to take us by the hand and never let go.**

You spread the Table before us.....

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**THE COMMUNION**

*( Please hold the element until all are served)*

**The body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven.**

**The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.**

**BENEDICTION/SENDING\*\***

L: Now, God sends us out by a different road.

**P:So we may find those who have been left by the side of the world.**

L:Now, Jesus walks with us down a different road.

**P:So we may serve those who are lonely and frightened.**

L:Now, the Spirit illumines a different road.

**P:So we may take our sisters and brothers by the hand to walk in wonder and grace.**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be With You" \*602**

**\*\* © Rev. Thom Shuman**

**ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger**

**COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero**

**WORSHIP LEADER: Brenda Molnar**



**Offering: 01/01**  
**Attendance: 23**  
**Local 1053.25**  
**Benev. 72.95**  
**Improv. 61.80**  
**Christmas\_509.00**  
**Total 1697.00**

**Saturday January 8th**  
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
**Baptism of the Lord**  
**Sunday/Communion**

**Sunday January 15th**  
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

**The Annual Congregational Business Meeting** will be held on Sunday January 15<sup>th</sup> before Morning Worship. We will also Install our new officers during the Service. There will be a Coffee Hour after the Service. If you plan on bringing a covered dish, please sign up on the back bulletin board. All are invited to attend

**Offering Envelopes** for 2023 are on the back table. If you haven't taken yours yet, be sure to pick them up before you leave today.

**Suggested Per Capita for 2023** is \$40 per person. Feel free to contribute more if you'd like. Please use the special envelope marked Per Capita to make this contribution.

**Sign Ups** for 2023 Lay Leaders are now being accepted. You can now sign up for a full month or for a single week. If you would like to help out, sign up on the back bulletin board. Contact Pastor Denise with any questions.

**Weekly Flower and Bulletins** for 2023 are now available. The cost is \$25 per week for flowers and \$10 per week for bulletins. If you purchase flowers and bulletins for the same week the cost is \$30. To reserve a week, sign up on the back bulletin board or fill out the form on the church website.

**Donations** for the West End Food Pantry can be placed in the bins by the Blaine St. entrance. All non-perishable food items are appreciated, especially during the holiday season.



<b>Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...</b>	
Pastor Denise	Ruby Porch
Lois Henry	Christine Paratore
Dawna Sheets	David Hayduk
Buzz & Jeanne Lehman	Susie Keefer
Bob & Marie Whorl	Chloe Kern
Bev Holbay	Tyler & Julie Kalp
Wendy Manges	Linda Hayes
Mark Todero	David Varner
Diane Brewer	Loretta Davidson
The Todero Family	Nancy Thomas
Shirley Gavazoni	Betty Clemenson
Linda & Richard Oaks	All Shut- Ins
Sean Rovon	All in Nursing Homes
Carl & Linda Thomas	All First Responders
Kenny Rager	All Service Men & Women
Beverly Rager	All Healthcare Professionals
Elaine Bilger	

**To Place Announcements Or Concerns List Names** in the bulletin contact Ed Sheets at 539-3495 or email at bethanyjtown@hotmail.com or contact Pastor Denise at 479-2382 or email her at datodero@atlanticbb.net.

**Please do not leave them on the church answering machine.**

**In Case of Emergency,** please call Pastor Denise at 479-2382 or cell 248-8174. Do not depend on the hospital contacting the church or the pastor.

**Visit Our Website** ([www.bethanyjohnstown.com](http://www.bethanyjohnstown.com)) or follow us on Facebook (Bethany Presbyterian Church- Johnstown, PA) for the latest news, information and much more!