

Morning Worship
Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
Sunday, September 10th, 2023
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

CALL TO WORSHIP **

L: We gather here, where God would teach us:

P: so we may learn to be more compassionate, so we may be taught how to be more loving.

L: We gather here, where Jesus would teach us

P: the wisdom to choose forgiveness over holding a grudge, the language of hope so we may speak to all.

L: We gather here, where the Spirit imparts wisdom,

P: so we might know how to share grace, so we would learn to welcome all to this Table.

HYMN "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" vs 1 & 4 #8

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: In worship and at work, in life and in loss, now and in every moment, Christ is among us: loving us, teaching us, and hoping to lead us. But we focus on those needs, on those desires that keep us from recognizing him. Let us confess all that we have done against God and others, as we pray,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

ALL: All you ask of us is to love one another, God of our lives, and you are more than willing to teach us how. Yet we find this simple request so hard to carry out, this easy lesson so difficult to learn. Someone cuts us off in traffic, and we curse them. Another buys something we want but cannot afford, and we overflow with jealousy. A friend gets the acclaim we wanted, and we whisper about them behind their backs.

Forgive us, Merciful God, and unclasp our hands from our grudges. With Christ in our midst, we can become the people your dream about: loving, merciful, gentle, and compassionate people of God.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: 2, 3, 30, 300 - we have gathered as God's people: broken, we are made whole; alone, we are welcomed into a family; forgiven, we are sent to serve.

P: Fed, forgiven, restored, loved. This Table is our constant reminder of God's presence in our lives, of God's grace which makes us new in every moment.

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

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament

Exodus 12:1-14

p. 55

New Testament

Romans 13:8-14

p.987

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 18:15-20

p.852

Message

Denise Ann Todero, CP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostle's Creed

HYMN

"In Christ There is No East or West"

#285

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #286

BENEDICTION/SENDING**

L: Go now to the people who are overwhelmed by despair.

P: We will take the hope which has been given to us and share it with all.

L: Go now to those who are at odds with neighbors.

P: We will offer the peace and reconciliation which God has poured into our lives.

L: Go now to those who are the most vulnerable in our world.

P: We will bring the healing, the grace, the love of our God.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "May the Lord"

(printed on the inside back cover of the Hymnal)

****© Rev. Thom Shuman**

Organists: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

Commissioned Pastor: Denise Ann Todero

Worship Leader: Tomi Nosko

Peace comes not from the absence of conflict in life
but from the ability to cope with it.

Anonymous

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Gradually, over the years,
God has made me increasingly capable of seeing myself
as but one of many parts of a body,
making decisions and living my life in subordination to the overall
good.

The commitment to community is not in a separate part of our
spiritual life, but at its very center.

Ralph Martin



*"It takes no more time to see the good side of
life than it takes to see the bad"*

- Jimmy Buffett (1946-2023)

Offering: 09/03
Attendance: 16
Local 674.00
Benev. 46.50
Improv. 39.50
Total 760.00

Sunday September 10th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday September 17th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Session Meeting Afterwards

The Flowers and Bulletins Today are in honor of John E. Anderson's 94th Birthday by his son Paul Anderson.

Session will meet next Sunday (September 17th) after Morning Worship. If you have any agenda items, please give them to Pastor Denise or Linda Orledge.

First Presbyterian Church will hold a Congregational Depression Awareness Program (CDAP) on Sunday September 17th. In honor of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, Dr. D William Hale, Professor at Johns Hopkins Medicine, and co-director of the Congregational Depression Awareness Program, will share his personal and professional experience with us. If you plan on attending, please RSVP by calling 814-536-8141. More information is also available on the bulletin board near the Blaine St. Entrance.

Musician Michael Facciani will perform at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday September 17th at 6 p.m. The performance is called "Remembering The Big Hymns Under The Big Dome". There is no cost to attend but a free will offering will be collected.

Weekly Flower and Bulletins for 2023 are still available for most -weeks. 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.



Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...	
Pastor Denise	David Hayduk
Lois Henry	Susie Keefer
Dawna Sheets	Chloe Kern
Buzz & Jeanne Lehman	Tyler & Julie Kalp
Marie Whorl	Linda Hayes
Bev Holbay	Nancy Thomas
Wendy Manges	Rich Horner
Mark Todero	Randy Maurer
Shirley Gavazoni	Kim Redvay
Sandra Boring	Jay Freedline
Beverly Rager	Dave Kelly
Mikey Ferante	Dave & Karen Vivis
Susan Willis	Chuck Schmidt
Jim Kuntz	All Shut- Ins
Joel Marple	All in Nursing Homes
Dave Lampel	All First Responders
Matt Sernell	All Service Men & Women
Samuel Holbay	All Healthcare Professionals

To Place Announcements Or Concerns List Names in the bulletin contact Ed Sheets at 814-539-3495 or email at bethanyjtown@hotmail.com or contact Pastor Denise at 814-248-8174 or email her at datodero55@gmail.com.

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) or follow us on Facebook (Bethany Presbyterian Church- Johnstown, PA) for the latest news, information and much more.