

Bethany Presbyterian Church

**Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA**  
**Morning Worship May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**5th Sunday of Easter**

**CALL TO WORSHIP \*\***

L: Praise God, all people! Praise the Lord, all creation!

**P: whales doing back flips in the air, squid and octopi dancing on the ocean floor; giant redwoods stretching to the sky, tomato vines cuddling around a stake.**

L: Mountains blocking the sunrise, moles tunneling through our front lawns; 5-year-olds sitting in a story-time circle, grandparents singing 'their song.'

**P: Redbuds decorating our backyard, grass growing faster than our children; seals getting a suntan on the rocks, teenagers knotted together at church.**

L: Praise the Lord, all creation!

**P: Praise God, all people!**

**\*HYMN      "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #376**

**\*CALL TO RECONCILIATION\*\***

We show others who we are by the lives we lead, the words we speak, the actions we undertake. Let us confess how we have not been God's little children, when we fail to love as we have been loved.

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

**Who are we to get in your way, Holy God? We put people into neat, little boxes, but you rip them open, so folks can dance in your joy. We imprison others with our unmet expectations, and you set them free with a Word. We build walls around those we don't know, and you tear them down, so they can run wild in the kingdom.**

**Who are we to get in your way, Saving Power, especially in the way of your forgiveness offered to all! Give us your vision that sees everyone as equal - forgiven, graced, loved - even as we seek to follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

**\*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

## **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*\***

L: We know who God is by the love shown to us in Christ Jesus.

**P: We will show others who we are - and Whose we are - by the loved poured out by our lives.**

L: Friends, Believe the Good News

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

## **\*GLORIA PATRI**

**#579**

## **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**

**#592**

**\*Prayer of Dedication\*\***

You bless us in so many ways and with so many gifts, Loving God. As we praise you, may we offer our gifts so those who have so little may be fed, clothed, healed, restored, and graced. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

## **LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

**First Lesson                      Acts 11:1-18                      p.958**

**Second Lesson Revelation 21:1-6                      p.1085**

**Gospel Lesson John 13:31-35                      p.938**

**Message**

**Denise Ann Todero, CP**

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – THE APOSTLES' CREED**

(page 14 – Traditional)

**\*HYMN    "O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"    #384**

## 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"        #438**

### **\*BENEDICTION/SENDING\*\***

L: Let us go now to praise God with our hearts.

**P: To see the imagination of God in every moment of creation, in every person we meet in the days to come.**

L: Let us go now to praise Jesus with our lives.

**P: To bring justice to those who are oppressed,  
to bring hope to those who live in despair and worry.**

L: Let us go now to praise the Spirit with our lips.

**P: To speak peace into all the broken places of our communities, to whisper grace to all those forgotten by the world.**

**\*Congregational Response        "May The Lord"        #596**

***\*Those who are able please stand.***

***\*\* © Rev. Thom Shuman***

**Organists: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger**

**Commissioned Pastor: Denise Ann Todero**

**Worship Leader: Karen Soliday**

*Do not save your loving speeches For your friends till they are dead; Do not write them on their tombstones, Speak them rather now instead.*

*.....Anna Cummins*

*\* \* \* \* \**

*We can risk loving as passionately as God loves. For we know that the love God makes possible is no scarce resource that must be hoarded so that it can be distributed in dribs and drabs—a little here and a little there.*

*Love is not a rare commodity; rather, the more we love with the intense particularity of God's love, the more we discover that we have the capacity to love. ....Stanley Hauerwas*

**Offering: 5/12**  
**Attendance: 28**  
**Local      803.25**  
**Benev.     55.65**  
**Improv.    47.10**  
**Roof      70.00**  
**Total     976.00**

**Sunday May 19th**  
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

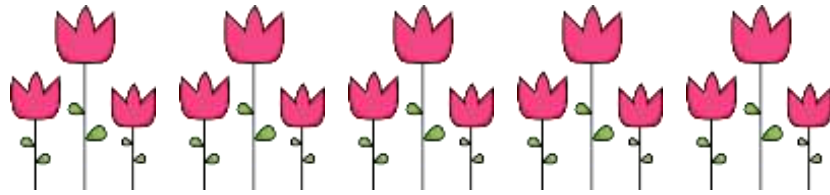
**Sunday May 26th**  
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
**Coffee Hour After Worship**

**Orders** for Pentecost Geraniums are now being accepted. The cost is \$3.50 each and orders are due by June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please use the form in your bulletin to order. Orders can be mailed back to the church or placed in the offering plate.

**Flower and Bulletin Sponsorships** are available for 2019. If you would like to sign up for one or both for a week, sign up on the back bulletin board or by clicking the link on the church website ([www.bethanyjohnstown.com](http://www.bethanyjohnstown.com)).

**Morning Worship** changes to 10 a.m. starting May 26<sup>th</sup>. This will remain the same until the Sunday after Labor Day.

**With The Summer Months** approaching, the West End food pantry is in need of non-perishable food items and cleaning supplies (hand soap, toilet paper, etc.) for those in need. Please place all donations in the baskets near the Blaine St. Entrance.



| <b>Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...</b> |                         |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Don Bennett                                                   | The Holbay Family       |
| Michael Robert Rose III                                       | Sharon Weaver           |
| Darlene Rager                                                 | Elizabeth Kern          |
| Phyllis Pfuhl                                                 | John Griffin            |
| Harry & Lillian Thiel                                         | Rachael Wilks           |
| Lois Henry                                                    | Logan Weaver            |
| Katherine Minahan                                             | Gary Bellack            |
| Lenore Runkle                                                 | Cathy Zakucia           |
| Andy Serafin                                                  | Richard Kibsey          |
| Cheryl Gindlesperger                                          | Gwen Hartnett           |
| Nancy Dimitt                                                  | Beth Runkle             |
| Joyce Horn                                                    | Marie Hudson            |
| Elaine & Ken Bilger                                           | Linda Shoop             |
| Bill & Patty Gramling                                         | Linda Hayes             |
| Marie Kotar                                                   | Vickie Zimmerman        |
| Gloria Sorensen                                               | All Shut- Ins           |
| Kathy & Robert Wilks                                          | All in Nursing Homes    |
| Rev. Dr. Brenda & Don Barnes                                  | All First Responders    |
| Pastor John Hickman                                           | All Service Men & Women |
| Dawna Sheets                                                  |                         |

**To Place Announcements Or Concerns List Names** in the bulletin contact Ed Sheets at 539-3495 or email at [esheets91@hotmail.com](mailto:esheets91@hotmail.com) or contact Pastor Denise at 479-2382 or email her at [datodero@atlanticbb.net](mailto: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.

## **Pentecost Geraniums**

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**Name:**

**# of Geraniums Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ x \$3.50 Each = \$\_\_\_\_\_**

**In Memory Of:**

**In Honor Of:**

**Other:**

**Given By:**