



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Blaine Street & Chandler Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15906

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP
December 9th, 2018 2nd Sunday of Advent

CALL TO WORSHIP **

L: In this season of waiting, our God comes.

**P: Come suddenly, Holy God, into our slow expectations
and fill us with your urgent hopes for justice.**

L: In this holy season of delight and wonder, our Savior comes.

**P: Come suddenly, Companion of the poor,
and challenge us to share in the gospel of welcome for all.**

L: In these days of remembering what our lives are to be, our Spirit comes.

**P: Come suddenly, Preparer of the way, to take us by the hand to
walk with our sisters and brothers down the path to service.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING – Peace -(Varner/Rager Family)

***Response:** *(Sung to the tune of Away In A Manger)*

**A Candle is burning, a candle of peace,
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION*

L: We may appear pure and blameless to others, but we know the mistakes we have made with our words, our thoughts, and our actions. But God promises not only to save us from our enemies, sin and death, but from ourselves as well. Join me as we offer our confessing words to the One who will make us new once more.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

**ALL: You witness the sorts of lives we lead, Approaching God.
Asked to share the gospel of hope, we place it on our to-do list
instead. Given the chance to cry out for justice for others, we fall
strangely silent. Invited to pray with joy in every moment, we
prefer to grumble about every insignificant thing in our lives.
Have mercy on us, God of**

grace, and prepare our hearts for Your forgiveness to have its way in them. Fill us with Your hope so we might lighten the shadows of others. Help us to join the choirs of children in singing of Your joy.

Transform us with that tender mercy who is our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

L: God is our witness. We have spoken of our lives and been forgiven of every mistake we have made, every hurt we have caused.

P: We are held in God's heart, not only on this day, but all the days of 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*

See, you come in this holy season with the simple gift of life itself. See, you invite us to share from the abundance of our lives, so others might be filled with life, with hope, with love, and with grace. Bless these gifts we offer to You, so they may be used to share the gospel of wholeness and welcome for all. Amen.

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Lesson Malachi 3:1-4 p.830

New Testament Lesson Philippians 1:3-11 p.1023

Gospel Lesson Luke 3:1-6 p.890

MESSAGE

Denise Ann Todero, CP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

HYMN

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #376

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 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory" 22**

***BENEDICTION**

L: God is sending you to be messengers of this holy season.

P: We will go to share God's grace in the shadowed places of our world.

L: Jesus is sending you to be messengers of his gospel.

P: We will go to share the good news of justice in every way we treat each person.

L: The Spirit is sending you to be messengers of peace.

P: We will go to share the gifts of hope and reconciliation which have been placed in our hearts.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel" verses #1 and 2 #9

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

***** © Rev. Thom Shuman***

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER: Tina Varner

Offering: 12/2

Attendance: 26

Local 1365.35

Benev. 94.55

Improv. 80.10

Total 1540.00

Sunday December 9th

Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday December 16th

Morning Worship 10:30 p.m.

Christmas Party 1:00 p.m.

The Flowers Today are given in memory of Wallace Orlidge by Linda Orlidge.

Thank You to everyone who donated to the Tomorrows Hope Project.

Today is the last day for Christmas Poinsettia Orders. Please use the form in your bulletin. Orders can be given to Ray Sheets or placed in the offering plate.

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorships are now 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).

The Annual Church Christmas Party will be held next Sunday (December 16th) at 1 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The party will feature food, music, and games. Please bring a covered dish to share, with the church providing the meat. Feel free to come for church and stay for the party. All are welcome. Please sign up on the back bulletin board if you plan on attending.

Sign Ups for 2019 Lay Leaders are now being accepted on the back bulletin board. You can take a full month or share a month with someone. See Pastor Denise for more information.



Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...	
Don Bennett	Larry & Bev Holbay
Michael Robert Rose III	Lilyana Newfield
Darlene Rager	Sharon Weaver
Phyllis Pfuhl	Elizabeth Kern
Harry & Lillian Thiel	John & Cindy Griffin
Lois Henry	Rachael Wilks
Katherine Minahan	Logan Weaver
Olivia & Patrick Bragdon	A Friend
Dick Dunkle	Gary Bellack
Lenore Runkle	Cathy Zakucia
Andy Serafin	Richard Kibsey
Cheryl Gindlesperger	Irene Barefoot Bischof
Joshua Holbay	Kimber Leigh Orlidge
Nancy Dimitt	Justin Korenoski
Joyce Horn	Beth Runkle
Elaine & Ken Bilger	Marie Hudson
Bill & Patty Gramling	Linda Thomas
Marie Kotar	Family of Natalie Neff
Bill Kegg	Bob Whorl
Gloria Sorensen	All Shut- Ins
Kathy & Robert Wilks	All in Nursing Homes
Rev. Dr. Brenda & Don Barnes	All First Responders
Catherine Sabo	All Service Men & Women

To Place Announcements Or Concerns List Names in the bulletin contact Ed Sheets at 539-3495 or email at esheets91@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.