

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP
September 11th, 2022 24th Sunday In Ordinary Time

CALL TO WORSHIP **

L: The foolish say, 'there is no God.'

P: We come, trusting in Jesus, the face, the voice, the presence of the God who loves us.

L: The scoffers of our age ask, 'why do you seek after God?'

P: We come, in this time, because God's grace has spilled over in our lives.

L: The hopeless around us think, 'no one cares about me.'

P: We come, in this time, to this place, because Jesus has found us and brought us home.

HYMN "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #68

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: Which of us has not hurt someone this week? Which of us has not spoken (or thought) ill of a sister or brother in Christ? Which of us has failed to do good when given the chance? Which of us? All of us and each of us! But Christ came to save people just like us, so I invite you to join me as we offer our prayers to God, saying,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION **

ALL: Although we believe we are experts at faithfulness, Holy God, we must confess we are unskilled workers at doing good. Too often, we turn a deaf ear to the cries of people we have judged to be fools. We easily scoff at those we believe have nothing to teach us or share with us.

How foolish, Searching God, how foolish we are! Forgive us, and restore us to your goodness. Then, send us forth to search for all who sit in the shadowed corners of our world, yearning for someone to come and find them, even as Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, came to find us.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Our actions sometimes show we do not know God. Our words and lives show we do not understand God's hopes for us. But with utmost patience, God sets aside our foolishness, and fills us with mercy.

P: Mingled with faith and love, grace is poured into our sin-parched souls, giving us new life, restoring us as God's children.

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	Jeremiah 4:11-22,22-28	p.651
New Testament	1 Timothy 1: 12-17	p.1034
Gospel	Luke 15: 1-10	p.908

MESSAGE

Denise Ann Todero, CP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles' Creed

HYMN "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" vs. 1,2,4 #462

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

PRAYERS OF REMEMBRANCE

L: O Lord of compassion, who wept at the tomb of Lazarus, who mourned over the city of Jerusalem, who stretched out your hands to embrace the suffering of the world on the hard wood of the cross, Draw near to us now and hear our prayers as we remember all those who lost their lives in the tragedy of September 11.

P: We remember the individuals who died— office workers, firefighters, police officers, airline passengers, flight crews. We remember them before you now.

L: We remember also those who, driven by darkened zeal, committed these awful deeds. Mindful of your judgment and your mercy. We remember the families and friends of the victims who continue to mourn the loss of parents, children, husbands, wives, companions.

P: O Christ, the great healer, as you comforted Mary and Martha in their time of sorrow, so encircle grieving families with your loving care.

L: We remember the churches who lost faithful members in the violence.

P: O God of hope, give them assurance that as the one body of Christ, we may look forward to being united with them in the glory of Christ's resurrection.

L: We remember the cities of New York and Washington DC, Shanksville, which suffered particular losses on September 11.

P: Lord Jesus our Savior, as you longed to comfort Jerusalem, so bring comfort to the neighborhoods and communities still recovering from the devastation of plane crashes and collapsed buildings. Surround those devastated by tragedy with a growing sense of your presence, and lead them again to hope.

L: We remember all the nations who lost citizens in the tragedy of September 11.

P: God of all nations, watch over every country of the earth, comfort them in their distress, and draw us together into your one kingdom that cannot be shaken.

L: Almighty God, we remember before you all of the people and nations— those who have lived among us and those who lived far away— who have directed our steps in the way, opened our eyes to the truth, inspired our hearts by their witness, and strengthened our wills by their devotion.

P: We honor them in their death, and pray that we may one day dwell with them in the joy of your eternal kingdom. Amen.

BENEDICTION/SENDING**

L: We have been found by our God,

P: so now we will go to search for those forgotten by the world.

L: We have been welcomed by Jesus,

P: so now we will go to embrace the ones people look down their noses at.

L: We have been gathered as a community by the Spirit,

P: so now we will go to be a family to the people who long to draw near to hope.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Let There Be Peace"

****©Rev. Thom Shuman**

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER: Tina Varner



"One of the worst days in American history saw some of the bravest acts in American history. We'll always honor the heroes of 9/11. Here at this hallowed place, we pledge that we will never forget their sacrifice."

— Former President George W. Bush

Offering: 09/04
Attendance: 12
Local 1273.00
Benev. 88.35
Improv. 74.65
Total 1436.00

Sunday September 11th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday September 18th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Session Meeting

Session will meet on Sunday September 18th after Morning Worship.

The Presbyterian Women's Group will begin meeting again on Monday September 26th at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Johnstown. Light refreshments will be served at 1 p.m. followed by a brief lesson and a business meeting. All are invited to attend.

Pine Springs Camp will host their Women in the Woods Retreat from Sept. 30 to Oct. 1. For more information, pick up a brochure on the back table.

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorships for 2022 are available for most Sundays. If you are interested, please sign up on the back bulletin board.

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 as we approach the holiday season.



Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...

Pastor Denise	Ruby Porch
Don Bennett	Christine Paratore
Phyllis Pfuhl	David Hayduk
Lois Henry	Susie Keefer
Dawna Sheets	Chloe Kern
Buzz & Jeanne Lehman	Jim Kuntz
Bob & Marie Whorl	Tyler & Julie Kalp
Bev Holbay	Linda Hayes
Wendy Manges	Mike Whorl
Mark Todero	David Varner
Diane Brewer	Jim Golby
The Todero Family	Loretta Davidson
Shirley Gavazoni	Stacey Wyandt
Linda & Richard Oaks	All Shut- Ins
David Vivis	All in Nursing Homes
Dick Brewer	All First Responders
Sean Rovon	All Service Men & Women
	All Healthcare Professionals

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