

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP
June 2nd, 2024 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: God gives us a day of Sabbath rest because we need it, not because the Sabbath demands our servitude.

P: The Sabbath was made for humanity, not humanity for the Sabbath.

L: O Lord, you have searched me and understand me, you know every path I take, every decision I make, you know all this is to know about me.

ALL: How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How great is the sum of them. If I should try and count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.

***HYMN "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" #278**

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

L: Most wise and loving God, you are the one sure Source of grace, mercy and peace. Thank you for not pandering to shallow penitence but for requiring deep repentance. There is much in the things we do and say, to give us regret. There is even more in the good things we fail to do, to make us want to say "sorry."

P: Yet we confess we are inclined to say "sorry" too glibly, and we treat mercy and forgiveness as a formality. In our better moments we know that such shallow religion will not do. Today we come seeking something deeper and more radical.

L: You, saving God, know how things stand for each of us here this day. You know of our hard-won achievements and our virtues. You also know our lapsed good intentions, our blundering escapades, our broken promises and our petty ways. You see both the large picture of evil and the smallest detail pertaining to each individual.

P: Please God, by your relentless Spirit drag us from shallow regret into sincere distaste of all that is less than loving. Implant in us both the desire and the will to thoroughly repent, and to wholeheartedly accept your forgiving and reforming grace. We abandon ourselves to whatever

discipline and painful therapy may be needed if we are to mend our ways.

L: Most wonderful God, may your saving love never cease to amaze us, your forgiveness never fail to touch the darkest corners of our heart and mind, and your empowerment always be our hope and our joy. Amen!

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

L: Remember at what cost your salvation comes, and show your gratitude by the way you treat one another.

P: The Lord has searched us and known us and grieved over our hardness of heart.

L: But the Lord's mercies are as uncountable as the sand

P: and we are forgiven, not through sacrifices or offerings, but through the love and grace made known in Jesus.

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 Lesson	1 Samuel 3:1-10	p. 236
New Testament Lesson	2 Corinthians 4: 5-12	p. 1005
Gospel Lesson	Mark 2: 23 – 3:6	p. 869
Message	Denise Ann Todero, CP	

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

***HYMN “Wonderful Words of Life” #270**

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 “More Love to Thee” #363**

BENEDICTION/SENDING*

L: If you wish to know liberty, place your hand in the hand of Christ Jesus, and walk out into the world in his peace.

P: Know for sure that nothing is too big for your Lord to handle, and nothing too unimportant for his concern.

L: Live by grace-not by self justification, by love- not by fear, by faith- not by anxiety. Live well, for God through his only true Child has chosen this destiny for you.

P: The grace of the eternal God wants us to become far more than we as yet can understand or even imagine.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

“God Be with You Till We Meet Again” #602

**Those who are able please stand.*

****© Rev. Bruce D Prewer**

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER: Tomi Nosko

*God commands us to keep the holiday.
He commands holiday rest and holiday hallowing.
The (Ten Commandments) contain no commandment to
work, but a commandment to rest from work.
.....Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

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