

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP
May 5th, 2024 6th Sunday of Easter

CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: We gather to worship the One who crafted creation out of chaos,

P: our cries of joy join the anthems of the universe.

L: We gather to lift our praise to the God who gives us voice,

P: we bring the songs which have echoed in our hearts all week long.

L: We gather as the children of God, our joy unbroken in God's love.

P: young and old, tone deaf and perfect-pitched, lift the new, new songs of faith.

HYMN "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #92

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: Beautiful music, every note perfect, joining together in graceful harmony - this is what we imagine our lives to be. Yet our love is flat, our anger often sharp. Let us confess how we struggle to keep the measured beat of God's life-giving melody in our lives, even as we pray together saying,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Joy-giving God, we know who we are: people who hear the harmony of your grace and love in our souls, but sing off-key so often. We want to learn new songs, but those haunting tunes of our past mistakes run through our heads. We long to make a joyful noise to you, but the hurts inflicted on us, and the pain we have caused others, silence our voices.

Sing to us, Conductor of Grace: sing of your forgiveness, your hope, your love for us. Strike a chord of humility in our hearts so our eyes could see all you have done for us; and in seeing, we might believe how much you love us; and in believing, we would echo that new song of hope and life composed through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Listen to the melody of the good news: Christ is risen, bringing joy into the world. The One who was dead now lives, and wraps us in the delight of life forever with our God.

P: Now, our dirges have turned to joy; our requiem has been rearranged as a hymn of hope; our laments are lost in a cantata of praise. Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

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**

Take our gifts, Composing God, and weave a song of healing for the broken, of nourishment for the hungry, of hope for those who despair, and peace for those torn by violence. We sing our praises, as we offer our treasures, as well as our hearts, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

First Reading	Acts 10:44-48	p.958
Second Reading	1 John 5:1-6	p.1067
Third Reading	John 15:9-17	p.940

MESSAGE

Denise Ann Todero, CP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH— The Apostle's Creed

HYMN "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" #435

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: As God has loved us,

P: so we will go to love those despised by the world.

L: As Jesus has forgiven us,

P: we will go to forgive everyone who has hurt us and to bring healing into their brokenness.

L: As the Spirit calls us 'friends,'

P: so we will go to befriend the outcasts, the lonely, and the lost of our society.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Let There Be Peace"

(Printed on the back inside cover of The Hymnal)

** © Rev. Thom Shuman

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER: Tomi Nosko

We often wonder why the Christian life is so difficult to live, especially in the ordinary everyday relationships of life. The answer may very well be that we are trying to live it by ourselves.

*The (person) who goes out in the morning without prayer is, in effect, saying, "I can quite well tackle today myself."
The (person) who lays himself to rest without speaking to God is, in effect, saying, "I can bear whatever consequences today has brought myself."*

John Buchan once described an atheist as "a man who has no invisible means of support." And it may well be that our failure to live the Christian life is due to the fact that we have tried to live it without the help of God—and that is an impossible assignment.

William Barclay



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Blaine Street & Chandler Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15906

815-539-9194

www.bethanyjohnstown.com

Offering: 04/28
Attendance: 16
Local 479.00
Benev. 38.00
Improv. 28.00
Total 540.00

Sunday May 5th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday May 12th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.



A Basement Sale will be held here at the church this Friday and Saturday (May 10th and 11th) from 8am-2pm. Contact Ray Sheets with any questions.

Pentecost Sunday is set for Sunday May 19th. During the service we will collect red non-perishable foods (both red-colored foods and foods with red packaging) to benefit the West End Food Pantry. Orders for Pentecost Geraniums are also being collected and orders are due by next Sunday (May 12th).

Coffee Hour will be held on Sunday May 26th following Morning Worship. The start time for Morning Worship also changes to 10 a.m. for the summer on May 26th and we will also resume collecting the offering and the passing of the peace during that service as well.

Ed Sheets is in need of clean plastic grocery bags. If you have some you would like to get rid of, they can be placed in the box in the back of the sanctuary. Thank you for your assistance!

Sign Ups For 2024 Lay Leaders and Flower/Bulletin Sponsorships are still being accepted. If you are interested, please see the back bulletin board for more information. You can also order flowers/bulletins on the church website.

Pine Springs Camp has a variety of programs and camping options. For more information, visit www.pinesprings.org or search for Pine Springs Camp on Facebook.

Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...	
Lois Henry	Linda Hayes
Dawna Sheets	Nancy Thomas
Jeanne Lehman	Rich Horner
Marie Whorl	Dave & Karen Vivis
Bev Holbay	Chuck Schmidt
Mark Todero	Joshua Holbay Family
Carl Newfield	Dominic Serratore
Jim Sellers	Loretta Davidson
Beverly Rager	Irene Barefoot Bischof
Mikey Ferante	Rodney Gramling
Jill Sheets	Gary Lichtenfels
Betty Clemenson	Bob Kinsey
Pat Pecora	All Shut- Ins
Linda Orledge	All in Nursing Homes
Frank Cassat	All First Responders
JR Bilger	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 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!

Pentecost Geraniums

Orders are now being accepted for Pentecost Geraniums.
The cost is \$4 each and the deadline for orders is May 12th.

Orders can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the
church.

NAME:

of Geraniums _____ x \$4 Each = \$_____

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

Other:

Given By: