



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Morning Worship

November 28, 2021

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP November 28th, 2021
1st Sunday of Advent - HOPE

CALL TO WORSHIP **

L: Because of You, Righteous God, we begin our journey to Bethlehem,

P: trusting that You will lead us down the paths of faithfulness.

L: For You, Child Jesus, we wait,

P: on this day of anticipation and hope, in the days of doubt and worry.

L: With You, Spirit of Advent, we serve,

**P: those for whom this season is not one of joy;
those whose lives are empty of family and friends.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING - HOPE

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

**A Candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
a candle of hope in December's dark night.**

**While angels sing blessing from heaven's starry sky,
our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: If only our hurtful words, our damaging actions, our foolish choices would just go away. But they don't, and so we offer them, as well as ourselves, to God for forgiveness and for our healing. Please join me, as we pray together saying,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

The chances we have to be more compassionate; the moments to offer hope to a lonely friend; the good fortune we could give to those who have so little. The signs are all around us, Good and Upright God, of how we fail to live as your people. Do not meditate on our bungling ways, God of steadfast love, but remember the mercy of Your heart. That mercy which forgives us; that mercy which makes us whole;

**and especially, that living mercy who came down one night so long ago,
Jesus the Advent of our redemption.**

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Raise your heads, children of God! In the bleak mid-winter of our lives, our redemption draws near. In the springtime of our doubts, the kingdom of God approaches.

P: Even when we feel most alone, the One who comes to us is the salvation promised so long ago.

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 with a virtual hug or handshake or wave saying "The peace of Christ be with you")

REDEDICATION OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE

Offertory

Doxology

#625

Prayer of Dedication**

Because of You, Abundant God, we have blessings to offer to others. May You use our gifts to restore hope to the despairing, to feed the hungry, and to fill the empty hearts of the lonely. This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Lesson Jeremiah 33:14-16 p.683

New Testament Lesson 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 p.1030

Gospel Lesson Luke 21:25-36 p.915

MESSAGE

Denise Ann Toderro, CP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

HYMN

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" #124

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and the PASTORAL PRAYER

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.**

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER *(Please see bulletin insert)*

(All who believe are welcome to join in the celebration of Holy Communion)

THE COMMUNION

(Please hold the elements until all have been served.)

After everyone has received the bread, all will say together:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

After everyone has received the cup, all will say together:

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

BENEDICTION**

L: Now may our God prepare us to serve our sisters and brothers.

P: We will devote ourselves to walking with others to Bethlehem.

L: Now may our Lord Jesus Christ steer us into all the places
we do not want to go.

**P: We will throw ourselves into the mission of feeding the hungry,
into the privilege of learning from the poor.**

L: Now may the Holy Spirit move us to increase in love for others.

**P: We will take up the cause of justice in every corner of our lives,
we will help to bring the kingdom of hope near to everyone
around us.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

O Come, O Come Emmanuel" verse #1 #123

**** © Rev. Thom Shuman**

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER:

Offering: 11/21
Attendance: 21
Local 621.50
Benev. 43.05
Improv. 36.45
Roof 70.00
Total 771.00

Sunday November 28th
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
First Sunday in Advent

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

The Flowers and Bulletins Today are given by Bev Holbay in honor of her grandson Sam's birthday.

We Will Decorate The Sanctuary for the Advent Season today after Morning Worship. All are invited to stay and help.

Orders for Christmas Poinsettias are now being accepted. The cost is \$9 each and orders are due by Sunday December 12th. Use the order form in your bulletin or order on the church website.

Our Church Christmas Party will be held on Sunday December 19th after Morning Worship. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish to share. All are invited to attend, so feel free to invite your friends and neighbors. Please sign up on the back bulletin board if you plan to attend, so we know how many to prepare for.

First Presbyterian Church will hold their 38th annual Festival of the Nativity December 3-5 at their church in downtown Johnstown. The festival will run each night from 6-9 p.m. with a variety of musical performances each night. All are welcome to attend.

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
Harry Thiel	Jessie Rager
Lois Henry	Susie Keefer
Ray & Dawna Sheets	Bob & Kathy Wilks
Al & Linda Hockenberry	Chloe Kern
Buzz & Jeanne Lehman	Jim Kuntz
Bob & Marie Whorl	Sherry Cole
Bev Holbay	All Shut- Ins
Nora Dixon	All in Nursing Homes
Mark Todero	All First Responders
Diane Brewer	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!

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: May the God of Advent be with you!

P: And also with you!

L: Lift your hearts to God.

P: We lift them to the One who comes with hope.

L: Join in glad songs of thanksgiving.

P: Our voices resound in glad praises to our God.

You spoke the Word and days came tumbling out,.....
We praise you, for you have not forgotten us,
joining our voices with those of every day and place:

P: Holy, holy, holy are you, God of our days.

All creation is the sign of your wonder.

Hosanna in the highest!.....

As we begin our journey to Bethlehem,
as we celebrate your coming to us in Jesus,
we proclaim that mystery we know as faith:

P: Christ died, for 'the Lord is our righteousness;'

Christ rose, for 'the Lord is our salvation;'

Christ will come, for 'the Lord is our hope.'

Christmas Poinsettias

Orders are now being accepted for Christmas Poinsettias. Both real and virtual poinsettias are available again this year. The cost is \$9 each and orders are due by Sunday December 12th. Orders and payment can be placed in the offering place or mailed to the church.

NAME:

Of Real Poinsettias _____ x \$9 Each = _____

(Real Poinsettias Include A Virtual Poinsettia)

of Virtual Poinsettias _____ x \$9 Each = _____

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

Other:

Given By:

_____ Pick Up On Christmas Eve

_____ Pick Up On December 26th