

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
May 14th, 2023 6th Sunday of Easter
Celebrate the Gifts of Women/Mother's Day

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Grateful to God, we worship. We worship the God of Grace.

P: In God, we are ever thankful; in God we will rejoice!

L: Look to God. Do not be afraid.

**P: Lift up your voices. God is near. Lift up your voices.
God is near.**

L: Grateful to God, we worship.

All: We worship the gifts of God this day.

HYMN "For the Beauty of the Earth" (vs. 1-3-5) #560

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: God calls us, feeds us and sends us forth. God provides for us and loves us still. Out of our profound gratitude, and in faithful witness to God's grace, we confess our sins to God.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ALL: O God, we confess that we have not always spoken up for justice. We have not stood with the oppressed. We have walked the other way, sometimes immobilized by fear and sometimes not knowing what else to do. Rekindle the gift of God within us and remind us of our faith, a faith that first lived in our grandmothers and our mothers, in our Sunday School teachers and our choir directors, in our elders and our ministers. God of Grace, forgive us and transform us into whom you would have us to be, so that we delight in your will and walk in your way.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Despite everything we do, God loves us. This grace is why we can dare to hope.

P: We will witness to this hope in every word we speak to every person we meet. Thanks be to God.

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

READING: John 15: 9-14

A Litany for Women With Grateful Hearts

L: God of Grace, thank you for tranquil, reflective moments when we are able to recognize you in the world. For all your beauty and your wonder, we give you thanks.

All: For the breath in our bodies, for our hearts and souls, for our connections with one another, we give you thanks and praise.

L: God of Reconciliation, be present with us when conflicts arise.

Remind us that we have a higher calling: to forgive those who wrong us, to pray for those who persecute us, and to seek peace in the midst of strife.

All: For women with grateful hearts, who have shared their faith with us and responded in kindness and service, we give you thanks and praise.

L: God of Love, we offer our gratitude to you for those women and men who have comforted us and carried us in their hearts in prayer. For the grace that they have given us day after day, thank you for guiding the way for lives filled with gratitude.

All: For women, young and old, who do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with you, O God, we give you thanks and praise.

L: Creator God, be present with us as we sing and serve, remember and celebrate, your daughters who, with your help, have lived lives of gratitude, reflecting your love and grace.

All: Give us your peace, which surpasses our understanding and watch over our hearts and our minds, as we rest in Christ Jesus. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Chrissy Lees

READING: 1 Corinthians 13 *(read responsively – bulletin insert)*

READING: John 14:15-21

MEDITATION

Pastor Denise Todero

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in light beyond our seeing, flowing from the flame of life in God who creates us in her image, in his image.

We believe in healing beyond our knowing, from the Christ who refuses to let the stones of our struggles be thrown, but lays them at the foot of the cross; who is the cornerstone of our hope and our empowerment.

We believe in the grace of God's Spirit, as we journey on laughing and weeping in the centre of our pain, celebrating in the power of our solidarity, with all who stand for love and hope, and the victory of right

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 "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" #344

CHARGE and BLESSING

L: Go from here with grateful hearts.

P: Go with love and compassion.

L: Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

P: Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

L: And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P: May the peace of God be with you always.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds" #286

****Rev Thom Shuman**

Service resources from Rev. Pamela Tankersley and PCUSA

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER: Tomi Nosko



*Celebrate the Gifts of Women
Mother's Day*

Sunday, May 14th, 2023

*Bethany Presbyterian
Johnstown, PA*

Offering: 05/07
Attendance: 20
Local 654.30
Benev. 45.30
Improv. 38.40
Total 738.00

Sunday May 14th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday May 21st
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.



The Start Time for Morning Worship will change to 10 a.m. starting Sunday May 28th. This will remain the same until the Sunday after Labor Day.

Join Us Sunday May 28th as we celebrate Pentecost Sunday here at Bethany. Activities include welcoming five new members to our congregation, a red food collection to benefit the West End Food Pantry, and a Coffee Hour after Worship. Those attending are encourage to wear red. All are welcome!

Orders for Pentecost Geraniums are now being accepted. The cost is \$4 each and orders are due by next Sunday (May 21st). Orders and payment can be mailed to the church or placed in the offering plate.

First Presbyterian Church in downtown Johnstown will hold a free concert featuring the Forest Hills Band tonight (May 14th) starting at 7 p.m. All are invited to attend.

We Are Updating our military appreciation bulletin board in the hallway by the Memorial Parlor. If you would like to add a name, please fill out a form on the back table and place it in the offering plate. Forms can also be filled out on the church website.

Weekly Flower and Bulletins for 2023 are still available for most weeks. The cost is \$25 per week for flowers and \$10 per week for bulletins. If you purchase flowers and bulletins for the same week the cost is \$30. To reserve a week, sign up on- the back bulletin board or fill out the form on the church website.

Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...	
Pastor Denise	David Hayduk
Lois Henry	Susie Keefer
Ray & Dawna Sheets	Chloe Kern
Buzz & Jeanne Lehman	Tyler & Julie Kalp
Marie Whorl	Linda Hayes
Bev Holbay	David Varner
Wendy Manges	Loretta Davidson
Mark Todero	Nancy Thomas
Shirley Gavazoni	Elaine Bilger
Linda & Richard Oaks	Randy Maurer
Bill Faust	Kim Redvay
Beverly Rager	Jay Freedline
Mikey Ferante	Dave Kelly
Susan Willis	All Shut- Ins
Jim Kuntz	All in Nursing Homes
Joel Marple	All First Responders
Dave Lampel	All Service Men & Women
Matt Sernell	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 orders are due by May 21st.

Name:

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

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

Other:

Given By:

Orders and payment can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Geraniums can be picked up on Pentecost Sunday (May 28th).

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