

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown
MORNING WORSHIP
January 22nd, 2023 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

CALL TO WORSHIP **

L: Come out of the shadows and into God's light!

P: We will not play hide and seek, but will make a pilgrimage to God's heart.

L: Lay down all which is a burden to you!

P: We will give our fears to God, who is our help in every moment.

L: Follow the One who will lead you to new life!

P: We long to live in God's presence every day of our lives.

HYMN "Living For Jesus" #372

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: If we come to God with open hearts and honest words, we will not be pushed away, but wrapped in God's loving and forgiving embrace. I invite you to join me as we confess our lives to God, praying,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

ALL: We admit, God our Light, that we do indeed try to tear Christ apart - a piece of him here to support our politics, a part of him to undergird our economic views, the rest of him to bolster our fears of others. We could leave immediately to follow him, but need to wait until we see where he might lead us. We want you to look upon us with favor always, but have no trouble turning our backs on those around us.

Hear us, God our Deliverer, as we speak of our failures! Have mercy on us, we appeal to you, have mercy! May your love become the core of our hearts, may your compassion become the words we speak, may your hope illuminate the ways in which we serve others, even as we seek to follow the One who calls us to new life, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: God is our help, so why should we be afraid?

God keeps us safe, there is nothing to dread!

This is good news for all of us.

P: Sheltered in God's gracious heart of mercy and love, we raise shouts of joy: 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

Prayer of Dedication**

#625

Use our gifts, Loving God, so others might not be scared by life; so they may be sheltered in the blanket of your grace; so they might find a home with us as their family. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 9:1-4 p.593

New Testament Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 p.991

Gospel Matthew 4:12-23 p.837

MESSAGE

Denise Ann Todero, CP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Apostles' Creed"

HYMN "Jesus Calls Us" #375

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 "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" #376

BENEDICTION/SENDING**

L: Let us take God's light into the world.

P: We will go to join others in pilgrimage of trust.

L: Let us go to gather the burdens of others.

P: We will take away their fears and offer them to Jesus, who helps everyone in every moment.

L: Let us go to live in the Spirit's presence.

P: We will follow the Spirit into the peace which is offered to all of God's people.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be With You" #602

**** © Rev. Thom Shuman**

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER: Tina Varner

If you think you're too small to have an impact. try going to bed with a mosquito in the room.....Anita Roddick

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God is the master of the scenes; we must not choose which part we shall act; it concerns us only to be careful that we do it well.

.....Jeremy Taylor

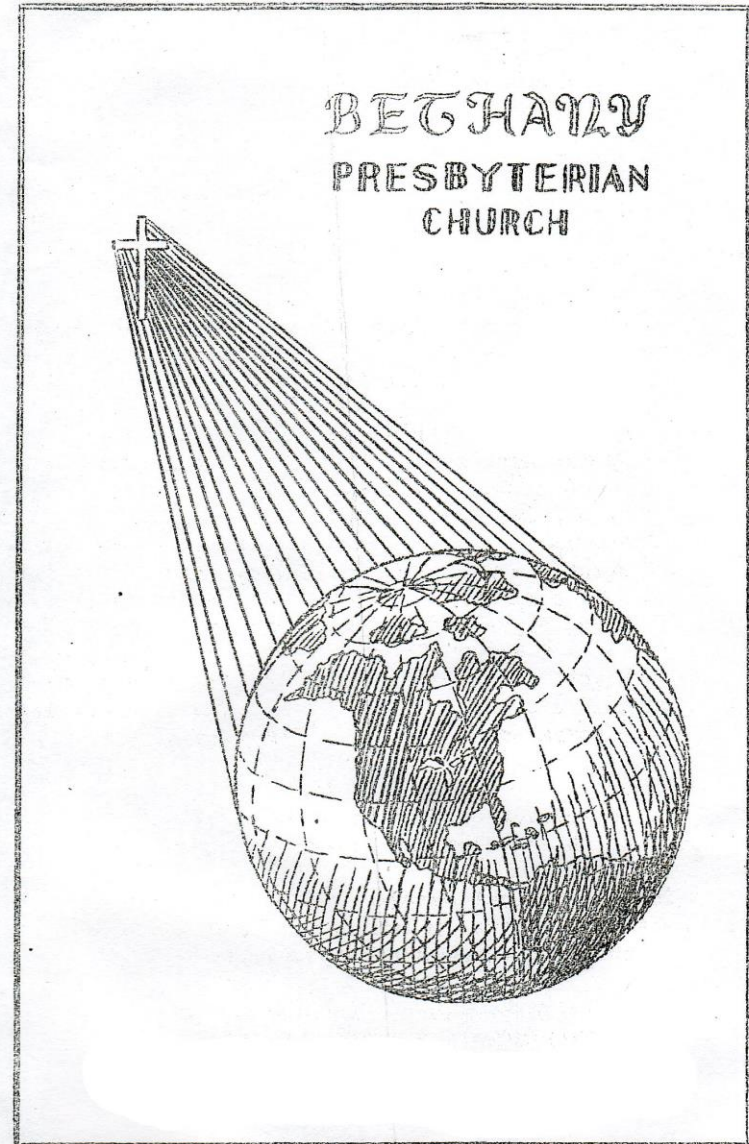
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It is very significant that in every recorded instance, the Apostles were busy at their daily work when the Master called them:

Peter and Andrew were fishing. James and John were mending their nets; Matthew was sitting at the receipt of custom.

God never visits an idle or unserviceable life.


.....David Smith



Offering: 01/15
Attendance: 19
Local 581.00
Benev. 40.00
Improv. 34.00
Total 655.00

Saturday January 22nd
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday January 29th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.



Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...	
Pastor Denise	Ruby Porch
Lois Henry	Christine Paratore
Dawna Sheets	David Hayduk
Buzz & Jeanne Lehman	Susie Keefer
Bob & Marie Whorl	Chloe Kern
Bev Holbay	Tyler & Julie Kalp
Wendy Manges	Linda Hayes
Mark Todero	David Varner
Diane Brewer	Loretta Davidson
The Todero Family	Nancy Thomas
Shirley Gavazoni	Elaine Bilger
Linda & Richard Oaks	All Shut- Ins
Sean Rovon	All in Nursing Homes
Carl & Linda Thomas	All First Responders
Kenny Rager	All Service Men & Women
Beverly Rager	All Healthcare Professionals

Suggested Per Capita for 2023 is \$40 per person. Feel free to contribute more if you'd like. Please use the special envelope marked Per Capita to make this contribution.

The Tamburitzans will perform on Saturday January 28th at 6 p.m. at the Richland Performing Arts Center. The Tamburitzans are Pittsburgh's oldest folk ensemble who travel the country performing European song and dance. This year they will feature dances from Ukraine. For more information, visit www.thetamburitzans.org.

Sign Ups for 2023 Lay Leaders are still being accepted. You can now sign up for a full month or for a single week. If you would like to help out, sign up on the back bulletin board. Contact Pastor Denise with any questions.

Weekly Flower and Bulletins for 2023 are now available. 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.

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 following the holiday season.

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!