

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA  
MORNING WORSHIP  
September 8th, 2024 Proper 18

**CALL TO WORSHIP \*\***

L: What good is it if we say we love all people, but give special treatment to a few?

**P: God calls us to love others as deeply as we love ourselves, with no strings attached.**

L: What good is it if we say we want God to show mercy towards us, but are quick to judge others?

**P: God calls us to forgive our sisters and brothers, to let mercy triumph over judgment.**

L: What good is it if we say we trust God in every moment, but live guided by our fears?

**P: We will speak and act as those who trust God to come and live in our fearful hearts.**

**HYMN "Praise To the Lord, the Almighty" (vs. 1&4) #8**

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION\*\***

L: We find it a lot easier to play favorites, rather than treating everyone equally. We find it simpler to classify others as 'them,' instead of discovering what makes them beloved in God's eyes. We cling to fear, when we could grasp hold of God's enduring love. Let us confess together all we have done, and not done, which brings hurt to others, and harm to ourselves. Join me, as we pray together, saying,

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION \*\***

**ALL: How glibly we say we trust you, Holy One, and how quickly our fears silence our words. We find you at the side of the poor, while we cozy up to the rich and famous. You stand behind the counter serving the hungry at the soup kitchen, while we are stocking our freezers and pantries till they overflow. We look down at those whose hands are dirty, but your hand of mercy pulls them into your embracing love.**

**Forgive us, O Lord, and do good to us when we have trouble doing good for others. Surround us with your love; surround us with your grace; surround us with your peace; surround us with the Spirit of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

**SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*\***

L: Be strong, do not fear! God comes, to fill your parched souls with living water, to open your eyes to the grace which is yours.

**P: God comes, for no other reason than to save us.**

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**

**LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

Old Testament	Proverbs 22-1-2, 8-9, 22-23	p.564
New Testament	James 2:1-10,14-17	p.1054
Gospel	Mark 7:24-37	p.874

**MESSAGE Tammy Noss**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles' Creed**

**HYMN "In Christ There Is No East or West" #285**

**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**

**BENEDICTION/SENDING\*\***

L: God sends us forth to love all people, no strings attached.

**P: We will share grace and hope with everyone.**

L: Jesus sends us forth to forgive our sisters and brothers.

**P: We will offer mercy, not judgment, to those around us.**

L: The Spirit sends us forth to trust God in every moment.

**P: We will live in faith, not in fear, sharing our hearts with all we meet.**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be With You"**

God be with you till we meet again;  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With His sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you till we meet again

God be with you till we meet again;  
'Neath His wings protecting hide you,  
Daily manna still provide you;  
God be with you till we meet again.

**\*\* © Rev. Thom Shuman**

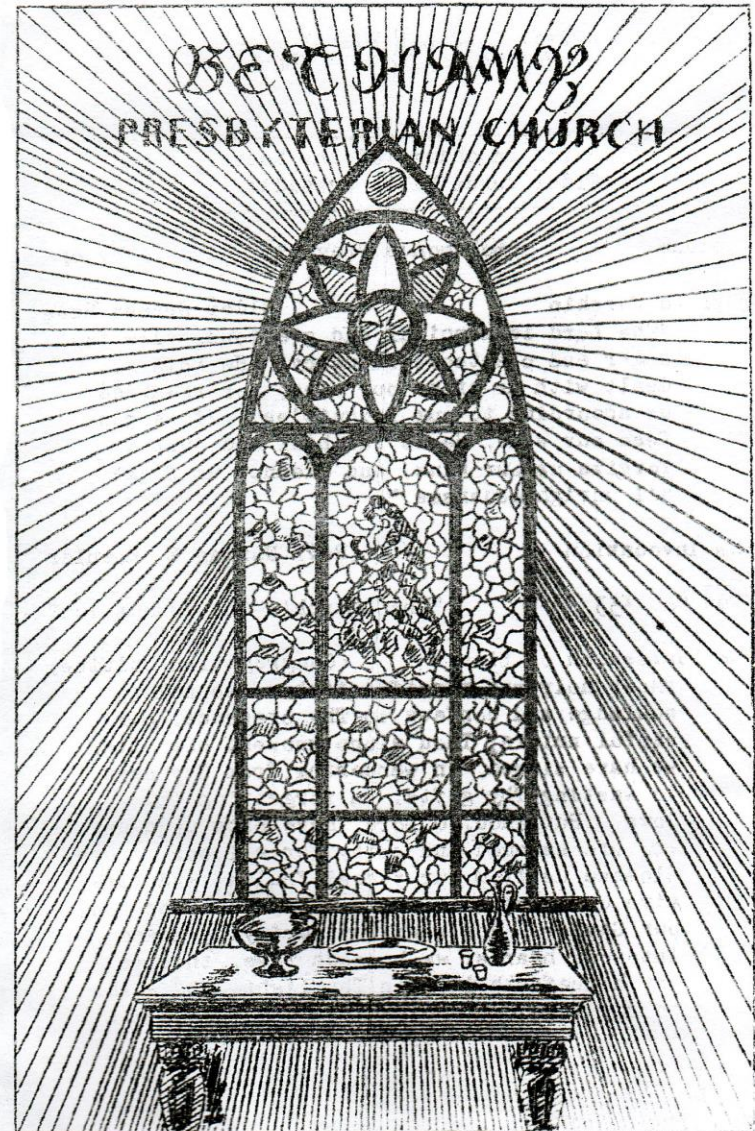
**ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger**

**GUEST SPEAKER: Tammy Noss**

**WORSHIP LEADER: Tomi Nosko**

Anyone who proposes to do good must not expect people to roll stones out of his way, but must accept his lot calmly if they even roll a few more upon it.....Albert Schweitzer

\* \* \* \* \*



**Offering: 09/01**  
**Attendance: 15**  
**Local 695.00**  
**Benev. 48.25**  
**Improv. 40.75**  
**Roof 15.00**  
**Total 799.00**

**Sunday September 8th**  
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday September 15th**  
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.



**This Morning** we welcome Tammy Noss as our guest speaker for Morning Worship.

**We Are Collecting** donations of bottled water for the Johnstown Fire Dept. and West End Ambulance. You may donate packs of water or donate money to purchase packs of water. If making a monetary donation, please mark them and place them in the offering plate. We ask that all donations be dropped off by Sept. 15. Thank you in advance for your support.

**The West End Food Pantry** is still in need of staples to keep their shelves stocked as we enter the fall months. Non-perishable food donations can be placed in the bins by the main entrance. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you for your support.

**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.

<b>Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...</b>	
Lois Henry	Nancy Thomas
Dawna Sheets	Dave & Karen Vivis
Jeanne Lehman	Joshua Holbay Family
Marie Whorl	Dominic Serratore
Bev Holbay	Loretta Davidson
Mark Todero	Irene Barefoot Bischof
Carl Newfield	Rodney Gramling
Beverly Rager	Bob Kinsey
Mikey Ferante	Randy Maurer
Jill Sheets	Edward Spinda
Betty Clemenson	Jim & Iva Jean
Pat Pecora	Jim Kuntz
Frank Cassat	Dan Saylor
JR Bilger	All Shut- Ins
Linda Hayes	All in Nursing Homes
Missy DiPlacido	All First Responders
Randy Browning	All Service Men & Women
	All Healthcare Professionals

**To Place Announcements Or Concerns List Names** in the bulletin please email [bethanyjtown@hotmail.com](mailto:bethanyjtown@hotmail.com).

**Visit Our Website** ([www.bethanyjohnstown.com](http://www.bethanyjohnstown.com)) or follow us on Facebook (Bethany Presbyterian Church- Johnstown, PA) for the latest news, information and much more!