

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP

January 9th, 2022 Baptism of the Lord

CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: Like the soft whisper of a little child singing to herself before anyone else in the house is awake,

P: ever so gently, God's voice cradles us with songs of wonder and awe.

L: With the persistence of teenagers and young adults, heady with the newfound freedom of questioning everything,

P: God's voice rumbles like a river through our lives, sweeping away all the boundaries between us.

L: Like the grandpa who passes on the secret to his bread, like the nana who teaches her grandkids how to drive,

P: God's voice is always reminding us that we are precious, esteemed, beloved.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"Morning Has Broken" #60

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: Broken? God promises to make us whole. Lost? God promises to come and find us, gather us up, and bring us home. Confused about tomorrow? God promises our future is grounded in love. Let us confess that, though we have heard the promises over and over, we have trouble believing them, as we pray together saying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

ALL: We know what it is like to be singed by the flames of our lives, Holy God. We look for ourselves in all the wrong places - success, power, adulation. We carve our names in the granite walls of work, hoping we will be remembered when we are gone. We have gone through the waters of baptism, but live as if they have not changed us. We need to hear your sure word, 'do not fear,' Shaper of our lives. Our failures do not cause you to quit loving us, for you continue to claim us, gathering us up in your compassionate arms. In our baptism, we discover not the end, but the first step of our journey with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: God's words of comfort and restoration are more powerful than any foolishness, any mistakes, any sins we commit. This is good news: we are God's people!

P: Thanks be to God! By water and word, by the Spirit of God's redeeming grace, we are marked and sealed as God's beloved children.

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 Lesson Isaiah 43:1-7 p. 623

New Testament Lesson Acts 8:14-17 p.955

Gospel Lesson Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 p.891

MESSAGE Denise Ann Todero, CP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostles' Creed

HYMN

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

#380

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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)

*... and a Voice came from heaven,
"Thou art My Beloved Son."*

BENEDICTION/SENDING**

L: Baptized, we will go to share God's love with others.

P: We will welcome those the world rejects as our sisters and brothers.

L: Baptized, we will become the grace of our Lord Jesus.

P: We will share the waters of life with everyone we meet.

L: Baptized, we will become the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

**P: We will be a community of justice, not judgment;
we will be a household of hope, not an exclusive club for just a few.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

"Spirit of the Living God" #247

****© Rev. Thom Shuman**

**ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger
COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero
WORSHIP LEADER: Tina Varner**

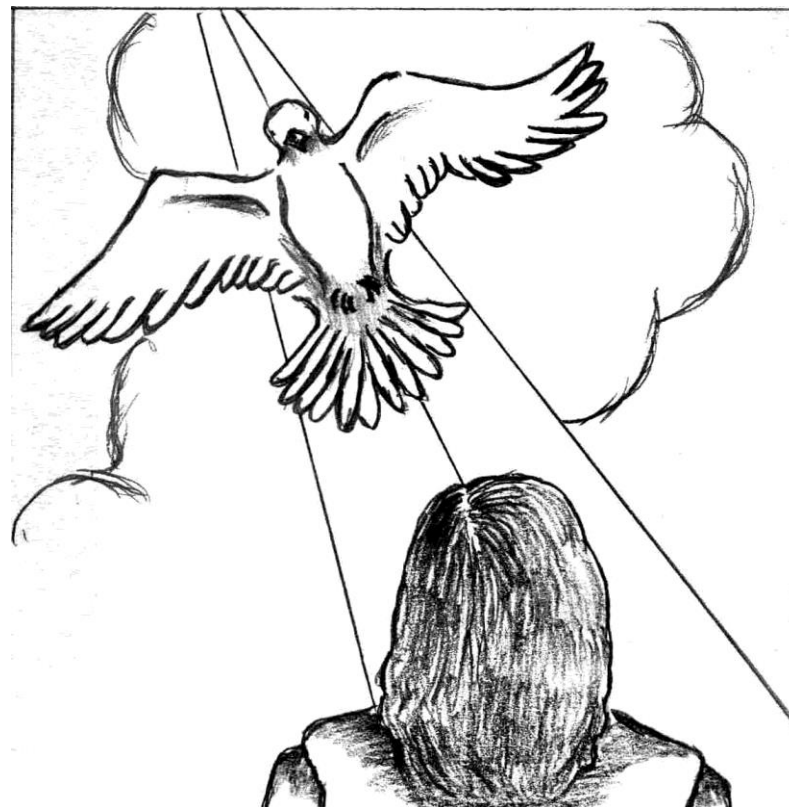
**Baptism is a sign of initiation,
by which we are admitted into the society of the Church,
in order that, being incorporated into Christ,
we may be numbered among the children of God.**

John Calvin

* * * * *

In baptism, the direction is indicated rather than the arrival.

Frederich Rest



**Bethany Presbyterian Church
Blaine Street at Chandler Avenue
Johnstown, PA**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

May the God of glory be with you! **And also with you!**
People of God, offer your hearts to God.

We give them to the One who comes to redeem us.

Sing songs of praise and joy, Children of God.

**We lift our voices to the One who journeys with us
through the waters of baptism, and who feeds us at
the Table of hope.**

With the water of baptism reminding us of your love for
us..... we lift our voices in joy and hope:

Holy, holy, holy, Awesome Voice of life and hope.

All creation resounds with your wondrous love.

**Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes
to be baptized with water and the Spirit. Hosanna in
the highest!**

Holy are you, God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Bearer of grace..... we proclaim that mystery we call
faith:

**Baptized, Christ was called your Beloved; dying, Christ
was your heart broken for us; risen to new life, Christ
is the Voice which shatters all our fears; coming to
gather us up, Christ will bring us home to you.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE COMMUNION *(Please hold the element until all are
served, at the Pastor's lead, all will partake together, saying:)*

The body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven.

The blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation.

Offering: 01/02
Attendance:
Local 407.00
Benev. 28.15
Improv. 23.85
Total 459.00

Sunday January 9th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday January 16th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sign Ups for 2022 Lay Leaders are now being accepted. Take a month for yourself or share a month with someone. If you are interested in helping out, please sign up on the back bulletin board. Contact Pastor Denise for more information.

Flower and Bulletin Sponsorships for 2022 are now being accepted. If you are interested, please sign up on the back bulletin board.

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	All Shut- Ins
Bev Holbay	All in Nursing Homes
Nora Dixon	All First Responders
Mark Todero	All Service Men & Women
Diane Brewer	All Healthcare Professionals
The Todero Family	

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!