

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP April 16th, 2023
2nd Sunday of Easter

CALL TO WORSHIP **

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

P: The whole creation rejoices; the birds sing from every tree.

L: Alleluia! Christ is in our midst!

P: Babies babble with sounds of joy; words cannot express our overflowing hearts.

L: Alleluia! Christ is our light forever!

P: Breathing peace on us in these moments; surrounding us with grace and hope.

HYMN OF PRAISE "He Lives" #220

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: Afraid that God will find out how faithless we are, we try to lock up our hearts so God cannot see our foolish lives and failures. Let us confess our sins to the One who offers us peace and healing, as we pray together, saying,

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Hear the echoes of our locked hearts, Path of Life. We cross the borders into temptation and never seem to find our way back. We multiply the sorrows of others by our hurtful words and the harmful deeds we do. We see the ones you would give us to serve, but believe we do not have the abilities to care for them. Have mercy on us, God whose Breath gives us life. Walk through the closed doors of our worries and doubts to stand in our midst, offering us that grace which can heal us, that hope which can enliven us, and that faith which enables us to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: It is God's great mercy through the resurrection of Jesus which gives us that hope which lives within us.

P: Thanks be to God for this precious gift by which we are able to believe and rejoice in our inheritance.

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**

May the gifts we offer be used to open doors closed to strangers, hands shut tight against generous giving, and hearts frozen by fears of the unknown. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

First Lesson	Acts 2:14a,22-32	p.948
Second Lesson	1 Peter 1:3-9	p.1058
Gospel Lesson	John 20:19-31	p.945

MESSAGE

Denise Ann Todero, CP

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Apostle's Creed"

HYMN "Thine is the Glory" #227

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

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

#234

BENEDICTION/SENDING**

L: Go forth in the love of God.

P: We will take this love into unlovely parts of our lives.

L: Go forth in the grace of Jesus Christ.

P: We will look for him in the faces of every person we meet.

L: Go forth in the peace of the Spirit.

P: We will share this hope with the brokenness all around us.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "Let There Be Peace"

****© Rev. Thom Shuman**

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED PASTOR: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER: Tina Varner

Most of us, in our desire for meaningful faith, seem to be saying to God: "Show me, and I'll believe!" This approach never works.

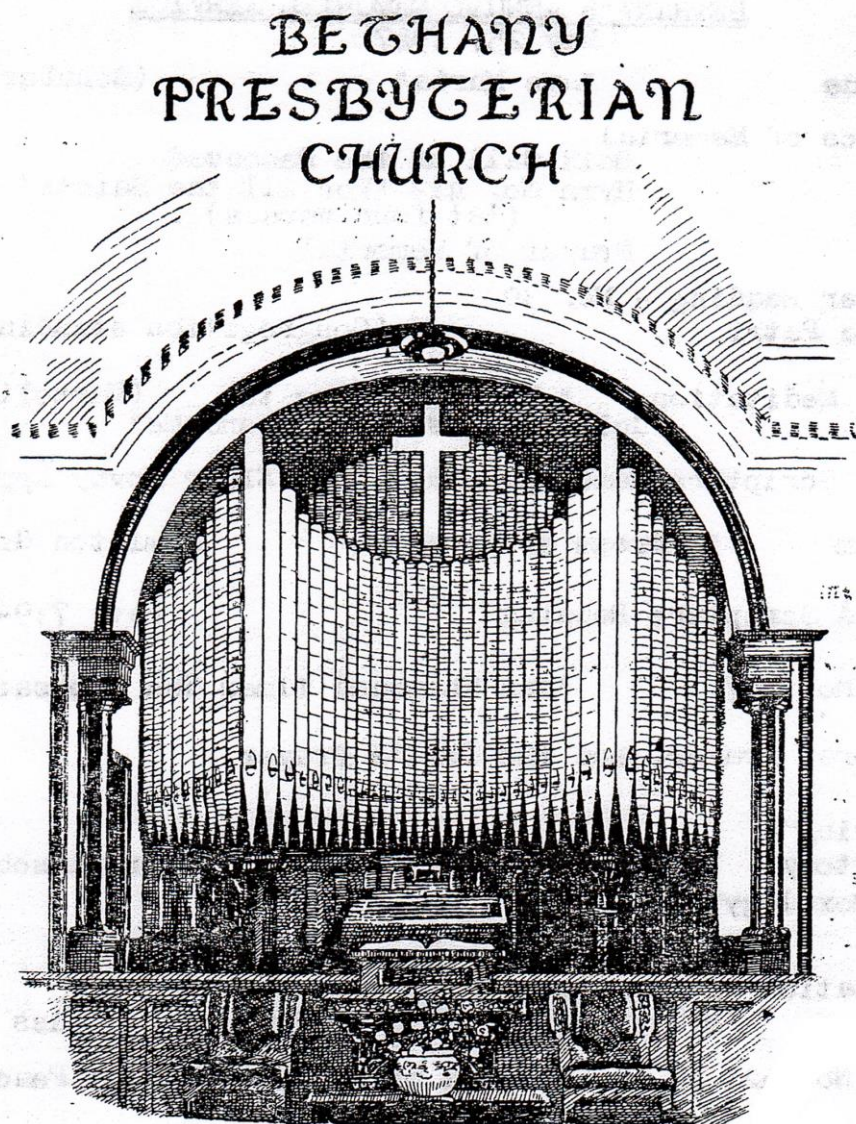
*God has made it very clear to us, in the life and teaching of his Son Jesus, that the process must be reversed.
He is saying to us: "Believe in me, and I'll show you."*

John Powell, S.J., Through Seasons of the Heart

** * * * **

The following lines were found scratched on the wall of an air-raid shelter in Germany after World War II:

*I believe in the light, even when the sun doesn't shine.
I believe in love, even when it isn't given.
I believe in God, even when his voice is silent.*



814-539-9194

www.bethanyjohnstown.com

Offering: 04/09
Attendance: 33
Local 548.80
Benev. 38.00
Improv. 32.20
OGHS 98.00
Total 717.00

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

Sunday April 23rd
 Easter Service 10:30 a.m.

The Upper Room subscriptions are now due. The cost is \$8 per year and payment can be given to Ray Sheets.

First Presbyterian Church will hold a Chicken and Biscuits Dinner on Wednesday April 19th. The cost is \$10 each and both eat-in and take-out are available. For more information or to RSVP, call 814-536-8141.

Camp Harmony will hold a Women's Retreat May 12-13. See the flyer on the back bulletin board for more information or visit www.campharmony.org.

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	All Shut- Ins
Mikey Ferante	All in Nursing Homes
Susan Willis	All First Responders
Jim Kuntz	All Service Men & Women
Joel Marple	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!