

**Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain
of wheat falls into the earth and dies,
it remains just a single grain;
but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
- John 12:24**

Bethany Presbyterian Church

Blaine Street & Chandler Avenue

Johnstown, PA 15906

www.bethanyjohnstown.com

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Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP
March 18th, 2018 5th Sunday in Lent

Lenten Candle Lighting Liturgy: Fire

CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: This is the day God has promised: the day of the new covenant.

P: We are here, because our hearts are filled with love for our God.

L: No longer carved on cold stone, this covenant is engraved on our hearts.

P: Our hearts are open so God's Word can shape us.

L: We will reach out to our neighbors, our friends and family, even to strangers.

P: Our hearts are ready to serve God and all of God's people.

***HYMN "Lift High the Cross" #304**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION*

L: If we would see Jesus, we must open our eyes to the ways we have not followed him as disciples. If we want God to create new hearts within us, we must speak of the old ways in which we continue to live. If we seek God's mercy, we must confess all that keeps us from living as God's children. Join me, as we come to the One who will forgive us.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION*

ALL: O Heart which seeks our own: we yearn for your presence in our lives, yet turn away from you time and again. We want to serve others, but become obsessed with our own desires. We need your Word to fill our emptiness, yet let it be silenced by the noise of our world. Our hearts are clogged with the foolishness of our lives, and often struggle to beat in rhythm with your own.

In this silence, and in the depths of our hidden souls, come to us and make us whole, Steadfast Love. Write *grace* upon our hearts, so we might be more forgiving people; write *mercy* on our hearts, so we might become more welcoming people; write *hospitality* upon our hearts that we might

become more like Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who came for all people, even us.

***SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON*

L: A new heart, a generous spirit, a fresh start: these are the gifts our God gives to us.

P: Through Christ, we are cleansed; through Christ, we are healed; through Christ, we become new people.

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*

As you write upon our hearts, soften them with your compassion. As you soften them, open us to the needs of those close to us, as well as those in every corner of your world. As you open us to the hurts and heartaches of your children, give us the grace to be as generous with our gifts as you are in blessing us. Take these gifts and use them to share peace, love, grace, and joy with all of your people. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

First Lesson Jeremiah 31:31-34

p.680

Second Lesson Hebrews 5:5-10

p.1046

Gospel Lesson John 12:20-33

p.936

MESSAGE

Denise Ann Todero, CRE

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – The Apostle's Creed**

***HYMN "The Old Rugged Cross"**

#186

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 "Nearer, My God, To Thee" #393**

SENDING/BENEDICTION*

L: God sends us forth as people of the covenant.

P: Our hearts are filled with compassion which we will share with others.

L: Jesus call us to share hope with all we meet.

P: Our hands will bring food for the hungry and build shelters for the homeless.

L: The Spirit of hospitality is engraved upon our spirits.

P: We will welcome everyone we meet with the grace which is written large upon our hearts.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "May The Lord"**

**Those who are able please stand.*

*** © Rev. Thom Shuman*

Lenten Candle Lighting Liturgy – Rev. Mindi

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

COMMISSIONED RULING ELDER: Denise Ann Todero

WORSHIP LEADER: Tina Varner

You will never know that Jesus is all you need until Jesus is all you have got.....Mother Teresa

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The meaning of sacrifice is the deliberate giving of the best I have to God that He may make it His and mine for ever: if I cling to it, I lose it, and so does God.....Oswald Chambers

Offering: 03/11
Attendance: 21

Local	361.75
Benev.	25.05
Improv.	<u>21.20</u>
Total	408.00

Sunday March 18th
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Session Mtg. After Worship

Sunday March 25th
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Coffee Hour After Worship

Session will meet today after worship.

As we approach Easter, the West End Food Pantry is in need of non-perishable food items. Items can be placed in the boxes near the Blaine St. Entrance. Monetary donations for the food pantry can be placed in the offering plate or given to Ray Sheets.

Today is the last day for Easter flower orders. Please see the flyer in your bulletin for more information.

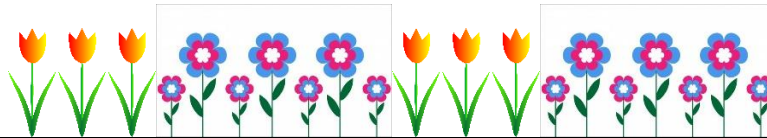
Easter Breakfast will be held on Easter Sunday at 9 a.m. If you plan on attending, please sign up on the back bulletin board, so we know how many to prepare for.

The annual Easter Basket Auction will be held on April 1st following the Easter Breakfast. If you would like to donate a basket or prize, we ask that you bring it in by Palm Sunday (March 25th). Please include a description and minimum starting bid, if possible.

Items for the Newsletter are due by March 25th. Please give/send all newsletter items to Ed Sheets. This edition will cover April-June, so submit your spring recipes, stories, etc.

The next Lenten Luncheon will be hosted by Calvary UMC this Wednesday **here at Bethany**. The luncheon begins at noon and all are welcome to attend.

Maundy Thursday Service will be held on Thursday March 29th at Grace Lutheran Church. The service begins at 7 p.m. and all are invited to attend.



Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...	
Don Bennett	Bill & Patty Gramling
Michael Robert Rose III	Bill Kegg
Darlene Rager	Justin Korenoski
Phyllis Pfuhl	Kathy & Robert Wilks
Harry & Lillian Thiel	Larry & Bev Holbay
Lois Henry	George Hockenberry
Katherine Minahan	Lilyana Newfield
Jack Forsha	Sharon Weaver
Olivia & Patrick Bragdon	Elizabeth Kern
Dick Dunkle	John & Cindy Griffin
Lenore Runkle	Rose Marie Oravetz
Andy Serafin	Charles Molnar
Betty Clemenson	Rachael Wilks
Diann Makin	Logan Weaver
Bill Shroyer	Jane Barefoot Volscko
John Morgan	A Friend
Joshua Holbay	Gary Bellack
Nancy Dimitt	Cathy Zakucia
Joyce Horn	Sally McGrath
Larry Lloyd	All Shut- Ins
Dave Matten	All in Nursing Homes
	All Service Men & Women

To Place Announcements Or Concerns List Names in the bulletin contact Ed Sheets at 539-3495 or email at esheets91@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.



Sign up for important updates from B. Presbyterian.

Get information for **Bethany Presbyterian Church** right on your phone—not on handouts.

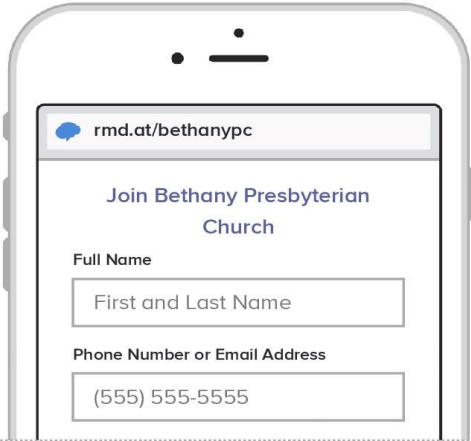
Pick a way to receive messages for **Bethany Presbyterian Church**:

A If you have a smartphone, get push notifications.

On your iPhone or Android phone, open your web browser and go to the following link:

rmd.at/bethanypc

Follow the instructions to sign up for Remind. You'll be prompted to download the mobile app.




B If you don't have a smartphone, get text notifications.

Text the message **@bethanypc** to the number **81010**.

If you're having trouble with **81010**, try texting **@bethanypc** to **(910) 728-4154**.

* Standard text message rates apply.



Don't have a mobile phone? Go to rmd.at/bethanypc on a desktop computer to sign up for email notifications.

If you don't want to download the app, you can sign up for text notifications even if you have a smartphone. Simply follow option B above.

Easter Flowers

Orders are now being accepted for Easter Flowers. Order forms and money can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. The deadline for flower orders is Sunday March 18th.

NAME:

_____ # of Lilies @ \$9 Each = \$ _____

_____ # of Tulips @ \$7 Each = \$ _____

_____ # of Hyacinths @ \$7 Each = \$ _____

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

GIVEN BY:

**FLOWERS CAN BE PICKED UP ON EASTER SUNDAY.
ORDER DEADLINE: SUNDAY MARCH 18th**