

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA  
MORNING WORSHIP  
February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday

**CALL TO WORSHIP \*\***

L: Called to be light,

**P: we would carry God's hope into the shadows of the world.**

L: Called to be salt,

**P: we would enhance the lives of those around us, with joy.**

L: Called to live in God's reality,

**P: we would welcome everyone as sisters and brothers in faith.**

**HYMN      "Now Thank We All Our God"      #556**

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION\*\***

L: This is what God hopes for us - that we will speak of the mistakes we make, so we might be forgiven. Relying on the Spirit for the right words, let us pray together, saying,

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

**P: It is true we break your commandments, God of our lives. Much worse, we break your heart when we point the finger at those who are different from us; when we gossip about our friends and neighbors; when we think everything is all about us.**

**Forgive us, Loving God, we pray. We long to know your ways, so open our ears to hear those words we always ignore. We search for you each day, so open our eyes to your wonders so we may see them anew. We would believe in your promises, so fill our hearts with the presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*\***

L: God will show us the way to God's realm. Gracious, merciful, and righteous is our God of salvation!

**P: God rebuilds our lives, repairs our mistakes, fills our emptiness with hope and joy.**

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**

May the gifts we offer, Loving God, be used to fix breakfast for hungry children, to shower others with grace, and to patch the potholes poverty has created in the roadways of the kingdom. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

**LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

<b>Old Testament Lesson</b>	<b>Isaiah 58: 1-9a</b>	<b>p. 637</b>
<b>New Testament Lesson</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 2:1-12</b>	<b>p.992</b>
<b>Gospel</b>	<b>Matthew 5:13-20</b>	<b>p.838</b>

**MESSAGE**

**Randy Knupp**

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

**HYMN      "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"      #252**

**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                      "Jesus Calls Us"    vs. 1 & 2    #375

**BENEDICTION/SENDING\*\***

To those huddled in the shadows of fear and worry,

**God sends to be light.**

To those whose lives and hopes have lost all flavor,

**Jesus sends us to be salt.**

To a society where love is tossed aside as easily as a food wrapper,

**Spirit sends us to be faithful carers of everyone we meet.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be With You" #602

\*\* © Rev. Thom Shuman

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

*We are called to be not the honey of the world  
but the salt of the earth.*

*Salt stings on an open wound,  
but it also saves one from gangrene.*

*Donald Bloesch*

\* \* \* \* \*

*There are two ways of spreading light; to be a candle,  
or the mirror that reflects it.*

*Edith Wharton*



**tacklehunger.org**

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8, 2026**

**BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**