

**Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown**  
**MORNING WORSHIP**  
**January 25, 2026 3rd Sunday after Epiphany**

**CALL TO WORSHIP \*\***

L: Come out of the shadows and into God's light!

**P: We will not play hide and seek, but will make a pilgrimage to God's heart.**

L: Lay down all which is a burden to you!

**P: We will give our fears to God, who is our help in every moment.**

L: Follow the One who will lead you to new life!

**P: We long to live in God's presence every day of our lives.**

**HYMN "Living For Jesus" #372**

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION\*\***

L: If we come to God with open hearts and honest words, we will not be pushed away, but wrapped in God's loving and forgiving embrace. I invite you to join me as we confess our lives to God, praying,

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

**ALL: We admit, God our Light, that we do indeed try to tear Christ apart - a piece of him here to support our politics, a part of him to undergird our economic views, the rest of him to bolster our fears of others. We could leave immediately to follow him, but need to wait until we see where he might lead us. We want you to look upon us with favor always, but have no trouble turning our backs on those around us.**

**Hear us, God our Deliverer, as we speak of our failures! Have mercy on us, we appeal to you, have mercy! May your love become the core of our hearts, may your compassion become the words we speak, may your hope illuminate the ways in which we serve others, even as we seek to follow the One who calls us to new life, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

**SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*\***

L: God is our help, so why should we be afraid?

God keeps us safe, there is nothing to dread!

This is good news for all of us.

**P: Sheltered in God's gracious heart of mercy and love, we raise shouts of joy: thanks be to God.**

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\*\***

Use our gifts, Loving God, so others might not be scared by life; so they may be sheltered in the blanket of your grace; so they might find a home with us as their family. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

**LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

**Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 9:1-4 p.593**

**New Testament Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 p.991**

**Gospel Matthew 4:12-23 p.837**

**MESSAGE Fishing for Christ Ray Sheets**

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

**HYMN "Jesus Calls Us" #375**

**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      "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"      #376**

**BENEDICTION/SENDING\*\***

**L:** Let us take God's light into the world.

**P: We will go to join others in pilgrimage of trust.**

**L:** Let us go to gather the burdens of others.

**P: We will take away their fears and offer them to Jesus,  
who helps everyone in every moment.**

**L:** Let us go to live in the Spirit's presence.

**P: We will follow the Spirit into the peace  
which is offered to all of God's people.**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "May the Lord, Mighty God"  
(back cover of hymnal)**

**\*\* © Rev. Thom Shuman**

**ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger**

*If you think you're too small to have an impact. try going to bed  
with a mosquito in the room.....Anita Roddick*

*\* \* \* \* \**

*God is the master of the scenes; we must not choose which part we  
shall act; it concerns us only to be careful that we do it well.*

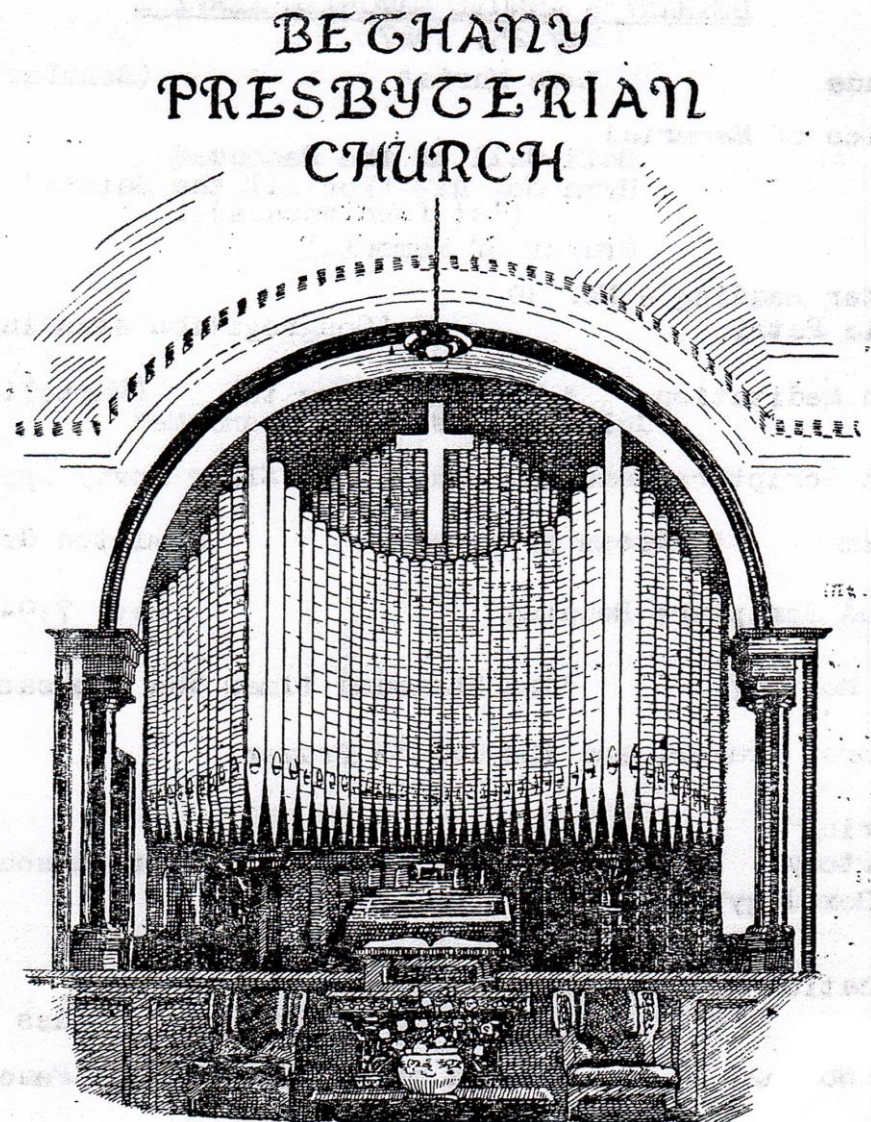
*.....Jeremy Taylor*

*\* \* \* \* \**

*It is very significant that in every recorded instance, the Apostles  
were busy at their daily work when the Master called them:*

*Peter and Andrew were fishing. James and John were mending  
their nets; Matthew was sitting at the receipt of custom.  
God never visits an idle or unserviceable life.*

*.....David Smith*



**814-539-9194**

**[www.bethanyjohnstown.com](http://www.bethanyjohnstown.com)**

**Offering: 1/18**  
**Attendance: 14**  
**Local 217.00**  
**Benev. 15.25**  
**Improv. 12.75**  
**Roof 40.00**  
**First Fruits 20.00**  
**Initial 45.00**  
**Total 350.00**

**Sunday January 25th**  
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday February 1st**  
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

**The Suggested Per Capita (First Fruits)** for 2026 is \$55 per member. Please use the special envelope provided in your box. Per Capita helps to pay for the important programs and staff at the Presbytery, Synod, and PCUSA levels.

**Mark Your Calendars!** The annual Redstone Presbytery Enrichment Day will be held on Saturday February 7<sup>th</sup> at Westmont Presbyterian Church. Information is available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

**Souper Bowl of Caring** Sunday will be held on February 8<sup>th</sup>. Come help support the West End Food Pantry by bringing non-perishable food items or monetary donations. We will have soup and sandwiches available after Worship. Feel free to bring other snacks to share.

**The West End Food Pantry** is in need of non-perishable food items to help keep their shelves stocked. Donations can be placed in the boxes by the Blaine St. entrance. Monetary Donations can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you for your support.

**Ed Sheets** is collecting small shipping boxes. If you have any you no longer need, you can place them on the table in the back of the chapel. Thanks in advance for your assistance.



**Concerns: Keep the following people in your prayers...**

Dawna Sheets	Bobbie Johnson
Jeanne Lehman	Barry Ross
Marie Whorl	Dave & Karen Vivis
Bev Holbay	Joshua Holbay Family
Mark Todero	Dominic Serratore
Carl Newfield	Jim Kuntz
Beverly Rager	Jimmy Stormant
Frank Cassat	Bruce Torrence
Nancy Kahl	Randy Maurer
Glenn Campbell	Cheryl Browning
Linda Hayes	All Shut- Ins
Jessie Rager	All in Nursing Homes
Bill & Patty Gramling	All First Responders
Mike & Charlene Jean	All Service Men & Women
Eileen Rozich	All Healthcare Professionals
Pete Barclay	

**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!

**Sign Ups** for 2026 Lay Leaders are being accepted. If you are interested in helping out, please sign up on the back bulletin board.

**Orders** are now being taken for 2026 Flower and Bulletin Sponsorships. Order forms and more information can be found on the back bulletin board and can be placed in the offering plate. Orders can also be placed on the church website.