

Bethany Presbyterian, Johnstown, PA
MORNING WORSHIP October 19, 2025
Proper 24

CALL TO WORSHIP **

L: Blessed are those who walk in God's way.

P: Happy are those who are faithful.

L: Blessed are those who seek God.

P: We will praise you forever!

HYMN "Near to the Heart of God" #497

CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

L: The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, you call us and teach us your ways, and bless us with abundant life. Yet we turn aside to follow other paths: taking the easy way out, listening to the call of this world. We quarrel with one another letting differences divide us; shutting off our hearts from forgiveness and reconciliation. We hang on to petty jealousies, feeling we deserve more than we have. Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and feed us with your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we offer this prayer. Amen

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Friends, forgiveness comes from God, who does not count our sins against us. For God has reconciled us through Christ

P: We believe the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

GLORIA PATRI

#623

CHURCH NEWS

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please greet your neighbor with a hug or handshake or wave saying "The peace of Christ be with you")

REDEDICATION OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE

Offertory

Doxology

#625

Prayer of Dedication**

Almighty God, you have shown us your ways and have led us in the paths of abundance. You have blessed us and kept us safe. We offer you our praise, for your love is great. Use our gifts, our money, and our talents to establish your realm of love here upon the earth. Amen.

LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament

Psalms 111:1-10

New Testament

1st Corinthians 3:1-9

Message

SPIRITUAL MATURITY

Bob Sheehan CRE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "THE APOSTLES' CREED"

HYMN "It is Well with My Soul" #493

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 "Great is Thy Faithfulness" #43

BENEDICTION/SENDING**

L: As we part ways, may your grace cover each one of us. Let the love of Christ surround us and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit unite us.

P: Let your kindness comfort us and your truth guide us until we meet again.

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

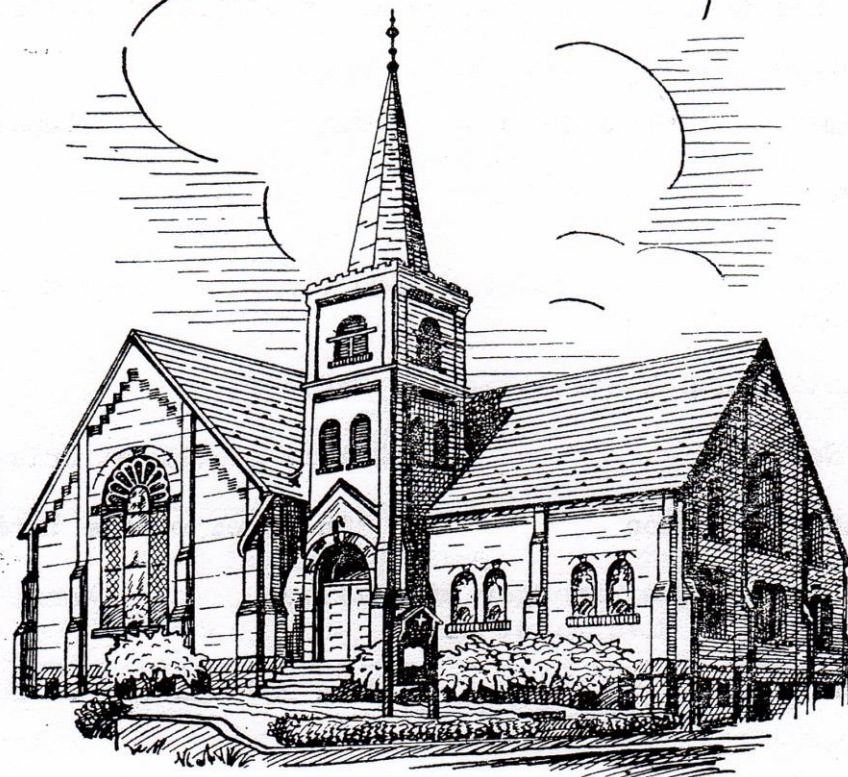
Excerpt from Naming the Days Feature by Frederic & Mary Ann Brussat

As we watch leaves fluttering to the ground in the fall, we are reminded that nature's cycles are mirrored in our lives. Autumn is a time for letting go and releasing things that have been a burden. All the religious traditions pay tribute to such acts of relinquishment. Fall is the right time to practice getting out of the way and letting Spirit take charge of our lives.

In *Kinds of Power* James Hillman, the elder statesman of contemporary depth psychology, challenges us to learn from others about this: "For what the actor tries to achieve on stage is to 'get out of the way' so that the character he or she is portraying can come fully out. So, too, the writer and the painter; they have to get out of the way of the flow of the work onto the paper and the canvas."

Buddhist teacher Sharon Salzberg, another of our Living Spiritual Teachers, writes in *Lovingkindness* about one of the offshoots of letting go: "Generosity has such power because it is characterized by the inner quality of letting go or relinquishing. Being able to let go, to give up, to renounce, to give generously — these capacities spring from the same source within us. When we practice generosity, we open to all of these liberating qualities simultaneously. They carry us to a profound knowing of freedom, and they also are the loving expression of that same state of freedom." Fall, then, is the perfect season to give generously of your time and talents to others.

BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



814-539-9194

www.bethanyjohnstown.com

Offering: 10/12
Attendance: 11
Local 456.50
Benev. 31.60
Improv. 26.90
Total 515.00

Sunday October 19th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Session Meeting

Sunday October 26th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

This Morning we welcome Bob Sheehan as our guest speaker for Morning Worship.

The Flowers & Bulletins Today are given in memory of Aunt Betty Clemenson by the Rager family.

Session will meet today after Morning Worship.

Sign Ups for 2025 Lay Leaders are still being accepted. If you are interested in helping out, please sign up on the back bulletin board.

Orders are still being taken for 2025 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.



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	Tammy & Louie Noss
Beverly Rager	Jim Kuntz
Frank Cassat	Jimmy Stormant
Nancy Kahl	All Shut- Ins
Linda Hayes	All in Nursing Homes
Jessie Rager	All First Responders
Bill & Patty Gramling	All Service Men & Women
Mike & Charlotte Jean	All Healthcare Professionals

To Place Announcements Or Concerns List Names in the bulletin please email bethanyjtown@hotmail.com.

Visit Our Website (www.bethanyjohnstown.com) or follow us on Facebook (Bethany Presbyterian Church- Johnstown, PA) for- the latest news, information and much more!

Donations of non-perishable foods and cleaning products for the West End Food Pantry can be placed in the bins by the Blaine St. entrance. Monetary donations can be placed in the offering plate. Thank you for your support.