

**Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA  
February 2, 2025 4th Sunday after epiphany**

**CALL TO WORSHIP\*\***

L: With powerful words and dramatic gestures, with a quiet conversation and a gentle touch,

**P: we respond to God's call to offer healing and hope to our world.**

L: With courage to face the injustices around us, with the willingness to go into the brokenness,

**P: we fulfill the call of Jesus to engage in faithful obedience.**

L: With the patience of a teacher of six-year-olds, with the gentleness of a nurse helping a patient,

**P: we become the Spirit's refuge for all who live in worry and fear.**

**HYMN "I Am Thine O Lord #358**

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION\*\***

L: Arrogance, envy, harsh words, empty hands, pleasure in doing what we know is wrong – these are what we often use to fill our lives. Let us confess in faith, trusting in the hope that God's love restores us and makes us whole. Please join me, praying,

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

**ALL: Ah, Lord God, we do not know how to speak words of hope, because we listen to the purveyors of fear. We do not know how to be loving because our role models are ridicule and anger. We do not know how to be faithful to you, because at an early age, we learned to trust the promises of all the false prophets who entice us with their simple thoughts.**

**But you know how to forgive, God of kindness, so we pray you would pour out your mercy upon us. May faith abide in us, so we may serve others even as you have served us; may hope abide in us, so we may surround the broken with your compassion and grace; may love abide in us, not only in these moments of brokenness, but in every moment of our life with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who abides in us.**

**SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*\***

L: The good news is that, in our God, we find that safe place for our lives. In God's forgiveness, we are offered the healing we need.

**P: In God's acceptance, we discover the love in which we may abide in every moment of our lives.**

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 with a virtual hug or handshake or wave saying "The peace of Christ be with you")*

**REDEDICATION OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE**

**Offertory**

**Doxology**

**#625**

**Prayer of Dedication**

**LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

|                      |                              |               |
|----------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Old Testament</b> | <b>Jeremiah 1:4-10</b>       | <b>p.647</b>  |
| <b>New Testament</b> | <b>I Corinthians 13:1-13</b> | <b>p.1000</b> |
| <b>Gospel Lesson</b> | <b>Luke 4:21-30</b>          | <b>p.892</b>  |

**MESSAGE Tammy Noss**

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

**HYMN**

**"Love Lifted Me"**

**#505**

**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**

**BENEDICTION/SENDING\*\***

L: God touches our mouths,

**P: so we may go to share the good news.**

L: Jesus touches our hands,

**P: so we may serve all in need of life and hope.**

L: The Spirit touches our hearts,

**P: so we may be a haven for those  
who are longing for acceptance and love.**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

**"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"**

**#286**

**ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger**

*If we knew how to look at life through God's eyes,  
we would see it as innumerable tokens of the Creator  
seeking the love of his creatures.*

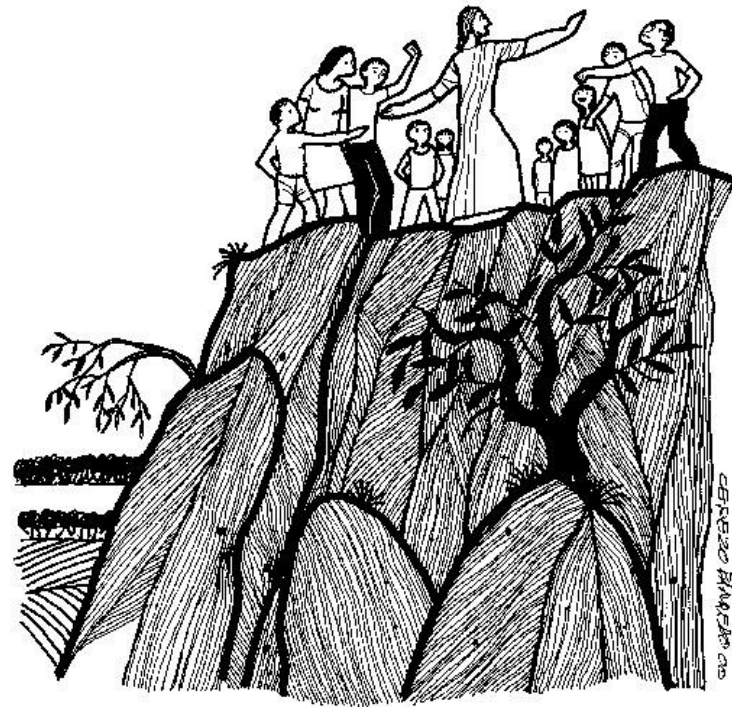
*The Father has put us into the world,  
not to walk through it with lowered eyes,  
but to search for Him through things, events, and people.*

— Michel Quoist

\* \* \* \* \*

*Leonardo da Vinci said that there are three kinds of people:*

*Those who see.  
Those who see when they are shown.  
Those who do not see.*



**Offering: 01/26**  
**Attendance: 18**  
**Local 1332.55**  
**Benev. 92.30**  
**Improv. 78.15**  
**First Fruits 140.00**  
**Initial 10.00**  
**Total 1653.00**

**Sunday February 2nd**  
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday February 9th**  
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.  
**Souper Bowl of Caring**



**Items For The Next Newsletter** are due by Sunday February 16<sup>th</sup>. Please submit all items to Ed Sheets by this date. Feel free to submit your favorite recipes, stories, etc.

**Join Us** next Sunday for the Annual Souper Bowl of Caring. Following the service, a soup and sandwich luncheon will be held. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish to share. A free will offering will be collected to benefit the West End Food Pantry. All are invited to attend.

**We Are Working** on updating our Prayer Chain. The prayer chain helps to lift up those in need of prayers. If you are interested in participating, contact Linda Orlidge.

**The Suggested Per Capita** for 2025 is \$45 per member. Please feel free to contribute more if you are able.

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

**Orders** are 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   | Nancy Thomas                 |
| Jeanne Lehman  | Dave & Karen Vivis           |
| Marie Whorl  | Joshua Holbay Family         |
| Bev Holbay   | Dominic Serratore            |
| Mark Todero  | Loretta Davidson             |
| Carl Newfield  | Irene Barefoot Bischof       |
| Beverly Rager  | Rodney Gramling              |
| Mikey Ferante  | Randy Maurer                 |
| Jill Sheets  | Jim & Iva Jean               |
| Frank Cassat   | Dan Saylor                   |
| Nancy Kahl   | Taylor Short                 |
| Linda Hayes  | Deb Rozich                   |
| Jim Kuntz  | All Shut- Ins                |
| Krista Molnar  | All in Nursing Homes         |
| Bobbie Johnson   | All First Responders         |
| Bruce Cadenhead  | All Service Men & Women      |
|  | All Healthcare Professionals |

**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!

**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.

# STORIES OF REDSTONE

Meet our interim EP!

## Redstone welcomes Lon Weaver



I'm pleased to join you in serving Christ in Redstone Presbytery and beyond! For over two decades, I've ministered in the upper Midwest, serving as Co-Pastor, Parish Associate, instructor in ethics and religion to students in secondary and higher education, and writer in the field of social ethics.

### Experience

1987-1990  
Apollo United Church

1990-2001  
Appleby Manor Church

2001- present  
Glen Avon Church

2012-2024  
Marshall School

Music, conversation, and nature enliven my experience of the Spirit. I look forward to sharing with you the transforming and renewing power of Christ as we discern our paths into the future (Rom. 12).

Peace to you all!  
Lon Weaver,  
Interim Executive Presbyter

Communicate the Word. Carry on the work. Change the world...

## TOGETHER