

Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA
May 11th, 2025 4th Sunday of Easter
Celebrate the Gifts of Women/ Mother's Day

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 29, adapted*)

L: Let us praise the God of glory and of strength.

P: Let us worship the God of grace.

L: For the voice of God goes out across all the earth.

P: And in God's temple all the people say, "Glory!"

HYMN "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" #344

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: Not one of us is perfect. **P: No, not one.**

L: Not one of us is full of grace. **P: No, not one.**

L: Not one of us is spotless. **P: No, not one.**

L: There is no one who knows God's fullness or rests completely in God's grace.

P: Therefore, let us approach God's throne together.

L: Let us confess our sin.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Find in us, we pray, the pockets of resistance and patches of coldness that keep us closed to your movement among us. Root them out and open us that we may be agents of your grace and channels of your love. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: As far as the East is from the West,

P: so far has God removed our sin from us.

L: As near as hands and feet and breath,

P: so near does God stand with us.

L: As close as the Spirit's tether can draw,

P: so close does God bring us together.

L: Friends, believe the Good News

ALL: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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

READING: Isaiah 42: 1-9

p. 622

READING: Acts 9: 36-43

p. 956

READING: John 10: 22-30

p. 934

MESSAGE

Tara Ometz

Litany for Women Who Carry God's Grace Across Boundaries

L: For Rahab's red cord and for all who risk their lives to give refuge to your people, **P: We thank you, O God.**

L: For Ruth's loyalty and Esther's courage, and for all who serve you in foreign lands, **P: We thank you, O God.**

L: For Deborah's leadership and Miriam's dance and for all who break glass ceilings, **P: We thank you, O God.**

L: For Sarah's faithfulness and Jael's fierceness and for all who take things into their own hands, **P: We thank you, O God.**

L: For Hagar and all the unnamed women who survived to do your will in the wilderness, **P: We thank you, O God.**

L: For the Alabaster Jar Woman and for all who flout convention in your name, **P: We thank you, O God.**

L: For Mary Magdalene's heart and for all who linger at the cross, **P: We thank you, O God.**

L: For all the grace-filled women who cross borders and dismantle fences, who face down soldiers and walk picket lines, who like Mary the Mother of Jesus carry your love into the world,

P: We thank you, O God.

HYMN "For the Beauty of the Earth" #560

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

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

L: May God's love and grace anoint you.

P: May God's blessings be poured upon you.

L: Remember God's beautiful ones,

P: who inherit sacred acts of worship.

One: Perform good services, do beautiful things,

L: in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "God Be With You" #602

Service resources from PCUSA

ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger

WORSHIP LEADER: Ray Sheets



*Celebrating The Gifts
of Women*

Offering: 04/27
Attendance: 5
Local 878.00
Benev. 60.50
Improv. 51.50
Total 990.00

Sunday May 11th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Mother's Day

Sunday May 18th
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

The Flowers and Bulletins Today are given by John Griffin in memory of his wife Cindy.

Orders are now being accepted for Pentecost Geraniums. The cost is \$4 each and the deadline for orders is Sunday May 25th. See the order form in your bulletin for more information.

Session will meet on Sunday May 25th after Morning Worship.

Church Directories are available on the back table. Be sure to pick one up today. If you know of someone who needs a copy mailed or emailed to them, let Ed Sheets know.

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 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	Dave & Karen Vivis
Jeanne Lehman	Joshua Holbay Family
Marie Whorl	Dominic Serratore
Bev Holbay	Loretta Davidson
Mark Todero	Irene Barefoot Bischof
Carl Newfield	Rodney Gramling
Beverly Rager	Randy Maurer
Mikey Ferante	Jim Kuntz
Jill Sheets	Taylor Short
Frank Cassat	John Norris
Nancy Kahl	Nancy Gibson
Linda Hayes	All Shut- Ins
Matt Molnar	All in Nursing Homes
Bobbie Johnson	All First Responders
Will Karalfa	All Service Men & Women
Nancy Thomas	All Healthcare Professionals
Barry Ross	

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.

Thank God For Mother's Love
– Anonymous

There is no love, like a mother's love,
no stronger bond on earth...
like the precious bond that comes from God,
to a mother, when she gives birth.
A mother's love is forever strong,
never changing for all time...
and when her children need her most,
a mother's love will shine.
God bless these special mothers,
God bless them every one...
for all the tears and heartache,
and for the special work they've done.
When her days on earth are over,
a mother's love lives on...
through many generations,
with God's blessings on each one.
Be thankful for our mothers,
for they love with a higher love...
from the power God has given,
and the strength from up above.

Pentecost Geraniums

Orders are now being accepted for Pentecost Geraniums. The cost is \$4 each and orders are due by **Sunday May 25th**. Orders and payment can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church. Orders can also be placed using the form on the church website.

NEW: Virtual Geraniums are also available for \$4 each. A perfect option for those out of town or who don't want the real geranium. These will be placed on a special page on the website and proceeds will benefit the church.

NOTE: All regular geranium orders will include a virtual one as well.

Name:

Regular Geraniums (Pick Up On Pentecost Sunday & Virtual)

of Regular Geraniums _____ @ \$4 each = _____

Virtual Geranium (Virtual Only)

of Virtual Geraniums _____ @ \$4 Each = _____

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

Given By: