# Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA Morning Worship June 29, 2025

### **CALL TO WORSHIP \*\***

L: Praise God, all people! Praise the Lord, all creation!

P: whales doing back flips in the air, squid and octopi dancing on the ocean floor; giant redwoods stretching to the sky, tomato vines cuddling around a stake.

L: Mountains blocking the sunrise, moles tunneling through our front lawns; 5-year-olds sitting in a story-time circle, grandparents singing 'their song.'

P: Redbuds decorating our backyard, grass growing faster than our children; seals getting a suntan on the rocks, teenagers knotted together at church.

L: Praise the Lord, all creation!
P: Praise God, all people!

HYMN "How Great Though Art" #4

### **CALL TO RECONCILIATION\*\***

We show others who we are by the lives we lead, the words we speak, the actions we undertake. Let us confess how we have not been God's little children, when we fail to love as we have been loved.

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

Who are we to get in your way, Holy God? We put people into neat, little boxes, but you rip them open, so folks can dance in your joy. We imprison others with our unmet expectations, and you set them free with a Word. We build walls around those we don't know, and you tear them down, so they can run wild in the kingdom.

Who are we to get in your way, Saving Power, especially in the way of your forgiveness offered to all! Give us your vision that sees everyone as equal - forgiven, graced, loved - even as we seek to follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

#### \*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

#### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*\*

L: We know who God is by the love shown to us in Christ Jesus.

P: We will show others who we are - and Whose we are - by the loved poured out by our lives.

#623

L: Friends, Believe the Good News

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen

GLORIA PATRI

## **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\*\*** 

You bless us in so many ways and with so many gifts, Loving God. As we praise you, may we offer our gifts so those who have so little may be fed, clothed, healed, restored, and graced. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

#### LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES

First Lesson	Psalms 77 1-2, 11-20	Pg. 507
<b>Second Lesson</b>	Galations 5:1, 13-25	Pg. 1015
<b>Gospel Lesson</b>	Luke 9:51-62	Pg. 901

**Message Tammy Noss** 

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - THE APOSTLES' CREED

**HYMN "Take Time To Be Holy"** #441

#### 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 "All the Way My Savior Leads Me" #460

## **BENEDICTION/SENDING\*\***

L: Let us go now to praise God with our hearts.

P: To see the imagination of God in every moment of creation, in every person we meet in the days to come.

L: Let us go now to praise Jesus with our lives.

P: To bring justice to those who are oppressed, to bring hope to those who live in despair and worry.

L: Let us go now to praise the Spirit with our lips.

P: To speak peace into all the broken places of our communities, to whisper grace to all those forgotten by the world.

Congregational Response
"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

#286

\*\* © Rev. Thom Shuman

**Organists: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger** 

**Worship Leader: Ray Sheets** 

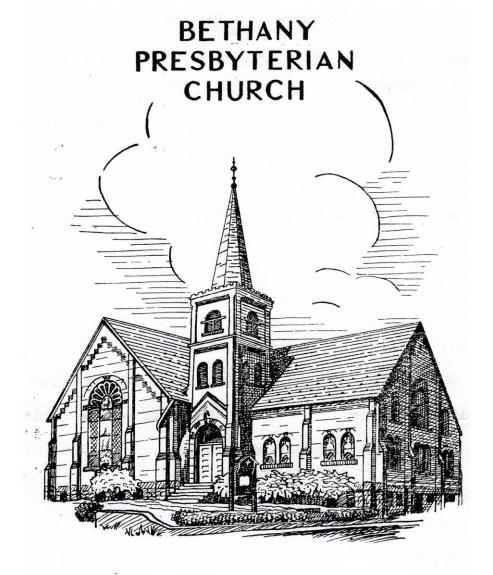
Do not save your loving speeches For your friends till they are dead; Do not write them on their tombstones, Speak them rather now instead.

.....Anna Cummins

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

We can risk loving as passionately as God loves. For we know that the love God makes possible is no scarce resource that must be hoarded so that it can be distributed in dribs and drabs—a little here and a little there.

Love is not a rare commodity; rather, the more we love with the intense particularity of God's love, the more we discover that we have the capacity to love. ................................Stanley Hauerwas



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www.bethanyjohnstown.com

Offering: 06/22	Sunday June 29th	
Attendance: 10	Morning Worship 10:30 a.m	
Local 204.00		
Benev. 14.00	Sunday July 6th	
Improv. <u>12.00</u>	Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.	
Total 230.00		

**Items For The Newsletter** are due today. This edition will cover the summer months. Feel free to share stories, recipes, news, graduation announcements, etc. Please submit all items to Ed Sheets.

**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	Bobbie Johnson	
Jeanne Lehman	Nancy Thomas	
Marie Whorl	Barry Ross	
Bev Holbay	Dave & Karen Vivis	
Mark Todero	Joshua Holbay Family	
Carl Newfield	Dominic Serratore	
Beverly Rager	Irene Barefoot Bischof	
Mikey Ferante	Tammy & Louie Noss	
Jill Sheets	All Shut- Ins	
Frank Cassat	All in Nursing Homes	
Nancy Kahl	All First Responders	
Linda Hayes	All Service Men & Women	
Matt Molnar	All Healthcare Professionals	
Joyce Norris		

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

**Visit Our Website** (<a href="www.bethanyjohnstown.com">www.bethanyjohnstown.com</a>) 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.