



# *“Adventures in Faith: I. Called and Sent”*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025  
10:45AM

[WWW.BETHANYPRESBY.ORG/SERMONS](http://WWW.BETHANYPRESBY.ORG/SERMONS)

To trust in Jesus  
To love like Jesus  
To grow in Jesus  
To bring others to Jesus

# WORSHIP THE LORD

## WE GATHER

### PRELUDE

#### "Praising the Almighty"

by Edward Broughton; cpr 2005 Lorenz Publishing

### WELCOME

**Pastor Brian Janssen**

### CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

**Ruth Doyle**

#### **Introit: "Sing Praise to the Mighty God"**

by J.S. Bach; arr. Hopson; cpr 2002 Choristers Guild; Bethany Choir

### OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)*

**Ruth Doyle**

### HYMN *(Please Stand)*

#### **"Earth and All Stars"**

**No. 642**

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**1** Earth and all stars, loud rushing planets, sing to the Lord a new song! Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snowstorms, sing to the Lord a new song! [Refrain]

**Refrain:** God has done marvelous things. We will sing praises with a new song!

**2** Trumpet and pipes, loud clashing cymbals, sing to the Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre, loud humming cellos, sing to the Lord a new song! [Refrain]

**3** Steel and machines, loud pounding hammers sing to the Lord a new song! Lime-stone and beams, loud building workers sing to the Lord a new song! [Refrain]

**4** Knowledge and truth, loud sounding wisdom, sing to the Lord a new song! Daughter and son, loud praying members, sing to the Lord a new song! [Refrain]

### CALL TO CONFESSION

**Ruth Doyle**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Ruth Doyle**

**You call us to become pilgrims, to follow you in a journey of faith. We would find it easier to follow when not so much is at stake. But you promise that you will be with us and that our needs will be met. We cling to our possessions, trusting in them for security. You lead us into unfamiliar places, asking that we trust in your will. O God, your way is challenging when we choose to be complacent. You make great demands; we are anxious and uncertain. Have mercy upon us and forgive our hesitant steps toward the promise. *Silent Confession***

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**Ruth Doyle**

**"For the sake of the joy that was set before him Jesus endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God." Our faith**

depends on him from start to finish, and he unceasingly intercedes on our behalf. In Jesus name we are forgiven. **Praise God! Amen.**

**RESPONSE** (*Please Stand*)

**“Gloria Patri”**

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Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**Ruth Doyle**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ. Let us be at peace with one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all...**and also with you.**

The kids can come forward for the Children’s Sermon as you all take a moment to share the peace of Christ with those around you.

**WE LISTEN**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON** (10:45)

**Debby Hayes**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**Ruth Doyle**

**FIRST READING**

**Hebrews 11:8-10**

**Ruth Doyle**

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

**SECOND READING**

**Genesis 12:1-9**

**Pastor Brian Janssen**

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. Abram took his wife Sarai and his brother’s son Lot and all the possessions that they had gathered and the persons whom they had acquired in Haran, and they set forth to go to the land of Canaan. When they had come to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the Lord, who had appeared to him. From there he moved on to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east, and there he built an altar to the Lord and invoked the name of the Lord. And Abram journeyed on by stages toward the Negeb.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

**“Adventures in Faith: I.”  
Called and Sent**

**Pastor Brian Janssen**

## WE RESPOND

### APOSTLES' CREED (*Please Stand*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell, the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### COMMISSIONING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS (BOTH SERVICES)

### THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### THE OFFERTORY "There's Something About That Name"

Vocalists: Jacquelyn Nixon and Bethany Choir

by William J. Gaither; cpr 1970 William J. Gaither, Inc

### THE RESPONSE (*Please Stand*)

### "Doxology"

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Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.

### THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*Please Stand*)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PASTORAL PRAYER

## COMMUNION

### THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: Holy God, we praise You. Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad. We bless You for creating the whole world, for Your promises to Your people Israel, and for Jesus Christ in whom Your fulness dwells. Born of Mary, He shares our life.

**People: Eating with sinners, He welcomes us.**

Leader: Guiding His children, He leads us.

**People: Visiting the sick, He heals us.**

Leader: Dying on the cross, He saves us.

**People: Risen from the dead, He gives new life.**

Leader: Therefore, we praise You, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of Your name.

**SANCTUS**      *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.*

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. Our father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

## **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS** - People may now come forward.

Communion servers will serve from the front of the church and each row will be invited to come forward to receive the bread and cup. For those who are unable to come forward, communion will be still be offered to you at your seat after the standing participants are done.

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

### **WE ARE SENT**

**HYMN** (*Please Stand*)

**"Be Thou My Vision"**

**No. 502**

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1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; Naught be all else to me save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought by day and by night; Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word; I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

3 High King of Heaven, my victory won, May I reach Heaven's joys,  
O bright Heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

## **BENEDICTION**

**Pastor Brian Janssen**

## **CLOSING RESPONSE**

**"Go With Us, Lord"**

by Cathey and Tallis; cpr 1990 Hope Publishing; Bethany Choir

## **POSTLUDE**

## **WELCOME TO BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**We are delighted to have you in worship with us this morning!**

**FOR OUR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN - A Nursery Room** is across the hall from the pulpit side of the Sanctuary. It is equipped with a speaker system from the sanctuary so any parent(s) who wishes to stay with their child(ren) in the nursery can hear the worship service. **A Cry Room** is at the rear of the Sanctuary – entry is through a door in the Narthex near the usher's table. *We encourage you to use these rooms as needed.* **Worship Bags** are available for children to use during the worship service. The bags can be found at the Usher's Desk. **Sound amplification devices** are available to those who might need or want to use them. Our ushers are available to help with any needs that you have during worship.

## **NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST**

The flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Elaine Gray and family in memory of William T. Gray for his birthday.

## **PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS**

Thank you to our Bethany Choir for joining us in worship today to start off our fall season! We looked forward to your return and appreciate the way your gifts richly enhance our worship! Welcome back and thank you!

At the start of this season, join us in welcoming our new Core Choir Member and Music Associate, Mr. Caleb Auldrige. You may have seen Caleb at several of our Bloom sessions and services this summer, and starting today he will be with us for Sunday worship, Bloom, and other exciting, new music ministry opportunities, so you will see him other times through the week, as well. We welcome him and celebrate the blessing he brings to Bethany in sharing his talents with us in music ministry. See the newsletter to read more about Caleb and watch for announcements about new ministry opportunities this season!

**Time to Sing!** - Have you thought about joining the Bethany Choir? Maybe this is the year for you! We would love to welcome you to the choir. Bethany Choir resumes rehearsals at 7 PM on Wednesdays. No experience is necessary and no auditions are required! Childcare will be available, if needed. Please let Nadina know if you'd like to join us! [music@bethanypresby.org](mailto:music@bethanypresby.org)

**SECRET SISTER LUNCHEON – Sunday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at noon.** If you are part of the 2025 Secret Sister program, you are invited to join us for a casual luncheon gathering. This is not a reveal luncheon, just a time to meet each other, and gather for some fellowship. The Reveal Luncheon will be in December.

**NOTE:** If you are able to attend the Secret Sister Pot Luck Luncheon on September 21<sup>st</sup> after the 10:45am service, please contact Pat Mishizen 412-417-3541 or Judy Davidson 412-343-7530 and tell us whether you'll be bringing an appetizer or dessert. There will be sliders, soup, and beverages. Hope to see you there!

**BLOOM AND BETHANY CAFE** join hands and hearts again this month with a special dinner and worship service combo! Please join us on Thursday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> for a community dinner at 6pm followed by a Modern Worship service for families. We look forward to sharing in fellowship and praise with you! Please sign up using the QR code on the fliers!

**Notice:** Adult Hand Chimes resume this week! We had so much fun ringing in the Spring and Summer and look forward to practicing our Fall repertoire. There's room for more hands to ring- if you're interested please meet us in the back of the choir room on Wednesdays at 12:30 and/or see or message Nadina for more info- [music@bethanypresby.org](mailto:music@bethanypresby.org)



**WORSHIP AND WONDER** starts Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:45am! Children will leave with Miss Debby after the Children's Sermon. All kids from ages 3-2<sup>nd</sup> grade are invited! Teen helpers are to see Miss Debby and she can be reached at 412-266-0982.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> FOR ALL AGES!** – Sunday School is starting again and here is a lineup of all the classes for all ages and their teachers:

1. **Adults** - A Study of Second Corinthians - led by Sharon Salvini and Devin Underwood. Located in the front half of fellowship hall, nearest the stairwell.
2. **Adults** - A Study of The New Testament – led by Doug Bovard. Located in the Bethany Room
3. **Adults** - A Study of First & Second Corinthians – led by Mark Rackley. Located in the Chapel.
4. **Women** – A Jesus Shaped Life by Lisa Harper - A Book & Video Study – led by Becky Yanak. Explores the depths of God's character, His love for us, and how our relationship with Him changes through Biblically sound theology. Located in room 224
5. **Senior High** – Are you a teen, or know a teen, that is living in a world of anxiety, fear, self-doubt, and not feeling like you are enough? Join us as we explore the book Live Fearless: A Call to Power, Passion, and Purpose by Sadie Robertson. Led by Pam Petrow. Located in the Youth Lounge
6. **For Children:** a. Bible Stories & Fun – Babies through age 2 in the Nursery  
b. Bible Stories & Fun – Ages 3-5 in room 245  
c. Bible in Life by David C Cook – Elementary & Middle School in rooms 239 and 240



**PRESCHOOL BIKE DONATIONS** - The preschool is currently in need of [training wheel bikes in good condition!](#) The Church is open from 9-2 during the week so feel free to drop them off!

**BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS** - There will be a Blessing of the Backpacks for all returning students for the new year on September 14<sup>th</sup> at the 10:45am second service. We want to pray over their new school year and pray for a blessing over their lives this year.

## UKULELE FOR ALL AGES!

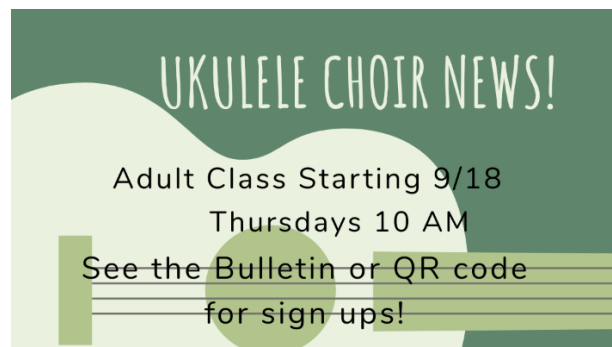
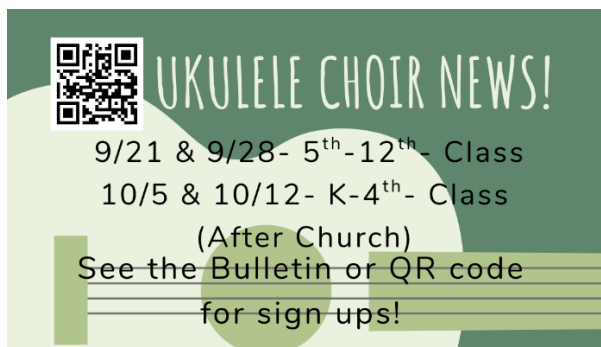
Nadina is offering Ukulele lessons for all ages! Sign up below! The QR Code takes you straight to Nadina's email. The QR Code works for all ages!

**Lesson age breakdown as follows:**

September 21<sup>st</sup> & September 28<sup>th</sup> - **5th-12th- Class** (After Church)

October 5<sup>th</sup> & October 12<sup>th</sup> - **K-4th- Class** (After Church)

**Adult Class** starting September 18<sup>th</sup> and will continue on Thursdays at 10:00am.



**BACK TO SCHOOL BASH** - Come kick off the Fall with us on Sunday, September 7th from morning till night! Our service times for church are 8:15 and 10:45am with Sunday School beginning again with Worship and Wonder. Then we have the **BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!** All students from Preschool - 12th grade and their parents are invited! T-shirt making, a balloon artist, Hot dogs and Mac and Cheese and water games and much more! Plus it's a perfect time to check out our NEWLY RENOVATED Children's Wing! Come hang with us from 5-7pm and it will be a fun event for the whole family. We can't wait to see you!



## MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### CHURCH FINANCES AS OF AUGUST 31, 2025

*Thank you for your continued support.*

	2025 YTD (\$)	2024 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 348,719	\$ 353,633	\$ (4,914)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	246,787	230,750	16,037
Investment Income **	9,952	31,405	(21,453)
Total General Fund Income	\$ 605,457	\$ 615,788	\$(10,331)
Year to Date Budget	627,371		
+/- Budget	\$ (21,914)		

\*For purposes of this report, any prepaid pledges have been spread over 52 weeks.

\*\* Investment income is updated monthly upon receipt of investment statements.

*A friendly reminder from the Stewardship team, please write the amount of your giving on the outside of the envelope when turning in your offering. This helps make the job of those counting much easier.*



QR Code  
for online  
giving

*We are embarking on an exciting new chapter for Bethany's education wing! This is both an opportunity and a responsibility: to create a welcoming and inspiring environment for our children, teens, and families to learn, grow and thrive in their faith journey. Renovations include new carpeting, paint, furniture, sign-in station and decorations. If you feel called, we are asking for your heartfelt donations to help us support this important work. All gifts, great or small, are appreciated and will be used faithfully for this specific project. To donate, please contact the church office or you can make a note on your check/donation identifying it as Education Wing Renovation Donation. We thank every donor for their ongoing support and faith. With your help, our education wing will continue to be a light for learning and love in our church and our community for years to come.*

#### **SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING - Children / Youth Ministry Revitalization Program**

The special offering envelope for September supports the renovation of the Children and Youth ministry classrooms and programs revitalization.

Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either by selecting "Elementary Programs" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for Children / Youth Revitalization Programs on your check or a pew envelope.

Thank you for your contribution to the programs for the children and youth of Bethany and our community.



**Don't forget to sign up for Preschool for the upcoming school year! We are so excited for the new year to start!**

## **SPOTS ARE STILL OPEN!**

### **WEEK AHEAD**

**Sunday, September 7**  
**COMMUNION**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS**  
 8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship  
 Back To School Bash – 5:00PM

**Monday, September 8**  
 Preschool  
 6:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout  
 6:30PM - Men's Huddle Group

**Tuesday, September 9**  
 6:45PM - Session Team Meetings  
 7:00PM – ALANON

**Wednesday, September 10**  
 10:00AM - Preschool Orientation  
 11:30AM – Knitters  
 12:30PM – Hand Chimes

6:30PM - Troop 2 Scouts  
 7:00PM - Choir Practice

**Thursday, September 11**  
 9:00AM – Quilters  
 9:00AM – Morning MomCo.  
 12:00PM – Rotary  
 6:00PM – Evening MomCo.  
 6:30PM – Bloom  
 7:00PM - Dart Ball  
 7:30PM - AA

**Friday, September 12**  
 Preschool

**Saturday, September 13**  
 11:00AM - Knitters

**Sunday, September 14**  
 8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship  
 5:00PM - BYG Group Night