



# *“Gathered in this Place”*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 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

### "O Worship the King"

with Frederic Chopin's Etude Opus 10, No 12; attr. Johann Michael Haydn; arr. Gail Smith; cpr 2003 Pilot Point Music

### WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

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

Pastor Larry Ruby

The Lord is our Shepherd, gathering the scattered and binding up the wounded.  
**God restores the flock and raises up a righteous Shepherd to lead us in justice.**  
Christ Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the One in whom all things hold together.  
**In Him we are strengthened with all power and brought into the kingdom of light.**  
Come, let us worship the God who reigns in truth, mercy, and peace.  
**With grateful hearts, we praise the Shepherd and King of all creation.**  
Let us worship God!

### OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Larry Ruby

### HYMN *(Please Stand)*

### "Rise Up, Oh Saints Of God!"

No. 590

- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn; Christ rose triumphant that your hearts with nobler zeal might burn.
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! Despair engulfs earth's frame; as heirs of God's baptismal grace, the word of hope proclaim.
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! His kingdom's task embrace; redress sin's cruel consequence; give justice larger place.
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain; stretch forth your hand of healing now, with love the weak sustain.

### CALL TO CONFESSION *(Please be seated)*

Pastor Larry Ruby

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Larry Ruby

Merciful God, We confess that we have strayed from Your paths and wandered after our own ways. We have failed to seek Your justice, to reflect Your compassion, and to bear witness to the reconciling peace of Christ. Forgive us, Shepherd of our souls. Gather us in Your mercy, restore us in Your grace, and renew us by the power of Your Spirit, that we may walk in the light of Your kingdom and live as Your redeemed people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

*Silent Confession*

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Pastor Larry Ruby**

Hear the good news: God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. In Jesus Christ, 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**

**Pastor Larry Ruby**

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**

**Debby Hayes**

## **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**Pastor Larry Ruby**

## **FIRST READING**

**Colossians 1:11-20**

**Pastor Larry Ruby**

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

## **ANTHEM**

### **"Ode to Joy"**

by Ludwig van Beethoven

**Bethany Ukulele Choir**

## **SECOND READING**

**Jeremiah 23:1-6**

**Pastor Brian Janssen**

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands

where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

**"Gathered in this Place"**

**Pastor Brian Janssen**

## **WE RESPOND**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: BAPTISM**

**Confession of 1967 9.51**

**By humble submission to John's baptism, Christ joined himself to men in their need and entered upon his ministry of reconciliation in the power of the Spirit. Christian baptism marks the receiving of the same Spirit by all his people. Baptism with water represents not only cleansing from sin, but a dying with Christ and a joyful rising with him to new life. It commits all Christians to die each day to sin and to live for righteousness...Amen.**

## **THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

## **THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

### **THE OFFERTORY**

**"Wondrous Things"**

**Bethany Choir**

by McCracken, Heller, and Clairmont; cpr 2023 Butter Lid Publishing

### **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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

We pray this in the name of our Savior, who taught us to pray, saying... 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.

## WE ARE SENT

**HYMN** (*Please Stand*)

**"How Can I Keep From Singing?"**

**No. 424**

**1** My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation. I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

**Refrain:** No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

**2** Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]

**3** What though my joys and comforts die? The Lord my Savior liveth. What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth. [Refrain]

**4** The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing! All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing? [Refrain]

**BENEDICTION**

**Pastor Brian Janssen**

**CLOSING RESPONSE** "May the Road Rise to Meet You"

**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.

**WORSHIP AND WONDER** is during our 10:45am service! 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.

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

Today's ushers are Deb Perkins, Pat Mishizen, Carol Cowser and Connie Segeleon.

Today we are celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism for Jazz William Jarvis who was born on May 7, 2025. Jazz is the son of Breanna and Jason Jarvis.

What a joy it is to be called a child of God!

The flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Barbara Mours in honor of her grandchildren.

Special thanks to our Adult Ukulele Choir for sharing their gifts of music with us in worship today! We appreciate your dedication to our music ministry and how it enhances our worship.

## **PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS**

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** - Today we will hold our 2025 Annual Congregational meeting following the 10:45AM service. All baptized and confirmed members of the church should plan on attending. We will hear the report of the Nominating Team and approve the 2026 Terms of Call for our Senior Pastor the Reverend Dr. Brian Janssen. The following people have been nominated to serve as Ruling Elders for the class of 2028: Doug Bovard, Joseph Findley, Barbara Mours, and Gary Phillips. The following people have been nominated to serve as Deacons for the class of 2026: Laurie Sysak; for the the class of 2027: Dave Colton, Laura Dugan, Debby Hayes, and Pat Mishizen; for the class of 2028: Carol Cowser, Rebecca Findley, Jana Grimm, Robert Grimm, Sara Sunderlin, and Michael Venum. The following people have been nominated for Auditor for the class of 2028: Mark Rackley, and Michael Suchoza. The following people have been nominated to serve as at-large members of the Nominating Team: Lynne Suchoza, Tom Willhite, and Claudia Ziegler.

## HOLY COW LISTENING SESSIONS

We will be hosting listening sessions for the Holy Cow Survey for the congregation. Sign up for a time on the [sign up sheet in the Welcome Center](#) or visit the link to sign up for a time that works best for you! The times available are:

--Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm      --Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> 10am and 1:30pm

--Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup> after Worship

*\*Potential Zoom Session Monday, December 8, 6:30pm*

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScqDdk7y-A1fOO9gjSgG7zZZmdOR7-Qf8Vcd8Rx6MX6GSIfQ/viewform?usp=header>



**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD** - The Mission Team would like to thank everyone who participated in the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox collection. Your great effort provided 80 boxes this year. The boxes have been delivered to our collection site and will be shipped to local churches around the world to help children learn about Jesus, God's Greatest Gift.

**BRIDGEVILLE AREA FOOD BANK ANGEL TREE** – The Food Bank is asking for gifts (approximately \$20) for the children of the families that are assisted by our Food Bank. Should you desire to take an angel, sign-ups will be in the Welcome Center by the Tree so please **sign the list beside the number on your angel** (so that we will know who has committed), and RETURN the UNWRAPPED gift by Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> **with the angel attached to the gift.** Thank you and Blessings!

**BETHANY DEACONS BACKPACK DRIVE** - The Bethany Deacons are hosting another backpack drive to gift to the Southwood Boy's home. These bags will be gifted to every new admission throughout the 2026 year. **You can donate until Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>!** We are asking for \$20 per backpack. You will be supporting the purchasing of the backpack and the essential items we provided them with: socks, towels, toothbrush, shampoo and more! All items are purchased and put together by the Deacons. Cash or checks with **"backpack"** in the memo are accepted. Please put cash in a labeled envelope and place in the offering plate, or give to Sarah Paviol or Edgar Shafer.

## BETHANY YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY Sunday November 23<sup>rd</sup> we will meet in the kitchen after church to bake a variety of treats to then deliver to the residents of Bridgeville Towers! Stay tuned for information on our December Events! We have some awesome things coming up!

**BETHANY NATIVITY "LIGHT UP" NIGHT** – On Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:30, BLOOM will hold a **"LIGHT UP"** Night at the Bethany Nativity located on the front lawn of the church. Dave Colton and Laura Dugan spent several hours with the Thursday evening Bloom musicians and singers cleaning and painting areas of the Nativity figures



that were in need of some “brightening and freshening” and they also painted the roof and sides of the manger. All thought it would be a great idea to have a “Light Up” Night dedication ceremony to show-off the revitalized Nativity. Please join us for some spiritual words and caroling at the nativity with our Bloom musicians and singers. We also invite you to bring your favorite Christmas Cookies or Dessert for some socializing and additional music after the caroling.

**SECRET SISTER REVEAL LUNCHEON** – Join us for **The Reveal Luncheon FOR THE 2025 SECRET SISTERS** on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm in Fellowship Hall to see who your Secret Sister has been this whole year! Contact Pat Mishizen 412-417-3541 or Judy Davidson 412-343-7530 for any questions. Appetizers and desserts will be provided. We can’t wait to see you there!

## CHURCH FINANCES AS OF NOVEMBER 16, 2025

*Thank you for your continued support.*

	2025 YTD (\$)	2024 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 466,280	\$ 460,440	\$ 5,840
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	309,390	299,500	9,890
Investment Income **	13,609	35,097	(21,489)
Total General Fund Income	\$ 789,279	\$ 795,038	\$ (5,758)
Year to Date Budget	828,920		
+/- Budget	\$ (39,641)		

\*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

## WEEK AHEAD

**Sunday, November 23**

**11:45AM - Congregational Meeting**

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship

9:30AM - Sunday School

12:00PM – BYG Baking Bridgeville  
Towers

**Monday, November 24**

6:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout

6:30PM - Men’s Huddle Group

**Tuesday, November 25**

7:00PM – ALANON

**Wednesday, November 26**

11:30AM – Knitters

**Thursday, November 27**

Thanksgiving Office Closed

**Friday, November 28**

Office Closed

**Saturday, November 29**

**Sunday, November 30**

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent**

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship

9:30AM - Sunday School

Youth and Adult Ukulele Practice after  
the second service