



“Lent in a Secular Age: IV. Sewing Your Losses”

10:45AM
SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024

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 "Dawn to Dusk" by Leslie Jordan, David Leonard
and Stuart Garrard: **Guitar: Brian Hayes**

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WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

EXTINGUISHING OF THE WREATH

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Please Stand*)

Pastor Ellen Dawson

Happy are those whose sin is forgiven, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to the God of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go, as you trust in the Lord.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous;

shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN (*Please Stand*)

"Let All Things Now Living"

No. 22

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1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the Creator triumphantly raise, who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who guides us and leads to the end of our days. His banners are o'er us, his light guides before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night, till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

2 His law he enforces; the stars in their courses and sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean proclaim him divine. We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise, till all things now living unite in thanksgiving; to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, our Rock and Redeemer, hear our confession. We worship idols of our own making; when temptation overtakes us, we submit to its charm. We find it easier to grumble at hardships than to praise you for mercies we receive day by day. We test you in every way. Yet you promise that you will not test us beyond our endurance. Forgive us when we take advantage of your loving nature and restore us to communion with you. *Silent Prayer of Confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Ellen Dawson

Psalm 139 reminds us that the Lord knows our hearts. This is a reminder and an assurance, that even though we sin, God still loves us the same.

In and through Jesus Christ, we are loved, we are forgiven, and we are redeemed. Thanks be to 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

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 Ellen Dawson

FIRST READING

Joshua 5:9-12

Pastor Ellen Dawson

The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal, they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and roasted grain. The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

SECOND READING

Luke 15:1-10

Pastor Brian Janssen

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable: “Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my lost sheep.’ Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have

found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Lent in a Secular Age: IV.Sewing Your Losses" Pastor Brian Janssen

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY "Beautiful Things" Words & Music by Michael Gungor and Lisa Gungor; Led by Rev. Ellen Dawson, Connie Segeleon, Nadina Robusto with Bethany Choir; guitar: Brian Hayes

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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 LORD'S PRAYER

WE ARE SENT

HYMN (*Please Stand*) **"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"**

No. 440

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1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care; in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.

2 We are thine, do thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way; keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray.

3 Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be; thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to thee; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to thee.

4 Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will; blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

BENEDICTION *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Brian Janssen

POSTLUDE

WELCOME TO BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are delighted to have you in worship with us today!

FOR OUR FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN - A Nursery Room, under the guidance of Nursery Director, Melina Robinson, 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 in the sanctuary this morning are presented by

Ruth Volk in memory of her husband, Chris Volk.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

ACTIVITIES DURING LENT

During the season of Lent, we have organized the weeks according to the "7 Acts of Mercy," a list of actions Jesus gave as a directive to his disciples in Matthew 25 (and other places in Scripture). They are based on Jesus' teachings when he speaks of the judgment of the nations and are focused on the physical needs of others.

Week 5 March 11th - 17th CLOTHE THE NAKED *Matthew 25:36*

This week, go through your closet and donate some clothes to the Washington City Mission Thrift Stores! They accept donations from 9am-4pm, or you can drop them in one of their donation bins. For more information and locations, go to www.citymission.org

Week 6 – March 18th- 24th VISIT THE IMPRISONED *Matthew 25:36*

This week, consider how you can support the Foundation of HOPE program at the Allegheny County Jail (www.foundationofhope.org). Pray for them or one of the many national programs that minister to children and families of people who have been incarcerated.

CREATION VBS – 3/21 at 10AM - Rome wasn't built in a day and neither is Bethany's VBS! It's time to get the crafters together and start making some awesome decor for SCUBA - this year's Vacation Bible School theme!

Join Celina and Meagan as they host Creation VBS every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 10- 12PM in The Youth Lounge. This invitation is open, anyone can come when their schedule has an opening. No experience is necessary, just a willingness to help, ability to use a stapler, scissors and a hot glue gun. We hope to see you there!

BYG: UPCOMING EVENTS FOR BETHANY YOUTH GROUP. All 6th - 12th graders are invited to join us every Sunday! Mark your calendars for these events!

Sunday March 10th, 5:00pm-6:30pm BYG Group Night in the Youth Lounge! This weeks' Group Night we will be doing some interactive prayer stations. Some stations include painting, walking through a prayer labyrinth, and even breaking some plates - come check it out! For dinner, a BYG favorite, Mac & Cheese!

Sunday March 17th, 5:00pm-6:30pm All-The-Days Party! Dress up as your favorite holiday, and bring your favorite holiday dish - we are celebrating ALL of the holidays!! Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving, St. Patrick's Day, and even random National Holidays - join us for our All-the- Days party!

Sunday March 24th, 5:00pm-6:30pm, BYG Group Night in the Youth Lounge - this week is Easter themed! We will have an Easter Egg Hunt (with a youth group twist of course), and talk all about Easter! Come join us for a great way to kick off Holy Week and get ready for Easter.

Sunday March 31st - Easter! BYG will NOT be meeting on Easter.

Save the Date for Mini Golf on Sunday April 14th!

Students & Parents, if you haven't already, you can join our Remind for text updates about BYG! Text the message @byg2024 to the phone number 81010 - If you have any issues just contact Abbie.

BLOOD DRIVE – Sunday, March 24. The Deacons will be hosting Vitalant again for a Blood Drive on Palm Sunday, 3/24. Please consider donating. The need is urgent. Appointments can be made on Vitalant's website- vitalant.org.

MEN'S RETREAT at Oglebay, May 3-4. Contact Alec Heiskell for additional information.

VBS - Go on an undersea adventure with us to "SCUBA VBS - Diving Into Friendship with God"! For children age 4 through entering 5th grade. June 17-21 from 9am - noon. Youth & adult volunteers are needed! Please contact Celina Farabaugh, if you have any questions or to sign up as a volunteer, at cfarabaugh19@gmail.com or 724-554-6370.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 22, 2024 --The Annual Bethany Church Golf Outing at Ft. Cherry Golf Club. (The Saturday after Father's Day.)

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

HELP WANTED - Regular Greeters at the Front Door of the church (Washington Ave. side). We are looking for people who can help for 15-20 minutes before church to welcome people as they come in. It's a great way to be involved without a large time commitment. Email membership@bethanypresby.org if you can help or for more information.

DONATIONS FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL items have been set up in The Welcome Center. The items we are collecting will be used to create decorations. If you happen to have any of the following items at home that you're not using, feel free to donate them. Please note; unless specifically discussed with Celina or Meagan donated items will not be returned.

- Cardboard Rolls from: Paper Towels, toilet paper, vinyl, aluminum foil, cling wrap, wrapping paper, etc.
- Clean Pool Noodles
- Cupcake liners - any size
- sea shells, sand dollars, coral
- Crepe Paper Streamers in shades of green
- Small to Medium shallow sized boxes
- Underwater trinkets/ scuba or snorkeling gear

SARRIS CANDY –The Sarris Candy sales proceeds for March are going to the Neighborhood Academy.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A listing of our Sunday School Classes can be found on the screens in the Welcome Center.

WORSHIP AND WONDER – Children 4 years old through 2nd grade are welcome to follow the Worship and Wonder Teachers to the classroom (rm 234) after the Children’s sermon each week during our 10:45AM service. All helpers need to be in 6th grade and above. Helpers also need to pre-register by calling Debby Hayes at 412-266-0982.

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF MARCH 3, 2024:

	2024 YTD (\$)	2023 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 87,536	102,388	\$ (14,852)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	61,875	43,126	18,749
Investment Income **	(1,498)	4,451	(5,949)
Total General Fund Income	\$ 147,913	\$149,965	\$ (2,051)
Year to Date Budget	158,850		
+/- Budget	\$ (10,937)		

*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.*

MARCH SPECIAL OFFERING - One Great Hour of Sharing

The special offering envelope for March supports the PC(USA) One Great Hour of Sharing Collection. A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God’s love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those

affected by natural disasters, providing food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either by selecting "One Great Hour of Sharing" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for One Great Hour of Sharing on your check or a pew envelope. Thank you for your contribution to One Great Hour of Sharing!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, Mar 10

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS

8:15AM and 10:45AM– Worship

9:30AM – Sunday School

12:00PM- Confirmation Class

5:00PM – BYG

6:00PM- MOPS Steering Committee

Monday, Mar 11

5:45PM – College/YA Outreach Meeting

6:30PM – Body Carpenter Workout

6:45PM – Session Team Meetings

Tuesday, Mar 12

6:30PM – Men's Huddle

7:00PM – Grief Class Book Study
7:00PM – Coed Dart Ball
7:00PM - ALANON

Wednesday, Mar 13

11:30AM – Knitters
7:00PM – Choir
7:00PM - Scouts

Thursday, Mar 14

9:00AM – Quilters
9:00AM – Morning MOPS
12:00PM – Rotary
6:30PM – Bloom Service
7:00PM – Evening MOPS
7:00PM – Dart Ball
7:30PM - AA

Friday, Mar 15

Saturday, Mar 16

Food Bank

Sunday, Mar 17

8:15AM and 10:45AM– Worship
9:30AM – Sunday School
12:00PM- Confirmation Class
5:00PM – BYG