



“Tell the Disciples... and Peter”

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2026
10:45AM

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

"Choral Prelude on "York"

by Douglas E. Wager; cpr 2013 Lorenz Publishing

WELCOME

Pastor Larry Ruby

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Judy Davidson

Come, sisters and brothers, gather together.

From all the bruises of a busy week, gather.

Plunge your sorrow and worry into the fountain of life.

Here, find comfort and hope.

Place your dreams and concerns on the table of blessing.

Here, find courage and renewal.

Give your questions and doubts to the heart of God.

Here, find a peace that lightens the load and restores the faith.

Come all of you in this place;

Become a family of love, a community of song, a people of prayer.

OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)*

Judy Davidson

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Christ Is Alive"

No. 312

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1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2 Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

3 In every insult, rift and war, where color, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Judy Davidson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Judy Davidson

Creating God, you bless us with life in each new day; you fill our days with sunshine and joy. Yet we confess that we are more often inclined to notice the clouds and the disappointments. We let the gray skies move inside our souls and block out the rays of your grace. We let rain dampen our spirits and spoil your parade of blessings. We give in to external circumstances and blot out the inner radiance of your love that forever seeks to warm and cheer us.

Redeeming God, open our eyes to see your beauty in all things. Open our hearts to feel your affirmation and acceptance. Open our ears to hear your words

of forgiveness and to hear you calling our names. Deepen our trust in your will and way and let us always feel the sunshine of your grace. Amen.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Judy Davidson

Even in our moments of doubt, our lack of faith, and the blindness which means we fail to see God amongst us, God is still at work. God is still healing. God is still forgiving. Even when we fail to see God, God still sees us and still loves us. Sisters and brothers, our sins are forgiven.

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

Judy Davidson

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

Judy Davidson

FIRST READING

Mark 16:1-7

Judy Davidson

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus’ body. Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?”

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

“Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. But go; tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

SECOND READING

John 21:15-17

Pastor Larry Ruby

When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?” “Yes, Lord,” he said, “you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my lambs.”

Again, Jesus said, “Simon son of John, do you truly love me?” He answered, “Yes, Lord, you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Take care of my sheep.”

The third time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, “Do you love me?” He said, “Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you.” Jesus said, “Feed my sheep.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Tell the Disciples... and Peter”

Pastor Larry Ruby

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the love of God, who is the source of all life and whose power raised Jesus from the dead.

We believe in the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who for our sake shared human life and human death, even death on a cross.

We believe in the community of the Holy Spirit, who works without ceasing to unite believers of every time and place in their one Lord, Jesus Christ.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY "Come to the Table" Bethany Choir and Adult Chime Choir

arr. Joseph Martin; 1997 Timespann Music

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*)

"Because He Lives"

No. 447

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1 God sent His son, They called Him, Jesus; he came to love, heal and forgive; He lived and died to buy my pardon, an empty grave is there To prove my Savior lives!

Refrain: Because He lives, I can face tomorrow! Because He lives, all fear is gone. Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living, just because He lives!

2 How sweet to hold A newborn baby, and feel the pride and joy he gives; But greater still the calm assurance: this child can face uncertain days because He Lives! [Refrain]

3 And then one day, I'll cross the river, I'll fight life's final war with pain; and then, as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives! [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE

"Give Me Oil in My Lamp"

Pastor Larry Ruby

Bethany Choir

(excerpt) Music by Sevinson & Williams; Arr. Joseph M. Martin; cpr 2000 Studio P/R(BMI);
by Don Besig and Nancy Price; cpr 1988 Harold Flammer Music

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 3-2nd 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 Tom and Carole Aspinall, Dolly McCrea, and Sue Nagy.

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the family of Dolly Rastetter who joined the Church Triumphant on April 28, 2026. Dolly was an active member of Bethany Presbyterian Church where she served as Clerk of Session for many years.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

VBS REGISTRATION – Hooray! VBS registration is now open for children age 4 up to those who will enter 6th grade in the fall. Older children & adults can register as volunteers through the link on our website. Please register by signing up in the Welcome Center, reaching out to Celina Farabaugh at 724-554-6370, or by clicking the link on our website! We can't wait!

BLOOM AND CAFÉ BETHANY – Join us for our next Bloom and Café Bethany event on **Thursday, May 14th at 6:00pm!** There will be a catered dinner followed by a **modern worship service for families at 7:00 pm!** We hope to see you there! Please sign up for the event on the signup sheets in the Welcome Center!

DEACONS SOUTHWOOD BOYS HOME COLLECTION -The Deacons recently learned that the Southwood Boys Home residents love blankets and throws and there is always a need for more of them. If you would like to help them with these items, there will be a basket and/or bin located in the Welcome Center to collect these blankets or throws (new only). It's another way Bethany can help support the residents with some additional comfort and love.

BETHANY YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULES for May are now available in the Welcome Center! Make sure to grab one as well as a Youth Authorization form if planning to attend the Paintball outing on May 17th!

WILD AT HEART MEN'S FIRES - Inspired by the book Wild at Heart by John Eldredge, Josh Gardner is hosting a biweekly men's fire every other Wednesday night starting at 5:30pm. An opportunity for men to come together, share their stories, have a good laugh, and bring Proverbs 27:17 (Iron sharpens Iron) into their lives on a regular basis. The upcoming dates are April 29th, May 13th, and May 27th. If you have any questions contact Josh at 412 855 9029.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION – Preschool registration for the 2026/2027 school year is now open on our website! Contact Danielle Gioia at Gioia.preschool@gmail.com with any questions! We are so excited for the coming year!

SAVE THE DATE – For the **All Church Golf Outing** for **Saturday June 27th**! **All are welcome!** Men, Women and children (father-son, father-daughter, grandfather-grandkids mother-child) Contact Bill Paviol with any questions at 412-722-3102.

GOLDEN OLDIES – Bethany Golden Oldies are taking a trip July 30th to Ohio to see a "Tribute to Johnny Cash". We would love to have you come with us! Please contact Carole Aspinall at 412-833-8114.

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE
CHURCH FINANCES AS OF APRIL 26, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD (\$)	2025 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 184,914	\$ 187,139	\$(2,225)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	124,880	121,456	3,424
Investment Income **	3,830	3,268	563
Total General Fund Income	\$ 313,624	\$ 311,863	\$ 1,761
Year to Date Budget	304,713		
+/- Budget	\$ 8,911		

*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.

Jesus said, "For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it." Luke 9:24 requires us to make a choice and declare what we value. Our time, talents, and treasures are blessings from God. Let us use these blessings to deepen our faith and glorify Him!



QR Code
for online
giving

May Special Offering – Youth Mission Fund

The special offering envelope for May supports future Youth Mission Trips.

Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to these special offerings either by selecting “Youth Mission Trip” in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for the Youth Mission Fund on your check or a pew envelope. Thank you for your prayers and support for the youth of Bethany!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, May 3

COMMUNION SUNDAY

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship

9:30AM – Sunday School

Ukulele practice after the second service

5:00PM – BYG Group Night

Monday, May 4

4:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout

6:30PM - Men's Huddle Group

Tuesday, May 5

7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, May 6

10:00AM - Fellowship of Prayer

11:30AM – Knitters

12:30PM – Hand Chimes

6:30PM - Troop 2 Scouts

7:00PM - Choir Practice

Thursday, May 7

9:00AM – Quilters

10:00AM – Adult Ukulele

12:00PM – Rotary

6:30PM – Bloom

7:30PM – AA

Friday, May 8

Saturday, May 9

11:00AM – Knitters

Sunday, May 10

Mother's Day

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship

9:30AM – Sunday School