



“You Are Blessed!”

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 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

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

by Sebastian Temple; arr. Anthony Giamanco; cpr 1967 OCP Publications

WELCOME

Pastor Larry Ruby

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Brian Janssen

A word spoken,
A voice heard,
A kingdom revealed,
A mission received.
God calls
Again and again.
God beckons us
To follow,
To love,
To serve,
To give.
Again and again
God invites us
To embrace the lonely,
To feed the hungry,
To tell the Good News of Jesus,
To sing songs of praise.

OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Brian Janssen

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Gather Us In"

No. 649

Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

- 1 Here in this place new light is streaming shadows of doubt are vanished away. See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day. Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, our spirits inflame, call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face. We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

3 Here we receive life in the waters, here we receive the bread of new birth; here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well and teach us to fashion, lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not just in buildings small and confining, not in some heaven light years away, here in this place the new light is shining; now is God present, now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever; gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor Brian Janssen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Brian Janssen

Loving God, you know me. You know the inner thoughts of which I am ashamed and the visible deeds I regret. You know my struggle to live faithfully: being generous to those in need; being forgiving to those who have hurt me; being patient when there is so much to do; taking time for prayer in the midst of busyness; being loving, when judging and criticizing are my first thoughts. Loving God, you know me, love me, forgive me, trust me, and I stand in awe at your amazing grace. Keep me on the path of Christ and lead me to deep joy and abundant gratitude. In his name. Amen. *Silent Confession*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Brian Janssen

Through our baptism, we have been clothed with Christ, our old ways have been washed away. A new spirit is within us. Let us, therefore, go forward with the assurance that we have been forgiven and are prepared to live as Christ-filled people. Let us go forth as individuals who always have another chance to share the love of God. **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

RESPONSE *(Please Stand)*

“Gloria Patri”

Public Domain | Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

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 Brian Janssen

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 Brian Janssen

FIRST READING

(NIV) Matthew 5:1-12

Pastor Brian Janssen

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

SECOND READING (The Message) Matthew 5:1-16

Pastor Larry Ruby

When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said: "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule. You're blessed when you feel you've lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you. You're blessed when you're content with just who you are—no more, no less. That's the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can't be bought. You're blessed when you've worked up a good appetite for God. He's food and drink in the best meal you'll ever eat. You're blessed when you care. At the moment of being "careful" you find yourselves cared for. You're blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world. You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That's when you discover who you really are, and your place in God's family. You're blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God's kingdom. Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens—give a cheer, even!—for though they don't like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble. Let me tell you why you are here. You're here to be salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavors of this earth. If you lose your saltiness, how will people taste godliness? You've lost your usefulness and will end up in the garbage. Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make

you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"You Are Blessed!"

Pastor Larry Ruby

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

APOSTLES CREED

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.

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

"Be the Light of Christ"

Bethany Choir

by Wes Cameron; cpr 2016 Hope Publishing

THE RESPONSE *(Please Stand)*

"Doxology"

Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

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*)

"We Have Come to Join in Worship"

No. 647

Public Domain | Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

1 We have come to join in worship and adore the Lord our God. Let us come in prayer, expecting God to speak His mighty Word. All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down. Christians, pray and holy manna will be showered all around.

2 See them gather all around you, those He bought at such a cost; see the weary, see the hurting, see the lonely, see the lost. Be His hand, and touch the needy; Be His gospel, let it sound! Be His body, and sweet manna will be showered all around.

3 Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too. Let us care for all his people till our God makes all things new. Christ will call us home to heaven; at his banquet we'll sit down; Christ himself will rise and serve us living manna all around.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE

"Go Now In Peace"

Bethany Choir

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, Deb Pyle, and Dolly McCrea and the Communion servers will be Connie Segeleon and Cindy O'Korn for the 10:45 service.

The flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Steve and Cathy Smith in loving memory of Bill Kunic for his birthday.

Be sure to sign up for memorial flowers on the poster in the Welcome Center.

Thank you to everyone who donated to Jenna's Joy Drive. It was a huge success and so many people were blessed by your donations.

The Service of Remembrance has been rescheduled for February 15th.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

Bethany Youth Group Upcoming Events

Sunday February 1st, we will be going Mini Golfing - (indoors of course ☼) at Puttshack! We will meet at the church at 4pm, and return around 7pm. The cost is \$20!
The Bethany Youth Group Survey! - We are currently asking youth and their parents to fill out a survey to help us continue to improve the youth ministry here at Bethany (like a mini Holy Cow survey!). If you would like to fill one out and haven't yet gotten a link to it -please email Abbie at youth@bethanypresby.org

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!

ADULT UKULELE - Adult Ukulele will resume on Thursdays at 10am on February 5th!

BLOOM AND BETHANY CAFÉ – Bloom and Bethany Café begins again for the year! Our first event will be Thursday, February 12th at 6:00pm! There will be a catered dinner followed by a modern worship service for families! We are so excited to start this up again for the new year! We hope to see you there! Sign up for the event on the signup sheets in the Welcome Center!

UPWARD BASKETBALL - Upward Basketball at Bethany is underway! We have a record number of players registered this year. 306 players, ages K5 through 2nd grade, have begun practice with weekend games! The last game day of the season is **Saturday, February 28th**. If you can give us an hour or two, or more, on a game day to help manage this amazing program, please consider helping us. We have a variety of ways you can help - from being on the courts as a referee, to running the scoreboard and clock, to making sure the players get their snack after their games. Please contact Beckie Price or Mike Suchoza for more information, or to let us know of your availability to help. Beckie can be emailed at upward@bethanypresby.org. Thank you!

HELP WANTED AT THE WELCOME DESK - Our Bethany Church Receptionist Desk is looking for PART TIME volunteers (male or female) to fill in for our regulars whenever they are unable to be at the desk. Involvement would be as follows:

Monday through Friday

Morning help is needed from 9:00AM until 11:30AM

Afternoon help is needed from 11:30AM until 2:00PM

The Receptionist duties involve answering the telephone and greeting anyone whom may come in the door and up the steps. Usually there are not a lot of telephone calls or visitors. Your free time at the desk can be spent reading, crocheting, knitting, watching a movie on your laptop etc., anything that may occupy your time. Occasionally we are asked to do a few desk duties to help out our church secretary. Whenever one of our regulars is not able to be at the desk, a notification is sent to Barb Crawford, most of the time in advance, but also, a few last minutes now and then. Barb Crawford then sends out a request for help. If you do any texting at all, it would be more efficient to ask you for help in that manor — however, an email or a telephone call will be fine too — whatever would be your preference. If a request is made for help, a response to Barb is always preferred with either a YES or NO — no reason ever needed! Pray about this and if there is any interest in your heart to help us out, you may call the Church Office at any time or talk to Barb Crawford in the Welcome Center on Sundays.

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE
CHURCH FINANCES AS OF JANUARY 25, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD (\$)	2025 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 37,036	\$ 42,274	\$(5,438)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	31,220	30,364	856
Investment Income **	600	-	600
Total General Fund Income	\$ 68,856	\$ 72,838	\$(3,982)
Year to Date Budget	69,617		
+/- Budget	\$ (761)		



QR Code
for online
giving

*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.

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms”. 1 Peter 4:10 calls us to action to share with others our God given talents and blessings. Let us receive His grace and strength so that we may glorify Him and serve generously.

February Special Offering - Per Capita

The special offering envelope for February supports the 2026 Per Capita balance. This collection helps to defray the Per Capita cost that Bethany is required to remit to the Presbytery. The 2026 Per Capita amount is \$40.00.

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

Thank you for your contribution to the Per Capita Offering!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, February 1

COMMUNION SUNDAY

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
12:00PM – Church Audit Committee
Youth and Adult Ukulele Practice after the second service
4:00PM - BYG Mini Golf

Monday, February 2

4:30PM - Upward Practice
6:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout
6:30PM - Men's Huddle Group

Tuesday, February 3

4:30PM - Upward Practice
7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, February 4

10:00AM - Fellowship of Prayer
11:30AM – Knitters
12:30PM - Hand Chimes
5:30PM - Upward Practice
6:30PM – Troop 2 Scouts
7:00PM – Choir Practice

Thursday, February 5

9:00AM – Quilters
10:00AM – Adult Ukulele
12:00PM – Rotary
4:30PM - Upward Practice
6:30PM – Bloom
7:00PM - Dartball
7:30PM – AA

Friday, February 6

Saturday, February 7

Upward GAMEDAY

Sunday, February 8

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
Youth and Adult Ukulele Practice after the second service
12:00PM - BYG Superbowl Game Day