



*“Walking with God:
The Adventure of Generosity
III. The Wonder Beyond Wealth”*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2025
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

"Be Still, My Soul"

Staff Handbell Choir

Tune: Jean Sibelius; Arr. Joel Raney; cpr 2022 Hope Publishing

WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Larry Ruby

The Word of God is living and active, searching every heart.

Nothing is hidden from God's sight—yet His mercy meets us here.

Jesus calls, "Come, follow me."

We come to worship the One who gives life that never fades.

Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Larry Ruby

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Praise to The Lord, The Almighty"

No. 71

Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

- 1** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is
your health and salvation! Come, all who hear; now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.
- 2** Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning; sheltering you under his
wings, and so gently sustaining! Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?
- 3** Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you; surely his goodness
and mercy shall daily attend you. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with his love he befriends you.
- 4** Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come
now with praises before him. Let the Amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Please be seated)*

Pastor Larry Ruby

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Larry Ruby

Merciful God, You know the desires of our hearts and the patterns of our lives.

We confess that we cling to what we have rather than trust in what You will

provide. We have called You "Good Teacher" But have turned away when Your

way seemed costly. Forgive us for our divided loyalties, For the comfort we prize

above obedience, And for the fears that keep us from following You fully. By the

power of Your Spirit, Renew in us a generous heart, That we may treasure Your kingdom above all else, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Silent Confession*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Larry Ruby

Hear the good news: We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, But one who in every respect has been tested as we are—yet without sin. Therefore, let us approach the throne of grace with confidence, For in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. **Praise God! Amen.**

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 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

Hebrews 4:12-16

Pastor Larry Ruby

Indeed, the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

SECOND READING

Mark 10:17-31

Pastor Brian Janssen

As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness. You shall not defraud. Honor your father and mother.’” He said to him,

"Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth." Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, "You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me." When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." They were greatly astounded and said to one another, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." Peter began to say to him, "Look, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for my sake and for the sake of the good news who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

**"Walking With God: The Adventure of Generosity
III. The Wonder Beyond Wealth" Pastor Brian Janssen**

FRIENDSGIVING

Gary Phillips

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Pastor Larry Ruby

THE OFFERTORY

"We Need a Word From the Lord"

by Thomas Whitfield; arr. by Lari Goss; cpr 1984 Sure Been Good Music/BMI

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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Larry Ruby

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*)

"The Summons"

No. 350

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

- 1** Will you come and follow me if I but call your name? Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same? Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be
known? Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
- 2** Will you leave your self behind if I but call your name? Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same? Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
- 3** Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name? Will you set the prisoner free and
never be the same? Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen?
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?
- 4** Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name. Let me turn and follow
you and never be the same. In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps
show, thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

BENEDICTION

Pastor Brian Janssen

CLOSING RESPONSE

"God Be With You"

by Rankin and Tomer; Public Domain

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

The flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Pastor Brian and Lisa Janssen.

A very SPECIAL thanks to our Staff Handbell Choir for sharing their gifts in worship today! Your beautiful music enhances our worship and we thank you for your dedication to music ministry at Bethany.

STEWARDSHIP CONCERT - Join us on Friday, October 24th for a Stewardship Concert to celebrate the Generosity of God expressed through the life of Bethany Church. Reception with light bites and live music in the Welcome Center begins at 5:30pm followed by the concert from 6:00-7:00pm featuring Classical Harp, Rock and Roll, Classical Guitar, our Bethany Choir and Bloom Musicians.

Our New Interim Associate Pastor

Today we welcome Rev. Dr. Larry Ruby as our Interim Associate Pastor. Although he retired in July of 2016 after 41 years of pastoral ministry, he much prefers serving the Lord in active ministry. Since he retired, he has served several other churches in Pittsburgh Presbytery as well as serving on Presbytery Staff during the pandemic. Prior to that he served 14 years as Senior Pastor of Hiland Presbyterian Church in the North Hills.

His wife of 53 years, Linda, is also a retired Pastor. Since they came back to Pittsburgh in 2002, she has served 6 churches, most recently Whitehall Presbyterian Church. They have four grown children and nine grandchildren and we will become a great-grandparents in April! Our family is scattered around the world in London, Baltimore, Tampa, and Woodstock, New York.

Larry has served as Senior Pastor, Solo Pastor, Associate Pastor, and Interim Pastor in his long ministry and brings a wealth of experience. He sees his mission at Bethany to provide whatever support is needed to prepare for your next Associate Pastor, support Pastor Brian and your great ministry team and encourage the members of Bethany to use their spiritual gifts to bring glory to God, build up the Body of Christ and be witnesses to God's love, grace, and mercy to the community and the world.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

Looking for a way to get more involved at Bethany? Already attending worship on Sundays? Then maybe the role of Usher is perfect for you! We are recruiting Ushers to help at both services, no experience necessary, and someone will show you what you need to do if you've never ushered before. Please contact Dale Anderson at dalea591@gmail.com for more details!

UKULELE - Youth Ukulele Choir will resume on October 26th following the 10:45 worship service. This will include K-12 students, and parents are asked to either stay in the class, or wait in the Welcome Center for students that need to take a break during the class. Looking forward to hearing them all together and having them share their gifts in worship soon!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD COLLECTION - The Bethany Mission Team will participate in the Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Collection for children ages 2 to 14 around the world. Boxes are available on the table in the Welcome Center and must be returned by Sunday November 2nd. Boxes can be filled for girls and boys ages 2 to 4, 5 to 9 or 10 to 14 and information and gift suggestions are attached to each box. Last year we collected 83 boxes and with all of your help, we hope to top that number this year. Returned boxes should be closed with a rubber band and include a \$10 check to Bethany Presbyterian Church to aid with the shipping costs.

New Sunday School Class with Pastor Brian – Begins Today

Join Pastor Brian for a new Sunday school class beginning today from 9:30–10:30 AM in the Library. We'll be studying We Who Wrestle With God by Jordan Peterson. On the first day, we'll share an overview of the book and take time to get to know one another. No book purchase is needed before our first meeting. If you can't make the first class no worries. We will make sure to get you caught up. To help us prepare and order enough books, please register online using the QR code below.



CANTATA CALL! - We are very excited to share our Cantata on **Dec 14, 2025**. Everything is coming together with the guest musicians and all the music arrived; it is time to prepare! (Brand new Cantata to us this year!). Cantata Choir practice will start on Oct 8, 2025, from 7- 7:45pm, and each Wednesday following (exception the week of Thanksgiving). Any instrumentalists that would like to share their gifts are welcome! Please see Nadina or email music@bethanypresby.org for more details.

BETHANY YOUTH GROUP UPCOMING EVENTS

Tonight we will have a Group Night 5:00pm - 6:30pm that will be focused on "Strange Stories from Scripture," to get you into the season of Halloween (while also getting the hope of Jesus!). No Halloween youth group would be fit without playing a game of Sardines in the dark.

TRUNK OR TREAT - We will be hosting a Trunk or Treat Event here at Bethany Presbyterian Church on Saturday, October 25th from 6:00PM-8:00PM. We would love for you to participate. If you would like to decorate your car and give out candy or be here to greet people in the community who bring their kids to this special event, there are numerous ways to help. You can register using the QR code, or email Katelyn Gilmore at gilmorekate.013@gmail.com. Katelyn is here to answer any questions you might have. It will be a great evening of fellowship.



FRIENDSGIVING – Join us on Sunday, November 9th at 12:00pm after the second service for our annual Friendsgiving and Potluck dinner! If you are interested in helping in the kitchen on Saturday the 8th or Sunday the 9th please contact Gary Phillips at 724-926-2682. Register with the QR code with how many will be attending and what Potluck dish you would like to bring!



COLLEGE OUTREACH PROGRAM - We are launching a College Outreach Program for Bethany members currently enrolled in college or trade schools and we need your help! Through this program, an individual or family will contact a student during the school year, sending cards and well wishes. There is no need to conceal the identities of the outreach family or individual, and students are not obligated to respond. We aim

to help our college age members continue to feel included in our church life. If you are interested in participating, please contact Heather Lucas at membershipchair@bethanypresby.org.

THE CHOSEN VIDEO CLASS - We are excited to extend an invitation to everyone for The Chosen Season 5 video class. Whether you have joined us in the past or are new to these gatherings, we would love to have you with us. Our sessions will take place in the choir room on Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM, starting September 21st and they promise to be a great opportunity to connect, discuss, and enjoy this fantastic series together. If you have any questions or need further details, please feel free to reach out to Edgar Shaffer or Pam Petrow.

ROTARY CHILI COOKOFF – Join us for lots of fun at the Rotary Chili Cookoff at Fairview Park TODAY Sunday, October 19th and Bethany is again entering a Chili! The event runs from 12pm to 4pm. We also need volunteers to help work the booth from 12-4pm at Fairview Park at the Rotary Pavilion. Tickets are \$10 or you can donate any amount. Contact Bill Paviol at 412-722-3102 for any questions!

BLOOD DRIVE – Bethany Church will have our next Blood Drive on Sunday, November 2nd from 8:00am – 1:30pm. Register at vitalant.org.

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF OCTOBER 12, 2025

Thank you for your continued support.

	2025 YTD (\$)	2024 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 412,548	\$ 408,695	\$ 3,853
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	292,333	265,125	27,208
Investment Income **	12,422	33,836	(21,414)
Total General Fund Income	\$ 717,303	\$ 707,656	\$ 9,647
Year to Date Budget	736,850		
+/- Budget	\$ (19,547)		

*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.

“Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time? It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns.”

Jesus instructs us in Luke 12:42-43 that being a good steward of the Lord’s abundance is a privilege and a responsibility. Let us live faithfully and be ready for the Master’s return.



QR Code
for online
giving

OCTOBER SPECIAL OFFERING - Men’s and Women’s Ministries

The special offering envelope for October supports the Men’s and Women’s Ministries of Bethany.

Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering by noting that your donation is for the Men’s and Women’s Ministries on your check or a pew envelope.

Thank you for your contribution to the Men’s and Women’s Ministries at Bethany.

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, October 19

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
12:00PM – Rotary Chili Cookoff
5:00PM - BYG Group Night

Monday, October 20

6:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout
6:30PM - Men's Huddle Group
7:00PM – Deacons Meeting

Tuesday, October 21

7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, October 22

11:30AM – Knitters
12:30PM – Hand Chimes
6:30PM - Troop 2 Scouts
7:00PM - Choir Practice

Thursday, October 23

9:00AM – Morning MomCo.
9:00AM – Quilters
10:00AM – **ADULT** Ukulele
12:00PM – Rotary
6:30PM – Bloom
7:00PM - Dart Ball
7:30PM - AA

Friday, October 24

5:30PM – Stewardship Concert

Saturday, October 25

SUPPLEMENTAL DIAPER BANK
11:00AM – Knitters
6:00PM – Trunk or Treat

Sunday, October 26

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
YOUTH Ukulele after 10:45 service
9:30AM - Sunday School