



CANTATA

CANTATA
10:45AM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2023

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 "I Wonder as I Wander?" **Mark Hayes arr. Douglas E. Wagner;**

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WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Please Stand*)

Pastor Ellen Dawson

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel. Stir up your might and come to save us!

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Let your hand be upon us that we may be made strong for yourself.

Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

Let us worship God!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING - CANDLE OF HOPE

**Kevin, Ashley, Nolan and
Deacon Strouse**

Gracious Father, You promised your servant Abraham that you would bless all nations through him. You called your people Israel to walk faithfully and with expectation of your promised fulfillment. You then fulfilled those promises through Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of David.

We rejoice in your faithfulness as we prepare our hearts with hope to receive Christ, the light who is coming into the world. Amen.

HYMN (*Please Stand*)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

No. 154

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1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. [Refrain]

3 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things, far and nigh; to us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go. [Refrain]

4 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. [Refrain]

COMMISSIONING OF THE ASSOCIATE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Ellen Dawson

Almighty God, "we have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away." We fail to call on your name; we don't stir to take hold of your plan for us. Yet you are our God. "We are the clay, and thou art the potter." May all that we do be the work of your hand. *Silent Prayer of Confession.*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the words of Paul when he writes: "God is faithful, by whom you were called into fellowship of God's Son, Jesus Christ." By God's grace you will be sustained to the end, and through Christ's mercy you will be found guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. To God be all praise and glory. **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

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

CANTATA

"Canticle of Joy" (excerpts)

by Joseph M. Martin

Narration by Pamela Martin from Canticle of Joy by Joseph M. Martin (BMI);

orchestration by Brant Adams

Prepare! By Joseph M. Martin (BMI) c. 1999 Malcolm Music

Could This Be The Day? By Joseph M. Martin (BMI) c. 1999 Malcolm Music

Songs of Promise by Joseph M. Martin (BMI) c. 1999 Malcolm Music

Congregation Hymn "Away in a Manger" Music by James R. Murray

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky and
stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Awake ! Sing Gloria! By Joseph M. Martin (BMI) c. 1999 Malcolm Music

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Nadina Robusto

**THE OFFERTORY "Carol of the Faithful" (excerpt) by Joseph M. Martin
from "Canticle of Joy" Cantata Descant Soloist: Ruth Doyle**

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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*)

Pastor Ellen Dawson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

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*)

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

No. 181

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1 Of the Father's love begotten, ere the world began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore!

2 O that birth forever blessed, when a virgin, blest with grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
and the babe, the world's Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

3 Let the heights of heaven adore him; angel hosts his praises sing:
powers, dominions, bow before him, and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent, every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

4 Christ, to thee, with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be:
honor, glory, and dominion, and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore! Amen.

BENEDICTION (*Please Stand*)

Pastor Brian Janssen

POSTLUDE

"Awake! Sing Gloria" (Reprise) by Joseph M. Martin from "Canticle of Joy" Cantata

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CANTATA

A special thanks to all the participants in our Cantata this year- you've worked so hard and we appreciate your time and dedication to glorifying God with us at Bethany Presbyterian Church. A shout out to our youth who joined us as readers to tell the Christmas story, and to our leaders, both in our township and church- that have joined in to celebrate, demonstrating how great leaders also serve- We are grateful to have Mayor Betty Copeland, as well as both of our pastors, the Rev. Dr. Brian Janssen and the Rev. Ellen Dawson, singing with us. Many thanks to all of the volunteers that joined in our choir, committing several hours of rehearsal time to prepare, to the musicians that shared their gifts on instruments and their time preparing, to our custodial, media, tech and clerical staff for all the help with set up, promotion, and programming to make the Cantata possible to share in worship today. It certainly is a deep joy to worship through music together. Thank you!!

CHOIR

Soprano

Mayor Betty Copeland
Sheri Darpino
Ruth Doyle*
Carrie Emerson
Bonnie Hendershot
Jackie Nixon
Jean Roemer

Alto

Maxine Berton
Rev. Ellen Dawson
Ashley Farabaugh
Debbie Gossic
Marlene Haley
Karen Harkins
Dee Kantorzyk
Bonnie Miller
Barbara Mours
Meagan Smith
Priyanka Vaddi

Tenor

Mike Barbour
Al Heaps
Joy Heaps
Rev. Dr. Brian Janssen*
Bill Paviol

Bass

Doug Bovard
Tim Nagy
Jeff Smith

READERS

Hannah Farabaugh
Katelyn Morelock
Brenna Mours

ORCHESTRA

Percussion

Gordon Nunn

Clarinet

Colleen Jarrett

Flute

Abigail Tuffiash

Trombone

Ryan Jackson

*soloist

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, or outside of the Nursery.

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

ANGEL TREES

FOR THE SOUTHWOOD BOYS – Angels will be available in the Welcome Center for gifts for the Southwood Boys beginning next week, and will be available until 12/17.

FOOD BANK ANGEL TREE- Angels for our Food Bank Children are available in the Welcome Center. Please have your gifts/donations to the church by next Sunday, December 10th – unwrapped with the angel attached

WANTED

Sound Board Operator Volunteers for the 8:15am service!

Qualified candidates need to be able to hear & see the front of the church from the balcony, have at least one finger to push a button on queue and stay alert and quiet during the 8:15 service. It is a very easy, but important job. We have successfully trained nine-year olds and sixty-year olds! Call or text Mike Segeleon at 412-389-0985 if you have any questions or would like to part of this important team!

Sound Engineer Volunteer for Thursday Evening Bloom Sessions!

Qualified candidates must be available from 6:00pm-8:30pm Thursday evenings. Skills needed are for the setup and tear down of our small portable sound system, Lift 35 lb. Speakers onto stands, run cables and plug all the parts together. Also operate a 16 channel mix board & adjust volume levels as needed during the Bloom Session. None of these tasks are hard to learn and we can train anyone who has an interest. Call or text Mike Segeleon at 412-389-0985 if you have any questions or would like to part of this ministry!

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

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.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

ADVENT BREAKFAST – 12/10. Our Men's Ministries will be serving their Advent Breakfast next Sunday, Dec 10 in the Great Room. All are invited to stop down for a delicious breakfast!

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

GIFT CARDS FOR SALE – Giant Eagle, Shop N Save and Starbucks cards are available for sale in the Welcome Center at the Sarris Candy cart. Perfect for the upcoming holidays! Proceeds from the sales benefits the missions of the church.

SARRIS CANDY – Proceeds from Sarris Candy sales in the month of December will go to Sojourner House.

DECEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING - CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

The special offering envelope for December supports the Christmas Joy offering. 50% of this collection supports the Presbytery Christmas Joy offering which provides assistance to current & retired church workers in their time of need & develops our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools & colleges. The other 50% will be split between Living in Liberty & Harvest Street Mission organizations. Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either by selecting "Christmas Joy" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for the Christmas Joy collection on your check or a pew envelope. Thank you for your contribution to the present and future leaders of the Presbyterian Church, Living in Liberty and Harvest Street Mission through the Christmas Joy offering!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, Dec 3

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

8:15AM – Worship

10:45AM -Worship with Cantata

5:00PM – BYG

7:00PM -The Chosen

Monday, Dec 4

6:00PM – Elder/Deacon Dinner

7:00PM – Elder/Deacon Meeting

7:00PM – Body Carpenter Workout

Tuesday, Dec 5

5:15PM – ALANON Dinner

6:30PM – Men's Huddle

7:00PM – Coed Dart Ball

Wednesday, Dec 6

10:00AM – Fellowship of Prayer

11:30AM – Knitters

7PM – Choir

Thursday, Dec 7

9AM - Quilters

6:30PM – Bloom Service

7PM – Dartball

Friday, Dec 8

Saturday, Dec 9

9:00AM – Elder/Deacon Training

11:30AM - Knitters

Sunday, Dec 10

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Advent Breakfast

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship

9:30AM – Sunday School

5:00PM – BYG Christmas Lights

7:00PM – The Chosen

6:00PM – MOPs Steering Committee