



The King We Need but Too Often Resist

PALM SUNDAY
SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 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

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

Vocalist: Jenna Foltz

by Michael Bedford; cpr 1995 Choristers Guild; Chime Cherub Choir

WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Larry Ruby

The long winter has passed, and the earth awakens again. The Lord draws near to his people.

We come with branches in our hands and praise upon our lips.

From the gates of the city to the quiet places of the heart, the King comes—not in splendor, but in humility.

We welcome the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Yet the road before him leads through suffering, through sacrifice, through the shadow of the cross.

Still we follow, with hope and trust.

Lift your voices and prepare your hearts.

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Brian Janssen

HYMN *(Please Stand)* **"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna" No. 267 Bethany Chime Choir**

arr cpr 2001 Choristers Guild

1 Hosanna, loud hosanna the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

2 From Olivet they followed mid an exultant crowd, the victory palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud. The Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

3 "Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Please be seated)*

Pastor Larry Ruby

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Larry Ruby

Merciful God, We confess that our praise is often louder than our obedience. We celebrate your goodness when it comforts us, yet we hesitate to follow when the path grows difficult. We welcome Christ with our words, but resist him in the quiet choices of our lives. Too often we desire a king who serves our purposes rather than the Savior who calls us to humility, mercy, and sacrifice. Forgive us,

Lord. Forgive our shallow praise, our fearful faith, and our reluctance to walk the road of discipleship. Renew our hearts by your grace. Give us the courage to follow Christ not only in moments of joy, but also along the costly road of love and faithfulness. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Silent Confession*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Larry Ruby

Hear the good news: The One who entered the city long ago did not turn away when the road led to suffering. In steadfast love he walked the path before him, bearing the weight of sin and sorrow so that mercy might triumph over judgment. Friends, the grace of God is deeper than our failures and stronger than our fears. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

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

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 MESSAGE

Mike Segeleon

ANTHEM: "Let the Rocks Cry Out!" Ukulele Choirs Bethany Choir and Jenna Foltz

(Excerpts) by Lloyd Larson; cpr 2023 Hal Leonard LLC; Sunday School "Rockers"

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Pastor Larry Ruby

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-7

Pastor Larry Ruby

The Lord God has given me a trained tongue, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens, wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.

SECOND READING

Luke 19:28-44

Pastor Brian Janssen

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, “Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it.’” So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” They said, “The Lord needs it.” Then they

brought it to Jesus, and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. Now as he was approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out." As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, saying, "If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. Indeed, the days will come upon you when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you and hem you in on every side. They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

**The King We Need
But Too Often Resist**

Pastor Brian Janssen

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

"Lift Up Your Heads"

Bethany Choir

from Messiah; by George Frideric Handel; arr. Hal Hopson; cpr 2008 Hope Publishing

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 THE LORD'S PRAYER

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*)

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”

No. 265

Refrain All glory, laud, and honor to you, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

1 You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son, now in the Lord's name coming, the King and Blessed One. [Refrain]

2 The company of angels are praising you on high, creation and all mortals in chorus make reply. [Refrain]

3 The people of the Hebrews with palms before you went; our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present. [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE

"Let the Rocks Cry Out!"

(Excerpts) by Lloyd Larson; cpr 2023 Hal Leonard LLC

Bethany Choir

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 Deb Pyle, Karen Talerico, Connie Segeleon and Josh Gardner.

The flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Steve and Cathy Smith in honor of Richard Smith for his birthday.

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. Please register by signing up in the Welcome Center, or by reaching out to Celina Farabaugh at 724-554-6370.

MEN'S RETREAT SIGN UP – The **2026 Men's Ministry Retreat** sign up is in the Welcome Center! It will be held at Oglebay Resort for May 8-9th!

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!

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 MARCH 22, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD (\$)	2025 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 122,892	\$ 130,205	\$(7,313)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	93,660	91,092	2,568
Investment Income **	2,352	2,188	164
Total General Fund Income	\$ 218,904	\$ 223,485	\$(4,581)
Year to Date Budget	214,544		
+/- Budget	\$ 4,360		



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.

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, March 29

PALM SUNDAY

9:00AM - Lenten Breakfast
8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
5:00PM - BYG Group Night

Monday, March 30

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

Tuesday, March 31

10:00AM – Adult Ukulele
7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, April 1

11:30AM – Knitters
6:30PM - Troop 2 Scouts

Thursday, April 2

MAUNDY THURSDAY

9:00AM – Quilters
12:00PM – Rotary
7:00PM - Service
7:30PM – AA

Friday, April 3

GOOD FRIDAY

7:00PM – Service

Saturday, April 4

Sunday, April 5

EASTER SUNDAY

6:30 – Easter Sunrise Service at Melrose Cemetery
8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship