



My Lord and My God!

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 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

"Worthy is the Lamb"

(excerpts from Messiah) G.F. Handel; arr. Lyndell Leatherman; cpr 2013 Lorenz Publishing

WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Larry Ruby

The risen Christ comes to us in our fear and uncertainty.

He stands among us and says, "Peace be with you."

Though we have not seen, yet we are called to believe.

Blessed are those who trust in the living Lord.

Come, let us worship the God who brings life out of death.

Let us worship with hearts open to resurrection joy.

Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Larry Ruby

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Praise to The Lord, the Almighty"

No. 71

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

Risen Lord, we confess that we are often people of doubt rather than faith. We cling to what we can see and touch, and struggle to trust in your unseen presence. You call us to be a resurrection people, yet we remain locked behind our fears, afraid to risk, afraid to hope, afraid to believe that new life is possible. We confess that we do not always receive your peace, nor do we share it with others. We hold on to wounds, and withhold the grace you freely give. Breathe

your Spirit into us again, that we may be made new. Open our hearts to trust you more deeply, and send us into the world as witnesses to your life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. *Silent Confession*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Larry Ruby

Hear the good news: The risen Christ stands among us and speaks peace—not condemnation. He breathes his Spirit into us and makes us new. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and sent. Believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. **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

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

"Ode to Joy"

Ludwig Van Beethoven

**Debby Hayes
Violin: Logan Leigh**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Pastor Larry Ruby

FIRST READING

Psalm 16

Pastor Larry Ruby

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones in whom is all my delight. Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips. The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit. You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

SECOND READING

John 20:19-31

Pastor Brian Janssen

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and

said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

My Lord and My God!

Pastor Brian Janssen

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

"Then Came the Morning"

**Soloist: Dale Anderson
with Bethany Choir**

by William J. Gaither and Chris Christian; Lyrics by Gloria Gaither; cpr 1982 Gaither Music Co and Word Music, LLC

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*)

“Rock of Ages”

No. 384

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood,
from thy wounded side which flowed, be of sin the double cure;
save from wrath and make me pure.

2 Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite
know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling; naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death, when I soar to
worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE

"Then Came the Morning"

Bethany Choir

(excerpt) by William J. Gaither and Chris Christian; Lyrics by Gloria Gaither; cpr 1982 Gaither Music Co and Word Music, LLC

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 Nolan Strouse, Deb Pyle, and Steve and Cathy Smith.

The flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Janet Jones in memory of her sister Judy Tresino Parker.

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!

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 APRIL 5, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD (\$)	2025 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 149,924	\$ 156,533	\$(6,609)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	101,465	98,683	2,782
Investment Income **	3,830	3,268	563
Total General Fund Income	\$ 255,219	\$ 258,484	\$(3,265)
Year to Date Budget	250,983		
+/- Budget	\$ 4,236		



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.

April Special Offerings – Bethany Education Fund and Children / Youth Ministry Programs

The special offering envelopes for April support the Bethany Education Fund and Children / Youth Ministry Programs. The Bethany Education Fund provides scholarships to Bethany high school seniors pursuing post-secondary education or training, and the Children / Youth Ministry Programs collection supports events provided for the children and youth of Bethany and the community.

Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to these special offerings either by selecting "Bethany Education Fund" or "Children / Youth Programs" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for the Bethany Education Fund or Children / Youth Programs on your check or a pew envelope.

Thank you for your contribution to these valuable scholarship and discipleship programs for the youth of Bethany!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, April 12

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM – Sunday School
5:00PM - BYG Group Night
Ukulele practice after the second service

Monday, April 13

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

Tuesday, April 14

6:45AM – Session Team Meetings
7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, April 15

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

Thursday, April 16

9:00AM – Quilters
10:00AM – Adult Ukulele
11:00PM – Rotary Scholarship Lunch
12:00PM – Golden Oldies Luncheon
6:30PM – Bloom
7:00PM - Dartball
7:30PM – AA

Friday, April 17

Saturday, April 18

FOOD BANK

Sunday, April 19

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM – Sunday School
5:00PM - BYG Group Night
Ukulele practice after the second service