



“Giants Among Us”

10:00AM
VBS SUNDAY
SUNDAY, JUNE 23, 2024

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 “Leaving the Harbor” by Herman Beeftink Flute, Abigail Tuffiash

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WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Please Stand*)

Pastor Ellen Dawson

Those who know your name put their trust in you, O Lord.
For you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.
Sing praises to the Lord, who dwells in Zion.
We will declare your wonderful deeds among all the people.
Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN (*Please Stand*) “**God, You Spin the Whirling Planets**” **No. 24**

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1 God, you spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain, mold the mountains, fashion blossoms, call forth sunshine, wind, and rain. We, created in your image, would a true reflection be of your justice, grace, and mercy, and the truth that makes us free.

2 You have called us to be faithful in our life and ministry. We respond in grateful worship, joined in one community. When we blur your gracious image, focus us and make us whole, healed and strengthened as your people, we move onward toward your goal.

3 God, your will is still creating, calling us to life made new, now reveal to us fresh vistas where there's work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all distortion, fashion us with loving care, thus, new creatures in your image, we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor Ellen Dawson

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love and power, we listen to the stories of miracles and doubt that these things can happen today. We look at the waves of misfortune, distress, misery, distrust, and anger and wonder how we can still those waves. We feel the

pressures of power and fear flooding into our lives, threatening to drown us and wonder where you are. Forgive us for the littleness of our faith. Forgive us for our doubts. Help us to place out trust in you, Lord Jesus. Help us to fix our eyes on you and on the ministries to which you have called us. For we ask these things in Jesus' Name. *Silent Confession*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Fear not! God is with us, stilling the storms and raging fears in our lives. Place your trust in God always. **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 VBS singers and children can come forward as you all take a moment to share the peace of Christ with those around you.

WE LISTEN

VBS SINGERS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Pastor Ellen Dawson

FIRST READING

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Pastor Ellen Dawson

As we work together with him, we entreat you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Look, now is the acceptable time; look, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: in great endurance, afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; in purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors and yet are true, as unknown and yet are well known, as dying and look—we are alive, as punished and yet not killed, as sorrowful yet always rejoicing, as poor yet making many rich, as having nothing and yet possessing everything.

We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections but only in yours. In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

SECOND READING 1 Samuel 17:1a,4-11,19-23,32-49 Pastor Brian Janssen

Now the Philistines gathered their armies for battle; they were gathered at Socoh, which belongs to Judah, and encamped between Socoh and Azekah, in Ephes-dammim. And there came out from the camp of the Philistines a champion named Goliath, of Gath, whose height was six cubits and a span. He had a helmet of bronze on his head, and he was armored with a coat of mail; the weight of the coat was five thousand shekels of bronze. He had greaves of bronze on his legs and a javelin of bronze slung between his shoulders. The shaft of his spear was like a weaver's beam, and his spear's head weighed six hundred shekels of iron; and his shield-bearer went before him. He stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, 'Why have you come out to draw up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not servants of Saul? Choose a man for yourselves, and let him come down to me. If he is able to fight with me and kill me, then we will be your servants; but if I prevail against him and kill him, then you shall be our servants and serve us.' And the Philistine said, 'Today I defy the ranks of Israel! Give me a man, that we may fight together.' When Saul and all Israel heard these words of the Philistine, they were dismayed and greatly afraid.

Now Saul, and they, and all the men of Israel, were in the valley of Elah, fighting with the Philistines. David rose early in the morning, left someone in charge of the sheep, took the provisions, and went as Jesse had commanded him. He came to the encampment as the army was going forth to the battle line, shouting the war cry. Israel and the Philistines drew up for battle, army against army. David left the things in charge of the keeper of the baggage, ran to the ranks, and went and greeted his brothers.

As he talked with them, the champion, the Philistine of Gath, Goliath by name, came up out of the ranks of the Philistines, and spoke the same words as before. And David heard him. David said to Saul, 'Let no one's heart fail because of him; your servant will go and fight with this Philistine.' Saul said to David, 'You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are just a boy, and he has been a warrior from his youth.' But David said to Saul, 'Your servant used to keep sheep for his father; and whenever a lion or a bear came, and took a lamb from the flock, I went after it and struck it down, rescuing the lamb from its mouth; and if it turned against me, I would catch it by the jaw, strike it down, and kill it. Your servant has killed both lions and bears; and this uncircumcised Philistine shall be like one of them, since he has defied the armies of the living God.' David said, 'The Lord, who saved me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, will save me from the hand of this Philistine.' So Saul said to David, 'Go, and may the Lord be with you!'

Saul clothed David with his armor; he put a bronze helmet on his head and clothed him with a coat of mail. David strapped Saul's sword over the armor, and he tried in vain to walk, for he was not used to them. Then David said to Saul, 'I cannot walk with these;

for I am not used to them.’ So David removed them. Then he took his staff in his hand, and chose five smooth stones from the wadi, and put them in his shepherd’s bag, in the pouch; his sling was in his hand, and he drew near to the Philistine.

The Philistine came on and drew near to David, with his shield-bearer in front of him. When the Philistine looked and saw David, he disdained him, for he was only a youth, ruddy and handsome in appearance. The Philistine said to David, ‘Am I a dog, that you come to me with sticks?’ And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. The Philistine said to David, ‘Come to me, and I will give your flesh to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the field.’ But David said to the Philistine, ‘You come to me with sword and spear and javelin; but I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This very day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you down and cut off your head; and I will give the dead bodies of the Philistine army this very day to the birds of the air and to the wild animals of the earth, so that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel, and that all this assembly may know that the Lord does not save by sword and spear; for the battle is the Lord’s and he will give you into our hand.’

When the Philistine drew nearer to meet David, David ran quickly towards the battle line to meet the Philistine. David put his hand in his bag, took out a stone, slung it, and struck the Philistine on his forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Giants Among Us”

Pastor Brian Janssen

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

"Oceans"

Flute: Abigail Tuffiash

By Salomon Lighthelm, Matt Crocker, Joel Houston

Arr.: Fernando Britto

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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)*

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*)

“Be Not Afraid”

No. 430

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1 You shall cross the barren desert, but you shall not die of thirst. You shall wander far in safety though you do not know the way. You shall speak your words in foreign lands and all will understand. You shall see the face of God and live.

Refrain

Be not afraid. I go before you always. Come, follow me, and I will give you rest.

2 If you pass through raging waters in the sea, you shall not drown. If you walk amid the burning flames, you shall not be harmed. If you stand before the power of hell and death is at your side, know that I am with you through it all. [Refrain]

3 Blessed are your poor, for the kingdom shall be theirs. Blest are you that weep and mourn, for one day you shall laugh. And if wicked tongues insult and hate you all because of me, blessed, blessed are you! [Refrain]

BENEDICTION (*Please Stand*)

Pastor Brian Janssen

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.

PASTORAL CONCERNS

Roberta Gerstacker, Brian Krek, John Turnbull

NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

**The sanctuary flowers this morning are presented by
*Karl and Sharon Salvini in honor of their anniversary.***

We welcome again today, Guest Flutist, Abigail Tuffiash, at our 10:00am worship.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

SUMMER BLOOM – Thursday, June 27. -Bloom is moving outside this summer for praise and fellowship! Our next session will be on June 27 when we gather on the front and side lawn of Bethany from 6:30 - 8 pm. Come join us for praise through contemporary music! Bring your own comfy lawn chair, and feel free to bring a snack along with you, too! (Inclement weather option will return indoors to the Welcome Center). Hope to see you there!

BLOOD DRIVE – SUNDAY JULY 21ST. Bethany will be hosting another Blood Drive on Sunday, July 21, 2024. Register at vitalant.org and use Blood Drive Code: UG0010211

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

THE SUMMERSVILLE, WV MISSION TRIP 2024, work week will be from August 11th through the 17th. Lodging provided at Summersville Presbyterian Church. Full and half week options are available. Russ Bedner, Dave Colton or Connie Segeleon can answer questions regarding the trip.

SARRIS CANDY –The Sarris Candy sales proceeds for June will benefit the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, Blantyre Synod Health & Development Commission, BSHDC, to help with the disastrous drought in that region.

JUNE SPECIAL OFFERING - VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – The special offering envelope for June supports Vacation Bible School. Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either by selecting "Vacation Bible School" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for VBS on your check or a pew envelope. Thank you for your contribution to this great program for the youth of Bethany and the community!

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF JUNE 16, 2024

Thank you for your continued support.

	2024 YTD (\$)	2023 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 252,863	258,061	\$ (5,198)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	158,125	110,210	47,915
Investment Income **	16,360	5,756	10,604
Total General Fund Income	\$ 427,348	\$374,027	\$ 53,321
Year to Date Budget	431,193		
+/- Budget	\$ (3,845)		

*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.



QR Code
for online
giving

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, June 23

VBS Sunday

8:15AM and 10:00AM – Worship
2:00PM – BYG Outing to Raccoon State Park

Monday, June 24

6:30PM – Body Carpenter Workout

Tuesday, June 25

6:30PM - Men's Huddle
7:00PM – ALANON
7:00PM – DQ Group

Wednesday, June 26

11:30AM – Knitters

Thursday, June 27

9:00AM – Quilters
6:30PM – Bloom on the Lawn
7:30PM - AA

Friday, June 28

Saturday, June 29

Sunday, June 30

8:15AM and 10:00AM – Worship