Bethany
Presbyterian Church

Given to This Church: IV.
What the Kids Bring to the Table

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 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 **"Standing in the Need of Prayer"** **Piano: Rachel Sepuri**
African American Spiritual

WELCOME **Pastor Brian Janssen**

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)* **Pastor Justin Miller**

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,
O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.
You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water;
you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.
You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,
softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.
You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.
The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain,
they shout and sing together for joy.

OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)* **Pastor Justin Miller**

HYMN *(Please Stand)* **"Built on the Rock"** **No. 546**

1 Built on the Rock the Church does stand, even when steeples are falling;
Christ builds his church in every land; bells still are chiming and calling,
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed, longing
for life everlasting.

2 Not in a temple made with hands God the Almighty is dwelling; high in the heavens
his temple stands, all earthly temples excelling. Yet he who dwells in heaven above
choses to live with us in love, making our bodies his temple.

3 We are God's house of living stones built for his own habitation; he fills our hearts,
his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation. Were two or three to seek God's
face, he in their midst would show his grace, blessings upon them bestowing.

4 Through all the passing years, O Lord, grant that, when church bells are ringing, many may come to hear God's word where he this promise is bringing: " I know my own, my own know me; you, not the world, my face shall see; my peace I leave with you. Amen."

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Please Be Seated*) **Pastor Justin Miller**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION **Pastor Justin Miller**

Generous God, you have provided for us in ways we often fail to recognize. We confess that we become focused on what we lack rather than having a posture of gratitude for what we have been given. We hold tightly to our resources, overlook opportunities to serve, and we may even doubt that our contributions will make a difference. Forgive us, Lord, and renew our hearts. Teach us to live with gratitude and generosity, and help us remember that all we have is yours. We pray these things trusting that you can use all our gifts to accomplish your purposes. Amen.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON **Pastor Justin Miller**

God's steadfast love endures from generation to generation. God is gracious and merciful, ready to forgive and restore us to new life. In Jesus Christ, we are freed from the weight of our sin and invited to begin again, trusting in God's abundant grace. Friends believe the good news:

We are forgiven, renewed, and called to share that grace with others. 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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE **Pastor Justin Miller**

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.**

Let us share the peace of Christ with our neighbor.

WE LISTEN

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

STEWARDSHIP VIDEO

MOMENT FOR MISSION

CHILDREN'S SERMON **Debby Hayes**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION **Pastor Justin Miller**

FIRST READING **Psalm 78:1-8** **Pastor Justin Miller**

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord and his might and the wonders that he has done. He established a decree in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments; and that they should not be like their ancestors, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.

SECOND READING **John 6:1-14** **Pastor Brian Janssen**

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place, so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God**

SERMON **Given to this Church IV.** **Pastor Brian Janssen**
What the Kids Bring to the Table

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

First Question of Heidelberg Catechism:

Q. 1. What is your only comfort, in life and in death?

A. That I belong—body and soul, in life and in death—not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of his own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that he protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

WE RESPOND

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY **"Come and Be Joyful" (from "Gloria")** **Bethany Choir**

by Antonio Vivaldi; arr. Hal H. Hopson; cpr 1997 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)*

PASTORAL PRAYER

COMMUNION

THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Leader: Holy God, we praise You. Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad. We bless You for creating the whole world, for Your promises to Your people Israel, and for Jesus Christ in whom Your fulness dwells. Born of Mary, He shares our life.
People: Eating with sinners, He welcomes us.
Leader: Guiding His children, He leads us.
People: Visiting the sick, He heals us.
Leader: Dying on the cross, He saves us.
People: Risen from the dead, He gives new life.
Leader: Therefore, we praise You, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of Your name.

SANCTUS ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. 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.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS - People may now come forward.
Communion servers will serve from the front of the church and each row will be invited to come forward to receive the bread and cup. For those who are unable to come forward, communion will be still be offered to you at your seat after the standing participants are done.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE ARE SENT

HYMN *(Please Stand)* **"For All The Saints"** **No. 529**

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed;
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

2 Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

3 O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

4 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.
Alleluia, Alleluia!

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE

POSTLUDE **"Toccata and Fugue in D Minor"**
BWV 565 (excerpt); by J.S.Bach

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.

NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

Today's ushers are Carole and Tom Aspinall, Dolly McCrea and Doreen Grove.

The flowers this morning are presented to the Glory of God and in Memory of Ed and Ann McCrea by Dolly McCrea.

Please welcome our new members John and Geraldine McCans, Silas Paracca, Mary Ann Alsnauer and Janet McConnell.

Lunch is on us today! Stop by the Welcome Center and pick up a catered boxed lunch on your way out, including sandwiches, pasta salad, chips, cookies and drinks — one for each member of the household. It's our thank-you to this congregation and a small way of celebrating together what God is doing here. Take it home, take it to the park, eat it in the car before the game. However you like. Our thanks to the Stewardship Team for putting it together.

The Sympathy of the congregation is extended to Maxine Berton and Joy and Al Heaps and their families on the passing of Marlene Haley, their beloved sister and sister-in-law, and to Ralph, Mark, James and Scott Haley and their families on the passing of their beloved mother who entered the Church Triumphant on October 27, 2026. Marlene was an active and lifelong member of Bethany.

Thank you to Rachel Sepuri for sharing her musical gifts with us this morning!

A special Thank You to Caleb Auldridge for using his talents to create all of the wonderful Stewardship videos that have been shared with the congregation over the past several weeks!

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES DURING THE 10:45 SERVICE
Please note that we have the following Opportunities for children during the 10:45 Service:

Worship and Wonder for Children ages 3 to 2nd grade where children learn more about worshipping God. They are starting the year with the story of the Good Shepherd and then continuing stories of Creation and the Old Testament.
Faith and Friends for children in 3rd through 5th grade where children will explore lessons from the Bible in Life Curriculum through interactive learning, meaningful discussion and hands-on-activities. The Scripture lesson is the same as Sunday School; however the lesson content and activities are different.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION – Preschool registration for the 2026/2027 school year is still open on our website! Contact Danielle Gioia at Gioia.preschool@gmail.com with any questions! We are so excited for the coming year!

ROTARY COMMUNITY PROJECT– The Rotary of Bridgeville-South Fayette is initiating a Community Service Program for Bridgeville and South Fayette families (limited scope). The Rotary will assess every request; however as they have a limited number of members and limited skills, they would welcome any individuals who would be able to help. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Bill Paviol at 412-722-3102. Please keep the Rotary and this Project in your prayers.

BETHANY DEACONS BACKPACK DRIVE - The Bethany Deacons are hosting another backpack drive to gift to the Southwood Boy's home. These bags will be gifted to every new admission throughout the 2027 year. **We will be collecting donations starting Sunday, November 1st until November 29th.** You will be supporting the purchasing of the backpack and the essential items we provided them with: socks, towels, toothbrush, shampoo, a Bible and more! All items are purchased and put together by the Deacons. Cash or checks made out to Bethany Presbyterian Church with **"backpack"** in the memo are accepted. You can drop an envelope with cash or a check in the collection bag on the poster in the Welcome Center, place it in the offering collection plate or give to Edgar Shaffer.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD – If you happened to forget to bring your filled shoeboxes, we have extended the deadline to next week, **November 8th 2026**. Please be sure to include your $10 cash or check to cover shipping.

FRIENDSGIVING – Please join us on **Sunday, November 8th at 12:00pm** after the second service for our **annual Friendsgiving and Potluck dinner**! There will be a Sign-Up sheet in the Welcome Center, you can sign up on our website, Bethanypresby.org or by using the QR code below to include the number attending and the optional Potluck dish (salad, side dish, dessert, etc) you would like to bring. You can also contact Gary Phillips at 724-926-2682 if you would be interested in helping in the kitchen on Saturday the 7th or Sunday the 8th. **Today is the last day to RSVP!**

SECRET SISTER NEWS – We are starting our Secret Sister operation for the 2027 season and have placed Secret Sister Packets in the Welcome Center. Please pick up one, fill out the questionnaire and place the completed form in the collection bag included on the display by **next Sunday, November 8th** if you would like to be a part of the Secret Sisters next year. We would love to have you! Also, please **"Save the Date"** of **December 6th** for our Reveal Luncheon at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, please contact Pat Mishizen at 412-417-3541 or Judy Davidson at 412-343-7530.

SOJOURNER HOUSE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - Sojourner House, a Bethany Mission Partner, is located in East Liberty/Pittsburgh and they provide in-patient, residential treatment to mothers with substance use disorder and their children. They have reached out and shared some upcoming volunteer opportunities.
Saturday, November 7, 2026 from 9:30am-12:00pm - Work in the green space/play yard with mulching, painting and more (Rain date is November 14th)
Thursday, November 12, 2026 from 1:00pm-3:00pm - Assist with year-end mailings at the Administrative Office. If interested in any of these opportunities, please let Karen Talerico know ASAP. She will need to submit names of participants prior to the volunteer days. Contact for Karen: text: 412-913-3789 or email: talerico513@gmail.com

BLOOM AND CAFÉ BETHANY – Our next Bloom and Café Bethany event will by on **Thursday, November 12th at 6:00pm**. There will be a catered dinner followed by a Modern Worship Service for families at 7:00pm. We would love to see you there as **this will be our last one for 2026**. Please sign up on the signup sheet located in the Welcome Center.

BETHANY YOUTH GROUP - is heading to **Urban Air Adventure Park**! On **Sunday November 8th**, we will meet at the church at 4:30pm and arrive at Urban Air around 5pm. We will stay for 2 hours and arrive back at the church around 7:30pm. **RSVP for Carpooling to Abbie by Friday November 6th at** youth@bethanypresby.org. You can purchase tickets and sign the UAAP waiver on their website: www.urbanair.com See Abbie for a Bethany waiver.

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF OCTOBER 25, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD ($)	2025 YTD ($)	+/- ($)
Contributions*	$ 466,050	$ 430,623	$ 35,427
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	316,075	307,515	8,560
Investment Income **	10,958	12,422	(1,464)
Total General Fund Income	$ 793,083	$ 750,560	$ 42,522
Year to Date Budget	775,285		
+/- Budget	$ 17,797		

*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

"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.

November Special Offering - Membership Support Fund

The special offering envelope for November supports the Membership Support Fund. This fund benefits Bethany members in need of assistance.

Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either by selecting "Membership Support" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for the Membership Support Fund on your check or a pew envelope.

Thank you for your contribution to Bethany members in need through the Membership Support Fund!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, November 1
Commitment Sunday
8:15AM – Worship & Communion
9:30AM - Sunday School
10:45AM – Worship & Communion
Adult and Youth Ukulele Practice after 10:45 Service
5:00PM – Bethany Youth Group

Monday, November 2
4:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout
6:30PM - Men's Huddle Group

Tuesday, November 3
10:00AM – Additional Choir Rehearsal
6:30PM – Notes in the Margin
7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, November4
9:30AM - Staff Bell Choir
10:00AM – Fellowship of Prayer
11:30AM – Knitters
12:00PM Golden Oldies Board Meeting
6:45PM – Cantata / Choir Practice

Thursday, November 5
9:00AM – Quilters
12:00PM - Rotary
6:30PM – Bloom in the Sanctuary
7:00PM - Dartball
7:30PM – AA

Friday, November 6

Saturday, November 7

Sunday, November 8
8:15AM – Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
10:45AM – Worship
Adult and Youth Ukulele Practice after 10:45 Service
12:00PM – Friendsgiving Lunch
4:30PM – Bethany Youth Group Urban Air Adventure Park