



“Adventures In Faith: III. The Adventure of Trust”

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025
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

"Cantabile"

Flute: Abigail Tuffiash

From Sonata in G Major by Telemann

WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Niki Ciaramella

Come, people of God, and remember the One who has been our refuge through every trial.

We lift our eyes to the Lord, our strength and our salvation.

Not by our power, nor by our wisdom do we stand, but by the grace of God.

In Christ we are one body, sharing one bread and one cup.

Let us worship the Lord who gives courage to the fearful, hope to the weary, and victory to the faithful.

With joy we worship the living God!

OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)*

Niki Ciaramella

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Rock of Ages"

No. 384

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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 thy 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.

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Please be seated)*

Niki Ciaramella

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Niki Ciaramella

Merciful God, We confess that we have trusted too much in ourselves and too little in you. We have relied on our own power when faced with challenges, and we have forgotten your promise to be our deliverer. We have sought comfort in idols of security and success rather than in your steadfast love. Forgive us, Lord. Renew us in faith, and remind us that in Christ we are one body, nourished by your grace. Give us courage to follow you in trust and obedience, that our lives may reflect your glory. Amen. *Silent Confession*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Niki Ciaramella

Hear the good news: God is faithful and just, and in Christ we are forgiven. The One who calls us unites us in one Spirit, one bread, and one cup. In Jesus Christ, we are set free and made whole. **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

Niki Ciaramella

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 MOMENT

"I'll Fly Away"

by Albert E. Brumley; Mountain Dulcimer: Joseph Oyler

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Niki Ciaramella

FIRST READING

I Corinthians 10:1-17

Niki Ciaramella

I do not want you to be ignorant, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did, as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." We must not engage

in sexual immorality, as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain, as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it. Therefore, my beloved, flee from the worship of idols. I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread.

SECOND READING

I Samuel 17:32-50

Pastor Brian Janssen

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 toward 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. So David prevailed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone, striking down the Philistine and killing him; there was no sword in David's hand.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

**"Adventures In Faith: III.
The Adventure of Trust"**

Pastor Brian Janssen

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

"A Joyful Song to the Lord"

by Crane and Klein; arr. by Patti Drennan; cpr 2019 Hal Leonard

Bethany Choir

Descant: Ruth Doyle

Flute: Abigail Tuffiash

Cello: Hope Trotta

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

Through Jesus Christ 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)*

"Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus"

No. 513

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1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, you soldiers of the cross; lift high His royal banner,
it must not suffer loss. From victory unto victory His army shall He lead,
till every foe is vanquished, and Christ is Lord indeed.

2 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the trumpet call obey; forth to the mighty conflict,
in this His glorious day. You that are brave now serve him against unnumbered foes;
let courage rise with danger, and strength to strength oppose.

3 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, stand in His strength alone; the arm of flesh will fail you,
you dare not trust your own. Put on the gospel armor, each piece put on with prayer;
where duty calls or danger, be never wanting there.

4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus, the strife will not be long; this day the noise of battle,
the next the victor's song. To those who conquer evil a crown of life shall be;
they with the King of Glory shall reign eternally.

BENEDICTION

Pastor Brian Janssen

CLOSING RESPONSE "When the Saints Go Marching In"
African-American Spiritual; Mountain Dulcimer: Joseph Oyler

POSTLUDE

"Be Still My Soul"

Flute: Abigail Tuffiash

Tune by Jean Sibelius; © A. Bernet 30.8.2013

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

The flowers are presented to the Glory of God by Claudia Ziegler in memory of her husband Don Ziegler.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

A special thanks and welcome back to Abigail Tuffiash, Flutist! Mrs. Abigail Tuffiash is a professional freelance musician who currently resides in the North Hills of Pittsburgh. In addition to various small ensemble and solo performances as a flutist, she has maintained a flourishing private teaching studio for the past 24 years. Abigail has shared sacred works in many churches, as flutist, cantor, and vocalist. She serves as a cantor for special services, Masses, and also participates as a member of the Regina Coeli Parish schola.

A round of applause and shout of thanks to Hope Trotta for blessing us with her cello music. What a wonderful way to enhance our worship service, thank you, Hope!

HOLY COW! IT'S A CAT!

Over the summer many of you participated in our Holy Cow Congregational Assessment Tool (CAT) and the results are in. The Session of the church has been hard at work the last month digesting the report and we will be sharing the results with the congregation on **October 5, 2025** immediately following **10:45am worship in the Great Room**. We will have some lite bites and a time of conversation. The leadership of the church would like to thank all of you for participating in the CAT survey as we continue to discern and learn how the Lord will use Bethany Church to be a witness to the gospel in the 21st century.

SECRET SISTER LUNCHEON – Sunday, September 21st at noon. If you are part of the 2025 Secret Sister program, you are invited to join us for a casual luncheon gathering. This is not a reveal luncheon, just a time to meet each other, and gather for some fellowship. The Reveal Luncheon will be in December.

HAND CHIMES - Adult Hand Chimes have started! We had so much fun ringing in the Spring and Summer and look forward to practicing our Fall repertoire. There's room for more hands to ring- if you're interested please meet us in the back of the choir room on Wednesdays at 12:30 and/or see or message Nadina for more info- music@bethanypresby.org

CANTATA CALL! - We are very excited to share our Cantata on **Dec 14, 2025.** Everything is coming together with the guest musicians and all the music arrived- it is time to prepare! (Brand new Cantata to us this year!). Cantata Choir practice will start on Oct 8, 2025, from 7- 7:45pm, and each Wednesday following (exception the week of Thanksgiving). Any instrumentalists that would like to share their gifts are welcome! Please see Nadina or email music@bethanypresby.org for more details.

UPWARD SPORTS - Registration for the 2026 season will open on the website at bethanypresby.org/upward on October 1st.

TRUNK OR TREAT - We will be hosting a Trunk or Treat Event here at Bethany Presbyterian Church on Saturday, October 25th from 6:00PM-8:00PM. We would love for you to participate. If you would like to decorate your car and give out candy or be here to greet people in the community who bring their kids to this special event, there are numerous ways to help. You can register using the QR code, calling the church office or emailing Katelyn Gilmore at gilmorekate.013@gmail.com. Katelyn is here to answer any questions you might have. It will be a great evening of fellowship.



SUNDAY SCHOOL CONTINUES FOR ALL AGES! – Sunday School is starting again and here is a lineup of all the classes for all ages and their teachers:

1. **Adults** - A Study of Second Corinthians - led by Sharon Salvini and Devin Underwood. Located in the front half of fellowship hall, nearest the stairwell.
2. **Adults** - A Study of The New Testament – led by Doug Bovard.
Located in the Bethany Room
3. **Adults** - A Study of First & Second Corinthians – led by Mark Rackley.
Located in the Chapel.
4. **Women** – A Jesus Shaped Life by Lisa Harper - A Book & Video Study – led by Becky Yanak. Explores the depths of God's character, His love for us, and how

our relationship with Him changes through Biblically sound theology.

Located in room 224

5. **Senior High** – Are you a teen, or know a teen, that is living in a world of anxiety, fear, self-doubt, and not feeling like you are enough? Join us as we explore the book *Live Fearless: A Call to Power, Passion, and Purpose* by Sadie Robertson. Led by Pam Petrow. Located in the Youth Lounge

6. **For Children:** a. Bible Stories & Fun – Babies through age 2 in the Nursery

b. Bible Stories & Fun – Ages 3-5 in room 245

c. Bible in Life by David C. Cook – Elementary & Middle School in rooms 239 and 240

THE CHOSEN VIDEO CLASS - We are excited to extend an invitation to everyone for The Chosen Season 5 video class. Whether you have joined us in the past or are new to these gatherings, we would love to have you with us. Our sessions will take place in the choir room on Sunday evenings at 7:00 PM, starting September 21st and they promise to be a great opportunity to connect, discuss, and enjoy this fantastic series together. If you have any questions or need further details, please feel free to reach out to Edgar Shaffer or Pam Petrow.

PRESCHOOL BIKE DONATIONS - The preschool is currently in need of [training wheel bikes in good condition!](#) The Church is open from 9-2 during the week so feel free to drop them off!

UKULELE FOR ALL AGES!

Students will meet in the front pew of the Sanctuary for class, directly following worship on Sept. 28th and then the next group is Oct 5th and Oct 12th. Due to some scheduling needs, we are accommodating the classes for all youth K-12 at either class date.

Lesson age breakdown as follows:

September 21st & September 28th - **5th-12th- Class** (After Church)

October 5th & October 12th - **K-4th- Class** (After Church)

Adult Class starting September 18th and will continue on Thursdays at 10:00am.

NOTICE - We are launching a College Outreach Program for Bethany members currently enrolled in college or trade schools and we need your help! Through this program, an individual or family will contact a student during the school year, sending cards and well wishes. There is no need to conceal the identities of the outreach family or individual, and students are not obligated to respond. We aim to help our college age members continue to feel included in our church life. If you are interested in participating, please contact Heather Lucas at membershipchair@bethanypresby.org.

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE CHURCH FINANCES AS OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

Thank you for your continued support.

	2025 YTD (\$)	2024 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 374,626	\$ 367,627	\$ 6,999
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	261,969	244,500	17,469
Investment Income **	11,148	32,618	(21,470)
Total General Fund Income	\$ 647,742	\$ 644,745	\$ 2,997
Year to Date Budget	661,883		
+/- Budget	\$ (14,140)		

*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.

We are embarking on an exciting new chapter for Bethany's education wing! This is both an opportunity and a responsibility: to create a welcoming and inspiring environment for our children, teens, and families to learn, grow and thrive in their faith journey. Renovations include new carpeting, paint, furniture, sign-in station and decorations. If you feel called, we are asking for your heartfelt donations to help us support this important work. All gifts, great or small, are appreciated and will be used faithfully for this specific project. To donate, please contact the church office or you can make a note on your check/donation identifying it as Education Wing Renovation Donation. We thank every donor for their ongoing support and faith. With your help, our education wing will continue to be a light for learning and love in our church and our community for years to come.

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING - Children / Youth Ministry Revitalization Program

The special offering envelope for September supports the renovation of the Children and Youth ministry classrooms and programs revitalization. Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either by selecting "Elementary Programs" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for Children / Youth Revitalization Programs on your check or a pew envelope.

Thank you for your contribution to the programs for the children and youth of Bethany and our community.



QR Code
for online
giving



BETHANY PRESCHOOL

ENROLLMENT IS NOW OPEN

FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR

*Our experienced teachers and
engaging curriculum offer
children the opportunity
to learn and grow in a safe,
nurturing environment.*

**Don't forget to sign up for Preschool for the upcoming
school year! We are so excited for the new year to start!
SPOTS ARE STILL OPEN!**

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, September 21

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
12:00PM – Secret Sisters Lunch
4:00PM - BYG Escape Room (Off Site)

Monday, September 22

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

Tuesday, September 23

7:00PM – ALANON
7:00PM – Session Meeting

Wednesday, September 24

11:30AM – Knitters
12:30PM – Hand Chimes
6:30PM - Troop 2 Scouts

6:00PM - Choir Dinner

Thursday, September 25

9:00AM – Quilters
10:00AM – Ukulele
12:00PM – Rotary
6:30PM – Bloom
7:00PM - Dart Ball
7:30PM - AA

Friday, September 26

Saturday, September 27 SUPPLEMENTAL DIAPER BANK

Sunday, September 28

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