



“Know, Abide and Hope”

10:45AM
SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 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

Variations on 'Christ Is Alive' – Wayne Earnest
Variations on 'Hymn to Joy' – Wayne Earnest
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WELCOME

Pastor Ellen Dawson

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Brian Janssen

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Come and see the love God has given to us.

Come and see what it means to be children of God.

Come with this hope, that Christ's presence is real.

With joy, we come to see, praise, and worship the Lord! Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven"

No. 289

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1 Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise: sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise; he who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled-- Jesus Christ, the King of glory, now is risen from the dead.

2 Alleluia, Christ is risen! Death at last has met defeat: see the ancient powers of evil in confusion and retreat; once he died, and once was buried: now he lives forevermore, Jesus Christ, the world's Redeemer, whom we worship and adore.

3 Christ is risen, we are risen! Set your hearts on things above; there in all the Father's glory lives and reigns our King of love; hear the word of peace he brings us, see his wounded hands and side! Now let every wrong be ended, every sin be crucified.

4 Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high: Alleluia to the Savior who has gained the victory; Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity! Alleluia, alleluia to the Triune Majesty!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Brian Janssen

Merciful God, You made us in Your image, with minds to know You, hearts to love You, and wills to serve You. But our knowledge is imperfect, our love inconstant, and our obedience incomplete. We refuse to go where You lead us. We fail to grow into Your likeness. We resist opening our eyes to our own brokenness. Please forgive us and help us to live as ones forgiven and freed from sin. Amen.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Let us remember that Christ forgives our sins because he bore them at Calvary, not because we deserve Christ's pardon; and though our sins stubbornly cling to us, our Savior's love releases us from their grip and gives us freedom to live the new life of grace. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. He is Risen! **He is Risen Indeed!**

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 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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Pastor Brian Janssen

FIRST READING

Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.
How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words and seek after lies?
But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself;
the LORD hears when I call to him.

When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent.
Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD.

There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!
Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"
You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.
I will both lie down and sleep in peace,
for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

Pastor Ellen Dawson

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Know, Abide, and Hope"

Pastor Ellen Dawson

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

**"I've Been Changed"
Bethany Choir**

Mosie Lister

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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*)

"Lift High the Cross"

No. 287

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Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
our King victorious, Christ, the Son of God. [Refrain]

2 All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died. [Refrain]

3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
your death has brought us life eternally. [Refrain]

4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory. [Refrain]

BENEDICTION (*Please Stand*)

Pastor Ellen Dawson

POSTLUDE

Toccata on 'Lift High the Cross' – Gordon Young

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, under the guidance of Nursery Director, Melina Robinson, 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, Marlene Haley, Dee Kantorczyk

The sympathy of the congregation is extended to the Gastgeb Family on the passing of their uncle, Robert Yaggi, on April 5, 2024.

Prayers for our College Students

Tanner Zissis - Senior at University of Central Florida

Kathryn Nagy - Senior at University of Pittsburgh

Would you like to be a **Prayer Partner** for one of our College Students? A few of our church members are currently in college and will be going through finals soon. Please stop by the table in the Welcome Center today to get an envelope with the student's information on it so you can be praying for them during finals! Thank you.

NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are presented by

Meagan and Jason Smith

in celebration of their 17th wedding anniversary.

We welcome today our Guest Organist, Dr. Wayne Earnest.

Our Property Team is putting together a list of members who have medical training and/or AED or CPR Certification, and would like to be included on the list, please contact the church office. For more information, or if you have questions, contact Bill Paviol.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

BYG: UPCOMING EVENTS FOR BETHANY YOUTH GROUP. All 6th - 12th graders are invited to join us every Sunday! Mark your calendars for these events!

Urban Assault on Sunday April 14th!

Students & Parents, if you haven't already, you can join our Remind for text updates about BYG! Text the message @byg2024 to the phone number 81010 - If you have any issues just contact Abbie.

CREATION VBS – April 18th at 10AM - It's time to get the crafters together and make some awesome decor for SCUBA - this year's Vacation Bible School theme! Join Celina and Meagan as they host Creation VBS every 1st and 3rd Thursday from 10- 12PM in The Youth Lounge. This week we'll be making *lobsters, clams with pearls* and *sea flowers*.

VBS - Go on an undersea adventure with us to "SCUBA VBS - Diving Into Friendship with God"! For children age 4 through entering 5th grade, June 17-21 from 9am - noon. Youth & adult volunteers are needed! Please contact Celina Farabaugh, if you have any questions or to sign up as a volunteer, at cfarabaugh19@gmail.com or 724-554-6370.

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, June 22, 2024 --The Annual Bethany Church Golf Outing at Ft. Cherry Golf Club. (The Saturday after Father's Day.)

DANIEL at Sight and Sound Theater, September 4th and 5th. If you are interested in being a part of a trip to the Sight and Sound Theater in September to see the new production of "Daniel", please contact Carole Aspinall at 412-833-8114. This is a trip being led by our Golden Oldies, but all church members are welcome.

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

MISSION TEAM SOJOURNER HOUSE COLLECTION - The Mission Team will be holding a collection until April 28th for Sojourner House. Collection containers are located under the Mission Team Bulletin Board in the Welcome Center. The following items will be collected: Shampoo, Soap, Deodorant, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Feminine Products, Paper Towels, Laundry Soap, Toilet Paper, Cleaning Products

DONATIONS FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Thank you so much to all who have donated items! *As of today, we have enough cardboard rolls. We are no longer in need of them.* The items listed below we are in need of:

- RED Pool Noodles
- Crepe Paper Streamers in shades of green
- Small to Medium shallow (Amazon like) sized boxes
- Underwater trinkets/ scuba or snorkeling gear

SARRIS CANDY –The Sarris Candy sales proceeds for April are going to Camp Crestfield.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

A listing of our Sunday School Classes can be found on the screens in the Welcome Center.

WORSHIP AND WONDER – Children 4 years old through 2nd grade are welcome to follow the Worship and Wonder Teachers to the classroom (rm 234) after the Children’s sermon each week during our 10:45AM service. All helpers need to be in 6th grade and above. Helpers also need to pre-register by calling Debby Hayes at 412-266-0982.

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF APRIL 7, 2024:

	2024 YTD (\$)	2023 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 146,025	154,235	\$ (8,211)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	89,375	67,085	22,291
Investment Income **	15,457	7,215	8,242
Total General Fund Income	\$ 250,857	\$228,535	\$ 22,322
Year to Date Budget	249,267		
+/- Budget	\$ 1,590		

*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.

April Special Offerings - Bethany Education Fund and Camp Fund

The special offering envelopes for April support the Bethany Education Fund (blue envelope) and Camp Fund (yellow envelope). The Bethany Education Fund provides scholarships to Bethany high school seniors pursuing post-secondary education or training, and the Camp Fund provides scholarships to youth attending Christian summer camp programs as approved by the Discipleship team. Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to these special offerings either by selecting "Bethany Education Fund" or "Camp Fund" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for the Bethany Education Fund or Camp Fund on your check or a pew envelope. Thank you for your contribution to these valuable scholarship programs for the youth of Bethany!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, Apr 14

8:15AM and 10:45AM - Worship
9:30AM – Sunday School
12:00PM – Confirmation Class
5:00PM – BYG Urban Assault
6:00PM – MOPS Steering Committee

Monday, Apr 15

6:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout
7:00PM – Deacon Meeting
7:00PM – Mission Team Meeting

Tuesday, Apr 16

6:30PM - Men's Huddle
7:00PM - Grief Class Book Study
7:00PM - ALANON

Wednesday, Apr 17

11:30AM - Knitters
7:00PM - Choir
7:00PM - Scouts

Thursday, Apr 18

9:00AM – Quilters
10:00AM – Creation VBS
12:00PM – Golden Oldies
12:00PM – Rotary
6:30PM – Bloom Service
7:30PM - AA

Friday, Apr 19

Saturday, Apr 20

FOOD BANK

Sunday, Apr 21

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