



“The Best Intentions”

10:45AM
SCOUT SUNDAY
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 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

"Let Your Light So Shine" by Tom Birchwood

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WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Bless the Lord, O my soul. With all that is within me I will bless your holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. You forgive our iniquity and heal our diseases.

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

So great is your love toward all those who fear you. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

Let us worship God!

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Come We That Love the Lord"

No. 67

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1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known,
join in a song with sweet accord, and thus surround the throne.

2 Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;
but children of the heavenly King may speak their joys abroad.

3 The hill of Zion yields a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heavenly fields, or walk the golden streets.

4 Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground to fairer worlds on high.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Have mercy on us and hear our prayer, O God. We have failed to live in the light of your covenant. You set your rainbow above us, yet clouds of unbelief darken our days. Distrust wells within us; fear, not hope is our watchword. Your Son Jesus calls us to follow, but we are slow to obey. Without Your grace, we are unmoving. In mercy, renew us and bring us to life, through Jesus Christ..

Silent Prayer of Confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so also does Christ sit at God's right hand and intercede on our behalf. With that assurance I can say, 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

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

Debby Hayes

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING

Psalm 81:1-10

Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.
Raise a song; sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.
Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our festal day.
For it is a statute for Israel, an ordinance of the God of Jacob.
He made it a decree in Joseph, when he went out over the land of Egypt.
I hear a voice I had not known: "I relieved your shoulder of the burden;
your hands were freed from the basket.
In distress you called, and I rescued you; I answered you in the secret place of thunder;
I tested you at the waters of Meribah.
Hear, O my people, while I admonish you; O Israel, if you would but listen to me!
There shall be no strange god among you; you shall not bow down to a foreign god.
I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

SECOND READING

Mark 2:23-3:6

Pastor Brian Janssen

One Sabbath he was going through the grain fields, and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food, how he entered the house of God when Abiathar was high priest and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions?" Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for humankind and not humankind for the Sabbath, so the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. They were watching him to see whether he would cure him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"The Best Intentions"

Pastor Brian Janssen

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY "Think On These Things" by Ron Sprunger
Bethany Choir

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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

MOMENT FOR MINISTRY: Scouts Troop 2

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*)

“Lord, I Want to Be A Christian”

No. 457

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1 Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart.

2 Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

3 Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.

4 Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart. In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

BENEDICTION (*Please Stand*)

Pastor Brian Janssen

POSTLUDE

WELCOME TO BETHANY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We are delighted to have you in worship with us today!

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.

NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

The flowers in our Sanctuary this morning are given
in loving memory of Ryan Gricar.

We welcome Scouts from Troop 2 at our 10:45am worship service this morning.

LENTEN RESOURCES AVAILABLE - Devotionals for all ages are available in the Welcome Center! Please stop by the table to pick up a free resource for yourself, your kids, or your family. These materials include daily prayers and/or activities for now through Easter.

ASH WEDNESDAY – February 14

A CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER SERVICE IN THE CHAPEL – 12PM. As we draw closer to God during the season of Lent, please join us for an opportunity to go inward and connect more deeply with our Lord. Contemplative prayer and contemporary and reflective music will be led by Pastor Ellen Dawson, Pastor Brian Janssen and Nadina Robusto. Members from the Bloom Sessions will also be offering their gifts of music in worship with us. Meet us in the chapel and draw closer to God at the start of this Lenten season for a time of guided prayer, quiet contemplation, and centering through music.

FISH DINNER- 5:30PM - The Deacons will once again be hosting a fish dinner before our Ash Wednesday Worship Service.

TRADITIONAL SERVICE WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES – 7PM. Join Pastor Brian Janssen, Pastor Ellen Dawson, Nadina Robusto and Bethany's Choir in the sanctuary as we "remember that you are dust, and unto dust you shall return" and receive an "Invitation to Lenten Discipline"

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.

FREE ONLINE MARRIAGE COURSE - Step out of the cold this winter and put your marriage on the front burner! Join other couples (virtually) in our region for *The Marriage Course*. Beginning **Tuesday, February 27, 2024 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.**, and running for seven consecutive weeks, *The Marriage Course* offers couples practical support for strengthening your relationship, no matter how long you have been married. You will participate virtually from the comfort of your own home. The sessions are completely private (cameras and sound are off) with no group work. The sessions will help you to: Understand each other's needs; Communicate more effectively; Grow closer by learning methods to resolve conflict; Recover from ways you have hurt each other; Recognize how your upbringing affects your relationship...and much more!

There is **NO FEE** to attend *The Marriage Course*, and the course workbooks can even be downloaded for free. This course is being offered by the Mid Atlantic leaders of Alpha USA. Alpha is a worldwide Christian organization that teaches people about the basics of Christianity. To secure your spot, please register at: <https://alphamidatlantic.org/events/regional-online-marriage-course-4/>.

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!

February 11th: Super Bowl Pre-Game Get Together at 3:00pm - come hungry for Philly Pretzel Factory and among other games, **ROOMBA OF DOOM!**

Sunday, March 3rd: Bowling at Sports Haven with a chance to win the coveted BYG Bowling Trophy!

SAVE THE DATE: 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.

GOLDEN OLDIES Membership Dues for 2024 is being collected now through the February 15th meeting. The cost this year is \$25.00. If you are unable to attend the meeting in February, but would still like to join for the year, please contact the church office or Carole Aspinall.

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

PRAYERS FOR OUR MISSIONS –The Fellowship of Prayer is targeting prayers each month for missions we support. For the month of February, please pray for James and Zoe Williams, who work with Servant Partners to encourage economic dev./plant churches in Africa; and for the Fisher House which provides a “home away from home” at the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System’s in Oakland.

SARRIS CANDY –The Sarris Candy Sales’ proceeds for February are going to the Washington City Mission “Hope For Homeless Women Capital Campaign”. This Campaign is to raise funds for the construction of a 50-bed shelter for Homeless Women. The cost is \$6.4M; however, \$4M has already been raised and ground breaking is scheduled for May 2024. This is an urgent need for the City Mission as they currently only have a 14-bed Women’s Shelter and have 70 women on their waiting list. The City Mission commissioned a Needs Assessment in 2022 and it was determined that the Southwestern PA area does not have the facilities needed to offer rehabilitative programming to the growing population of homeless women that enables them to move from homelessness to independence. 80% of women report trauma and abuse as their main cause of homelessness and homeless women have higher rates of mental illness than homeless men and report more suicidal thoughts and attempts. Washington City Mission has had a high rate of success with their current 14-bed shelter as in 2021 81% of the homeless women they served left the shelter with sustainable housing, 61% increased their level of employability, 61% improved their financial stability and 50% had been alcohol and drug-free for the entire duration of their stay. They feel they can be even more effective with a larger facility. Bethany supports all programs of the Washington City Mission monthly; however, we would like to designate the February Sarris Sales to this specific project. Please stop by the candy cart and enjoy some chocolate and/or drop off a donation for this campaign.

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF JANUARY 30, 2024:

	2024 YTD (\$)	2023 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 35,667	47,077	\$ (11,410)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	27,500	19,167	8,333
Investment Income **	0	0	0
Total General Fund Income	\$ 63,167	\$ 66,244	\$ (3,077)
Year to Date Budget	70,247		
+/- Budget	\$ (7,080)		

*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.

FEBRUARY SPECIAL OFFERING - PER CAPITA

The special offering envelope for February supports the 2024 Per Capita balance. This collection helps to defray the Per Capita cost that Bethany is required to remit to the Presbytery. The 2024 Per Capita amount is \$36.35.

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

Thank you for your contribution to the Per Capita Offering!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, Feb 11

8:15AM and 10:45AM– Worship
9:30AM – Sunday School
12:00PM- Confirmation Class
3:00PM – BYG

Monday, Feb 12

5:30-8:30PM – Upward Practices
6:30PM – Body Carpenter Workout
7:00PM – Session Teams

Tuesday, Feb 13

5:30-8:30PM – Upward Practices
6:30PM – Men’s Huddle
7:00PM – Grief Class Book Study
7:00PM – Coed Dart Ball
7:00PM - ALANON

Wednesday, Feb 14

ASH WEDNESDAY

11:30AM – Knitters
12:00PM – Contemplative Prayer Service
5:30PM – Fish Dinner
7:00PM – Worship Service

Thursday, Feb 15

9:00AM – Quilters
12:00PM – Golden Oldies
5:30-8:30PM – Upward Practices
6:30PM - Bloom
7:00PM – Dart Ball
7:30PM - AA

Friday, Feb 16

Saturday, Feb 17

UPWARD GAME DAY
FOOD BANK

Sunday, Feb 18

8:15AM and 10:45AM– Worship
9:30AM – Sunday School
12:00PM- Confirmation Class
5:00PM – BYG