



Uninvited Guests

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 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

10:45- "House of God Forever"

by Jon Foreman; © 2008 Rubadub Rublishing Publishing

WELCOME

Laura Dugan

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Laura Dugan

Please stand if you are able and join in the call to worship

We come as people who have been looking for a place to pray.

God has gone ahead of us and is already here.

We come from our work and our trades, from our homes and our households.

The Lord meets us where we gather and speaks a word we did not bring ourselves.

We come to listen, and we trust God to open what we cannot open on our own.

Let us worship the God who calls strangers into one family in Jesus Christ.

OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)*

Laura Dugan

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"I Sing the Almighty Power of God"

No 31

- 1 I sing the almighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at his command and all the stars obey.
- 2 I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;
he formed the creatures with his word and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how your wonders are displayed where'er I turn our eye,
if I we survey the ground I tread or gaze upon the skies.
- 3 There's not a plant or flower below but makes your glories known;
and clouds arise and tempests blow by order from your throne;
while all that borrows life from you is ever in your care,
and everywhere that I may be, you, God, are present there.

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Please be seated)*

Laura Dugan

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Laura Dugan

Merciful God, we confess that our hearts are often closed to you. We hear your Word, but we do not always listen. We come to worship with minds already made up, and we guard our lives from your interruption. We keep our homes and our tables for ourselves and those like us. We fear the stranger and hold back our welcome. When you have shown us kindness, we have been slow to share it. Forgive us, Lord. Open what we have shut. Wash us again in your grace, and make us a people whose doors and lives are open to your purposes, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.
Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Laura Dugan

Hear the good news: we are not saved because we found the way to God. God came to us in Jesus Christ. Christ lived for us, died for us, and was raised for us, and by his Spirit he opens hearts that could not open themselves. Everyone who belongs to him is washed clean and welcomed into God's household. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE *(Please Stand)*

"Gloria Patri"

Public Domain | Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

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

Laura Dugan

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

Laura Dugan

SCRIPTURE READING**Acts 16:11-15, 40****Pastor Louise Rogers**

We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us. After leaving the prison they went to Lydia's home, and when they had seen and encouraged the brothers and sisters there, they departed.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.**SERMON****Uninvited Guests****Pastor Louise Rogers****WE RESPOND****THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS****THE OFFERTORY "Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above" Bethany Choir**arr. by Mark Edwards; cpr 2025 Lorenz Publishing;**RESPONSE (*Please Stand*) "Doxology"**Bethany CCLI License 1761225 | Bethany Livestream License 20229965

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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER****Pastor Louise Rogers**

We pray this in the name of 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*)

“Come Thou Font of Every Blessing”

No 68

- 1 Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
 streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
 Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
 praise his name- I'm fixed upon it, name of God's redeeming love.
- 2 Here I raise to thee an altar; hither by thy help I'm come;
 and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
 Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
 he, to rescue me from danger, bought me with his precious blood.
3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
 Let that goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee;
 prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
 here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

BENEDICTION

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.

NEWS FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

Today's ushers are Deb Perkins, Connie Segeleon, Edgar Shaffer and Deb Pyle

The flowers this morning are presented to the Glory of God by Carole and Tom Aspinall in memory of Carole's Parents, Charles and Irene Fox.

Starting Monday, October 5th, Pastor Brian will return to his schedule of Monday as his Sabbath Day and working Tuesday-Friday. Pastor Justin will be working Monday-Thursday with Friday as his Sabbath Day. This ensures that there is a pastor available at Bethany every day of the week, while also ensuring each pastor has a Sabbath Day for rest, joy, delight and God's abundance is embraced.

A Special Thank You to Xuelai Talerico for sharing her musical talents with us in today's Service.

We also want to give a Special Thanks to Reverend Louise Rogers for sharing her ministry with us today. She comes to us today by way of Pittsburgh Presbytery where she worked on staff as an Associate Minister before her retirement. Louise served in several churches in the South Hills of Pittsburgh during her over 20-year career in Ministry and these include John McMillan Presbyterian Church, Beechview Presbyterian Church, Peters Creek Presbyterian Church and Westminster Presbyterian Church. She loves being with people of all ages to share God's message of grace and love. Personally, she is married to Bill and they have two married daughters and four grandchildren. She is happy to share pictures of her beautiful grandchildren.

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!

FLOWERS – December 6th is still open if you would like to have flowers for the altar. Please contact the Church Office to reserve a date.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COLLECTION- This year our Sunday School Offering will go to our Mission Partner, Feed My Starving Children.

ADDITIONAL CHOIR REHEARSAL- Thought about trying out the choir, but can't make an evening rehearsal? Please join us at **10:00AM on Tuesdays** for our newest addition! We will meet in the Choir Room to work on warm-ups with our Music Associate, Caleb Auldridge, and then "lock in" on the weekly anthem with Music Director, Nadina Robusto. Hope to see you there!

CIDER POP-UP- The Membership Team is holding a **Cider Pop-Up today after both services**. There will be both hot and cold Apple Cider and other Fall Treats including Apple and Pumpkin Pie and Pumpkin Rolls.

GOLDEN OLDIES BOARD MEETING- The Golden Oldies Board Meeting for October will be held this Wednesday, September 30th at 12:00pm

UPWARD SPORTS - Registration for the 2027 season will open on **October 1st** on the Bethany Website at bethanypresby.org. Click the Upward Sports Page button at the bottom of the Website Home Page for all information.

WORLD WIDE COMMUNION-HERITAGE SUNDAY- **October 4th** is Worldwide Communion Sunday and it is also **Heritage Sunday** when we honor our Octogenarians and 50+ year members. There will be a cake and fruit reception after each service for these special members. It will also be Pastor Justin Miller's first day as our Associate Pastor. Please plan on attending to join in the worship service and celebration.

CANTATA CALL!- we are very excited to share our Cantata on **December 13, 2026**. Everything is coming together with the guest musicians and all of the music is here- it is time to prepare! (Brand new Cantata to us this year, featuring excerpts from Vivaldi's "Gloria" and Tchaikovsky's "Nutcracker Suite"!). **Cantata Choir practice will start on October 7, 2026 from 6:45pm – 7:30pm**, 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.

MORNING MOMco, - The Thursday morning MOMco. Group will meet the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 9:15am. **Their next Meeting is Thursday, October 8th and childcare is provided.** This year they are sharing all things MOMco, so the burden to lead is not solely on one person. Please call Bonnie at [412-863-2100](tel:412-863-2100) and/or just show up and meet the group as we would love to have you.

EVENING MOMco- The evening MOMco. Group is going pumpkins! On **October 8th from 7:00pm to 8:30pm** the Youth Lounge, the moms will be making this adorable and easy pumpkin craft, enjoying pumpkin desserts and learning how to adjust to the many seasons of change that moms experience. All moms are welcome, even if you have never come to a MOMco, Meeting. It is a great opportunity to refresh, rejuvenate and have good company.



BLOOM AND CAFÉ BETHANY- our Next Bloom and Café Bethany event will be on **Thursday, October 8th at 6:00pm!** There will be a catered dinner followed by a **Modern Service for families at 7:00pm.** As this will be Pastor Justin's first Bloom Modern Worship Service and he will be providing the message, we would love to see you there welcoming and supporting him. Please sign up on the signup sheet in the Welcome Center.



CONGREGATION MEMBER/FAMILY PROFILE- We are asking all Members/Families to complete a Congregation Member Profile in order to create a Binder for Pastor Justin to get to know each of us better. The Forms are located on the table on the right side of the Welcome Center. See Denise Leigh if you need help with a picture.

CITY MISSION DONATIONS- The City Mission, one of Bethany's Mission Partners, has installed a new **Blue** donation collection bin located on the side of the church next to the **red shed in front of the extended parking area. They advised that they would be making collections every Monday.**

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](mailto:Bill.Paviol@rotary.org). Please keep the Rotary and this Project in your prayers.

ANGELS' PLACE COLLECTION- The Mission Team is collecting "Wish List" items for our Mission Partner, Angels' Place during the **Month of October**. Angels' Place is a family cooperative community and home away from home with childcare and early childhood education for low income single parents. Their goal is to provide a clean, safe, fun and comfortable environment where families are free to play, grow and learn. The "Wish List" includes the following: Paper Towels, Paper Plates, Small Dixie Cups, 13 Gallon Kitchen Trash Bags, Hand Soap and Non-Perishable snacks for Children. A collection box will be located outside of the Nursery.

THE CHOSEN SEASON SIX, EPISODE 1 VIEWING PARTY- We have early access to the first episode of season 6 of the Chosen! The Membership Team is hosting a catered dinner and viewing party in the Welcome Center **on Sunday, October 25th**. Dinner will at approximately 6:00pm with the viewing beginning at 7:00pm. There is a Sign-Up Sheet on the table on the right side of the Welcome Center if you plan to attend as we will need a number for the caterer.



SAVE THE DATE- It may seem early, however the Discipleship Team will again be hosting the annual **Friendsgiving Event on Sunday, November 8th** and wanted to make sure you got it on your calendar. Additional information will follow.

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD (\$)	2025 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 405,416	\$ 378,265	\$27,151
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	277,020	269,560	7,460
Investment Income **	10,888	11,148	(260)
Total General Fund Income	\$ 693,324	\$ 658,973	\$34,351
Year to Date Budget	672,123		
+/- Budget	\$ 21,202		

*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

September Special Offering – Children/Youth Ministry Programs

The Special offering envelope for September supports the Children and Youth Ministry programs.

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 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.

October Special Offering- Men’s and Women’s Ministries

The special offering envelop for October supports the Men’s and Women’s Ministries of Bethany.

Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for Men’s and Women’s Ministries on your check or a pew envelope.

Thank you for your contribution to Men’s and Women’s Ministries at Bethany.

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, September 27

8:15AM – Worship
Cider Pop-Up After Each Service
9:30AM - Sunday School
10:45AM – Worship
Adult and Youth Ukulele Practice – after 10:45 Service
5:00PM – Bethany Youth Group

Monday, September 28

4:30PM - Body Carpenter Workout
6:30PM - Men's Huddle Group

Tuesday, September 29

10:00am – Additional Choir Rehearsal
7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, September 30

11:30AM – Knitters
12:00 Golden Oldies Board Meeting
7:00PM – Choir Practice

Thursday, October 1

9:00AM – Quilters
12:00PM – Rotary
6:30PM – Bloom in Sanctuary
7:00PM - Dartball
7:30PM – AA

Friday, October 2

11:00AM – Dolly Russell Funeral and Luncheon

Saturday, October 3

Sunday, October 4

Worldwide Communion and Heritage Sunday

8:15AM – Worship
Heritage Reception After Each Service
9:30AM - Sunday School
10:45AM – Worship
Adult and Youth Ukulele Practice after 10:45 Service
12:00PM – 4:00PM Rotary Chili Cook-off at Fairview Park