



“Who Is My Neighbor?”

SUNDAY, JANUARY 11, 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

"Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness"

by arr. Anna Laura Page; cpr 2011 Lorenz Publishing

WELCOME

Pastor Larry Ruby

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Brian Janssen

To the Lord our God,
The only God,
Who turns bitterness and sorrow
Into joy and new life!
The Lord is our strength and salvation.
We rejoice in your holy name.
Come and worship.
Our God is good.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Brian Janssen

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

"Christ for the World! We Sing"

No. 561

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1 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring with loving zeal: the poor and them that mourn, the faint and overborne, sin-sick and sorrow-worn, for Christ to heal.

2 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring with fervent prayer: the wayward and the lost, by restless passions tossed, redeemed at countless cost from dark despair.

3 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring with one accord: with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare, with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.

4 Christ for the world! we sing; the world to Christ we bring with joyful song: the newborn souls whose days, reclaimed from error's ways, inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.

CALL TO CONFESSION *(Please be seated)*

Pastor Brian Janssen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Brian Janssen

When we get distracted by achieving and doing and forget to slow down and be quiet, God of the still small voice, forgive us. When we focus so much on meditation and reflection that we forget to reach out in compassion, God of service, forgive us. When we blame you for abandoning us when in fact we abandoned you, God of patience, forgive us. When we reach out for your hand in love then drop it for someone else who needs it, God of love, forgive us. Revive in

us the desire to live in a more balanced and loving way. In the name of the Risen Christ. Amen. *Silent Confession*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Brian Janssen

Hear the Good News: God will show you what needs to be changed, what will restore balance and what needs to begin again. Peace and pardon are yours! **Thanks be to 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

Pastor Brian Janssen

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

Pastor Brian Janssen

FIRST READING (NIV)

Psalm 82:3-4

Pastor Brian Janssen

Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

SECOND READING (NIV)

Luke 10:25-37

Pastor Larry Ruby

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” He answered, “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind’; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.” But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” In reply Jesus said: “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he was attacked by robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper. ‘Look after him,’ he said, ‘and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.’” “Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Who Is My Neighbor?”

Pastor Larry Ruby

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

"Shines the Light"

Bethany Choir

by Susan and Lee Dengler; cpr 2012 Harold Flammer Music

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

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)*

“I Love to Tell the Story”

No. 560

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1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above, of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love. I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story! 'twill be my theme in glory to tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.

2 I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it more wonderfully sweet. I love to tell the story; for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own Holy Word. [Refrain]

3 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest. And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song, 'twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE

"Every Valley"

Bethany Choir

(excerpts) by John Ness Beck; cpr 1976 Beckenhorst Press

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.

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

Today's ushers are Deb Pyle, Deb Perkins, Nolan Strouse and Sue Nagy.

Be sure to sign up for memorial flowers on the poster in the Welcome Center.

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

Bethany Youth Group Upcoming Events

I am so excited to be starting this new year! 2026 is going to be filled with new adventures and the return of many traditions as well! In January, Bethany Youth Group will be focusing on "Holy Habits" - inspiring youth to incorporate some spiritual habits into their daily lives! We will focus on Prayer, Bible Study/Devotions, and Community!

Sunday January 11th, 5:00pm-6:30pm - We will be making prayer boards! Don't worry if you aren't crafty, it doesn't need to look pretty ;) We will continue to add to our prayer boards and on the topic of Holy Habits throughout the month of January. We will also be voting on an outing for March!

Sunday January 18th, 5:00pm-6:30pm - Second Group Night of the year! This week we will continue to talk about "Holy Habits." We will also have a yummy hot chocolate bar to indulge in!

Sunday, January 25th, 5:00pm-6:30pm - Our last Group Night that is focused on Holy Habits! We will finish up this series by taking home our prayer boards!

Sunday February 1st, we will be going Mini Golfing - (indoors of course 🎯) at Puttshack! We will meet at the church at 4pm, and return around 7pm. The cost is \$20! Please RSVP by Wednesday January 28th!

The Bethany Youth Group Survey! - We are currently asking youth and their parents to fill out a survey to help us continue to improve the youth ministry here at Bethany (like a mini Holy Cow survey!). If you would like to fill one out and haven't yet gotten a link to it -please email Abbie at youth@bethanypresby.org

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION - The 8th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration will be held Monday, January 19, 2026 at Bethany Presbyterian Church at 6:30pm. The musical program includes a brief message, adult and youth community service awards, and community prayers. All are welcome to attend!

UPWARD BASKETBALL - Upward Basketball at Bethany begins again in January! We have a record number of players registered this year. 306 players, ages K5 through 2nd grade, will be taking to the courts with their first practices the week of January 12th. Our first game day is Saturday, January 24th, and the last game day is Saturday, February 28th.

If you can give us an hour or two, or more, on a game day to help manage this amazing program, please consider helping us. We have a variety of ways you can help - from being on the courts as a referee, to running the scoreboard and clock, to making sure the players get their snack after their games. Please contact Beckie Price or Mike Suchoza for more information, or to let us know of your availability to help. Beckie can be emailed at upward@bethanypresby.org. Thank you!

MISSION NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE
CHURCH FINANCES AS OF JANUARY 4, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD (\$)	2025 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 7,406	\$ 9,887	\$ (2,481)
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	7,805	7,591	214
Investment Income **	-	-	-
Total General Fund Income	\$ 15,211	\$ 17,478	\$ (2,267)
Year to Date Budget	17,404		
+/- Budget	\$ (2,193)		



QR Code
for online
giving

*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.

“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.

January Special Offering - Initial Offering

The special offering envelope for January supports the Initial Offering. This collection helps to defray the cost of the church offering envelopes. Online giver? Not receiving envelopes? You can still donate to this special offering either by selecting "Initial Offering" in the online giving portal or noting that your donation is for the Initial Offering on your check or a pew envelope. Thank you for your contribution to Initial Offering!

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, January 11

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
Youth and Adult Ukulele Practice after the second service
5:00PM - BYG Group Night

Monday, January 12

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

Tuesday, January 13

4:30PM - Upward Practice
6:45PM – Session Team Meetings
7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, January 14

5:30PM - Upward Practice
11:30AM – Knitters
12:30PM - Hand Chimes
6:30PM – Troop 2 Scouts
7:00PM – Choir Practice

Thursday, January 15

9:00AM – Quilters
12:00PM – Rotary
12:00PM – Golden Oldies Luncheon
4:30PM - Upward Practice
6:30PM – Bloom
7:00PM - Dartball
7:30PM – AA

Friday, January 16

Saturday, January 17

FOOD BANK

Sunday, January 18

8:15AM and 10:45AM – Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
Youth and Adult Ukulele Practice after the second service
5:00PM - BYG Group Night