



I Remember You

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 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

" Trio in G Major"

by David Lasky; cpr 2023 Lorenz Publishing

WELCOME

Pastor Brian Janssen

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Brian Janssen

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

One: Let us declare the greatness of God:

All: Who fills the earth with beauty,

One: Causes the sea to shout praise

All: And the birds to sing glory.

One: Great and loving is our God:

All: Touching us in our need,

One: Sending friends to listen and embrace,

All: Providing for all our needs in all seasons with abundant grace.

One: Wondrous and compassionate is our God:

All: Guarding us as the apple of God's eye,

One: Holding us with infinite and tender care,

All: Setting our hearts on fire, our minds to new possibilities and our voices to singing.

OPENING PRAYER *(Please Stand)*

Pastor Brian Janssen

HYMN *(Please Stand)*

" Great is Thy Faithfulness"

No. 72

- 1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father, there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed
thy hand hast provided-- great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

- 2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed
thy hand hast provided-- great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear
presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright
hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine and ten thousand beside!

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed
thy hand hast provided-- great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

CALL TO CONFESSION (*Please be seated*)

Pastor Brian Janssen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Brian Janssen

Holy God, we hear your words, trust your promises and still shy away from acting with boldness, witnessing with confidence, speaking with kindness. We keep our faith hidden, our prayers personal and our voices quiet. Empowering God, fill us with joy in believing and with confidence in living so we may bear your light on every step of life's journey. Let nothing keep us from walking as faithful followers. Amen.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Brian Janssen

Even in our moments of doubt, our lack of faith, and the blindness which means we fail to see God amongst us, God is still at work. God is still healing. God is still forgiving. Even when you fail to see God, God still sees us and still loves us. Sisters and brothers, our sins are forgiven.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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.

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

Pastor Brian Janssen

During our Children's Sermon today we will Commission our Sunday School Teachers and Christian Educators and also conduct the Blessing of the Backpacks:

THE COMMISSIONING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATORS

Leader: You have said yes to teaching the story of God to the children and youth of this congregation. Will you be faithful students of Scripture yourselves, so that what you teach is true?

Teachers and Educators: I will, with God's help.

Leader: Will you love the children and youth entrusted to you as Christ loves them — with patience, with joy, and without favor?

Teachers and Educators: I will, with God's help.

Leader: Will you pray for them by name, and point them, in all that you say and do, toward Jesus Christ?

Teachers and Educators: I will, with God's help.

Leader: People of Bethany, these are your teachers. They stand in your place before your children each week. Will you support them — praying for them, encouraging them, and holding up their work as ministry that matters?

Congregation (all, in unison): We will. We will pray for you by name, encourage you in this work, and thank God for you. You do not teach alone — you teach on behalf of all of us.

THE BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Leader: Students, hold up your backpacks, or rest a hand on them.

Leader: These backpacks will go where you go this year — into classrooms, hallways, cafeterias, practice fields, and dorm rooms. They will carry your books and your pencils. We ask God to fill them with something more: courage, honesty, kindness, and the quiet confidence that you belong to Christ wherever you are.

Congregation (all, in unison): Lord, bless these backpacks and the students who carry them. Go with them into every classroom and hallway this year. Make them people of honesty, courage, and kindness, and remind them, on ordinary Tuesdays as much as on Sunday mornings, that they belong to you.
Amen.

SENDING

Leader: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in, from this time on and forevermore. (Psalm 121:8,)

Leader: Go, students, to your classrooms.

Congregation: We send you with our blessing.

Leader: Go, teachers, to your Sunday school rooms.

Congregation: We send you with our thanks and our prayers.

Leader: Go, all of us, back to our ordinary lives.

Congregation: Trusting the Lord who keeps us, this week and every week. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Pastor Brian Janssen

FIRST READING

Acts 16:11-15

Pastor Brian Janssen

From Troas we put out to sea and sailed straight for Samothrace, and the next day on to Neapolis. From there we traveled to Philippi, a Roman colony and the leading city of that district of Macedonia. And we stayed there several days. On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there. One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message. When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. "If you consider me a believer in the Lord," she said, "come and stay at my house." And she persuaded us.

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:3-11

Pastor Larry Ruby

I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

I Remember You

Pastor Larry Ruby

WE RESPOND

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

"Every Valley"

Bethany Choir

by John Ness Beck; cor 1976 Beckenhorst Press

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)*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Brian Janssen

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)*

"In Christ Alone"

Guitar Accompaniment – Caleb Auldridge

- 1** In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
this Cornerstone, this solid ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace when fears are stilled, when strivings cease;
my Comforter, my All in All; here in the love of Christ I stand.
- 2** In Christ alone who took on flesh; fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness scorned by the ones He came to save;
'til on that cross as Jesus died the wrath of God was satisfied;
for ev'ry sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

- 3** There in the ground His body lay; Light of the world by darkness slain.
Then bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
for I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ!
- 4** No guilt in life, no fear in death; this is the pow'r of Christ in me.
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man can ever pluck me from His;
hand'til He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

BENEDICTION

CLOSING RESPONSE "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" Bethany Choir
by William G. Tomer and Jeremiah E. Rankin;

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 Pyle, Karl Salvini, Sharon Salvini and Ashley Strouse

The flowers this morning are presented to the Glory of God by Alice Eiszler in remembrance of the birthday of her mother, Stella Serniak

Today is **Pastor Larry Ruby's** last day as our Interim Associate Pastor at Bethany and we want to thank him for his time with us and to wish him well in whatever future endeavors he pursues. **In Honor of him** on his last day, the Choir would also like to dedicate the Anthem to him for his love in pastoral care and his guidance in glorifying God.

We will all miss him!

PROGRAM AND EVENT NEWS

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION – Preschool registration for the 2026/2027 school year is now open on our website! Contact Danielle Gioia at Gioia.preschool@gmail.com with any questions! We are so excited for the coming year!

FLOWERS – We still have dates open if you would like to have flowers for the altar. November 1st and December 6th and 13th are all available. Please contact the Church Office to reserve a date.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS- The Membership Team will be holding a New Members Class on Saturday, **September 19th in the Chapel from 9:00am to 12:00pm.** Anyone interested in becoming a member of Bethany and/or interested in learning about Bethany Presbyterian Church is invited to attend. Please contact the Church Office at 412-221-5132 or email Heather Lucas at membershipchair@bethanypresby.org

WOMEN'S MINISTRY CRAFT AND LUNCH- **September 20th after the 10:45 Service** in Fellowship Hall for anyone 10 and up. We will be making a chunky finger knit pumpkin (see the model in the Welcome Center) and the \$30 fee also includes lunch. The fee is due to Heather Lucas today September 13th.

UKULELE PRACTICE – Ukulele practice for both Adults and Youth will start **next Sunday, September 20th** after the 10:45 service.

CIDER POP-UP- The Membership Team is holding a **Cider Pop-Up after both services on Sunday, September 27th**. There will be both hot and cold Apple Cider and other Fall Treats including Apple and Pumpkin Pie and Pumpkin Rolls.

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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - Bethany has a volunteer opportunity for anyone 12 years and older with **Sojourner House** on **Wednesday, September 16th from 9:30am to noon**. We will complete the painting work we started on August 15th at their Green Space/play yard. If you are available and interested in this opportunity please (call or text) Karen Talerico at [412-913-3789](tel:412-913-3789).

FALL KICK-OFF Opportunities Today

All of the following start today:

Children's Worship Opportunities for Children ages 3 to 5th are starting today with the following two classes during the Worship Service at 10:45

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.

The **Steelers** play the Atlanta Falcons at 1:00PM

The **Bethany Youth Group** will meet at 5pm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTED TODAY

Sunday School started today and we hope you plan to or did attend one of our classes. The following are the various opportunities; therefore if you missed today, we would love to see you next week

Toddlers and Babies 3 and under – Nursery Care is available during Sunday School

Children and Youth – Ages 3 Through 12th Grade

From 9:30am to 9:45 am - All meet in the Choir Room for singing and musical instruments with the Sunday School Musical Team.

Preschool Ages 3-5 -Rooms 244-245 for Bible Story, Coloring Page and Play Time

Classes with the Bible in Life Curriculum by David C. Cook

Grades 1-3 in Room 239

Grades 4-7 in Room 240

Grades 8 – 12 in room 236

Adult Sunday School Classes

Bible Study – in Fellowship Hall with Devin Underwood and assisted by Sharon Salvini. They are finishing last year's study of James and beginning in October will choose a new Book of the Bible to study. Once a month they briefly study a Biblical Woman. Open to adult men and women

Through the Bible – In the Bethany Room with Doug Bovard. Will involve reading through the Bible at home and discussing in the class. Reading through the Bible will immerse us in the whole counsel of God. Open to anyone over 21 years.

Women's Sunday School Class – Room 224 with Becky Yanak. Will involve a 12 week video study entitled: Rahab, Hagar and Naomi: "How does everyone else see me? How do I see myself How does God see me? All women welcomed.

2 Corinthians – In the Chapel with Mark Rackley. They will be finishing last year's study of second Corinthians picking up at Chapter 12. At the first meeting they will determine next topic of study. Open to adult men and women

We still need a few people who are willing to be placed on a substitute teacher list, to fill in as needed throughout the year. Please reach out to Celina Farabaugh if you'd like to help out! [724-554-6370](tel:724-554-6370) or cfarabaugh19@gmail.com

CHURCH FINANCES AS OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

Thank you for your continued support.

	2026 YTD (\$)	2025 YTD (\$)	+/- (\$)
Contributions*	\$ 388,335	\$ 360,515	\$12,820
General Fund Subsidies (Transfers)	261,440	254,378	7,062
Investment Income **	10,888	119,148	(260)
Total General Fund Income	\$ 660,663	\$ 626,041	\$34,622
Year to Date Budget	638,536		
+/- Budget	\$ 22,127		

*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.

WEEK AHEAD

Sunday, September 13

8:15AM - Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
10:45AM - Worship
5:00PM – Bethany Youth Group

Monday, September 14

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

Tuesday, September 15

7:00PM – Deacons Meeting
7:00PM – ALANON

Wednesday, September 16

11:30AM – Knitters
6:00PM – Choir Dinner

Thursday, September 17

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

Friday, September 18

Saturday, September 19

8:30AM- Food Bank
9:00AM- New Members Class

Sunday, September 20

8:15AM - Worship
9:30AM - Sunday School
10:45AM - Worship
Adult and Youth Ukulele Practice after 10:45 Service
12:00 Women's Ministry Craft and Lunch