

People: By turning against Your will I have turned my love toward the world. From the bottom of my heart, I here and now renounce every idol in my life. In Your power I will watch for any temptation that will lead me away from You.

Pastor: Through Jesus Christ, God offers to be your God, if you allow Him to be.

People: Before all heaven and earth, I here and now acknowledge You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, as my Lord and God. I vow to give all of myself, body and soul, to be Your servant and to serve You in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the only way and means to God. God has given us Jesus as the way and means to salvation.

People: Jesus, You are the only new and living Way. I come to You hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, naked and unworthy. With all my power, I accept You as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own unworthiness and vow that You are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom and take You for my only guide. I renounce my own will and take Your will as my law.

Pastor: God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

People: All Your laws are holy, just and good. I willingly accept them as the rule for my words, thoughts and actions, promising I will strive to order my whole life around your direction. I will not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.

Pastor: Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

People: Jesus, I here and now, make this covenant with You and accept whatever comes in life. Through Your grace, I promise that neither life nor death will separate me from You.

Pastor: The Almighty God searches and knows you, even the thoughts of your heart.

People: O God, You know that we have made this covenant today in sincerity, without deceit or reluctance. If You find anything false in us, guide us and help us to set it right.

Let me be Your servant. Let me follow your commands. I will no longer follow my own desires. I give myself completely to your will. I am not my own. I am Yours alone. Make me into what You will. Rank me with those You will. Put me to use for You. Put me to suffering for You. Let me be employed for You. Let me be laid aside for You. Let me be lifted high for You. Let me be brought low for You. Let me be full or let me be empty. Let me have all things or let me have nothing. With a willing heart, I freely give everything to Your pleasure and disposal.

O mighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through Your infinite grace, have become Your covenant servant. You are mine and I am Yours. So be it. May this covenant that I have made here on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.

Pastor: Christ is Savior to those who are His true servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. To be His servant is to consent fully to His will. Christ accepts nothing less. Christ will be all in all or he will be nothing.

*** SONG**

Hymn #388: "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY "What Child Is This?"

*** DOXOLOGY**

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: Take these gifts we bring, O Lord. Use them as you use us, too - for your purpose, to do your will, to share your love and to share the good news with all the world. Amen.

*** CLOSING SONG**
Hymn #29: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

*** BLESSING**

*** POSTLUDE** "Christmas Tidings" William Stickles

WORSHIP NOTES

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS, as well as audio listening devices, are available from the Worship Welcome Team.

MONTHLY CONGREGATIONAL LETTERS: On communion Sundays, five letters will be placed in the Narthex and then taken to Fellowship in Galbraith Hall. *Please add a quick note to each letter ... these letters provide an important link to those members unable to join us during worship each week.*

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION: Will be observed on Sunday, Jan. 6th, Team 1 - Barbara Jay.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

LITURGISTS: Wendy Roithner; Jan. 6th Alexis Kiesling

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: No Fellowship due to the holiday; Jan. 6th Families I - L

CHILD CARE: Jessica Kelecava & Volunteer; Jan. 6th The Lucidore Family

WORSHIP WELCOME TEAM: Team 5: Dave Long, Carl Parise, Russ Lautenschlager, Marilyn* & Dan* Beckstrom; Jan. 6th - Team 6: Diane & Jack Miller, Barbara* & Larry* Jay (*Chairlift)

SANCTUARY COORDINATORS: Gary May; Jan. 6th Pam Decker

GRAPHICS TEAM: Robin Macherey; Jan. 6th Courtney Kiesling

SOUND BOARD: Steve Kloc; Jan. 6th Gail Anderson

CHANCEL FLOWERS:
Poinsettia Memorials

PRAYER CONCERNS: Rob Backstrom, Hartley Baird, Hank Barr, Betty Bauer, Gary Bittner, Marilou Booth, Art Brandenburg, Michele Cobb, Sueann DeFurio, Bob Dare, Linda Dermotta, Cliff Fair, Jean Fishel, Ginny Flynn, Bettyjean Gamble, Linda Hackett, Dick Jones, Dick Kraft, Pat Kraft, Whitten Little, Emily Parise, Leanne Parise, Donna Puglisi, Betty Ramsey, Dave Rawlings, Ann Reid, Sue Schoenberger, Joan Sherbak, Sally Sinatra, Anne Unger, Sheila and Rich Vandevander, Kristi Wade, Edith Wallace, Russell York, Sam Zimmerman

Congregation Life
Weekly Newsletter
December 30, 2018

MEMBERSHIP CLASS: Have you been a part of our worship and fellowship for a while and would like to take the next step to learn about membership or are you new to our church and would like to know more about our history, beliefs and ministries? You are invited to join Pastor Cathie and lay leaders of the congregation after worship on January 20th to learn more about Bethel Presbyterian and how you can be more involved in our life together or join as a member. We will meet for about an hour following worship on January 20th. If you need child care during these times, let the church office know at least one week in advance and we'll make sure we are ready for your children.

SOUTH HILLS INTERFAITH MOVEMENT FOOD PANTRIES: SHIM would like to have a shelf at the Food Pantry dedicated to baking items. They are requesting donations of flour, sugar, vanilla, spices or any other baking product you would use to make your favorite treats. SHIM would appreciate any nonperishable food item you choose to donate.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Jan. 12 th	Men's & Women's Breakfasts
Jan. 18 th - 20 th	Youth Group Winter Retreat
Jan. 19 th	Foster Love Project
Jan. 21 st	Cancer Encouragement

CANCER ENCOURAGEMENT GROUP

Wherever you are in your cancer journey, I welcome you to join me for an hour of sharing and supporting each other. Cancer doesn't define us - it causes changes, but it doesn't change who we are. God is always with us!



Our meetings are scheduled for every third Monday of the month, at 7:00 p.m., in the McMillan Room.

Sueann DeFurio



Did you miss a sermon?
Past sermons are now
available to listen to on our
website!!

Recordings include music, prayers and other parts of the worship service, too!

www.bethelpresby.org/sermons



All 2018 pledges must be received or postmarked by Dec. 31, 2018 to be counted for the 2018 calendar year.

PW REQUEST: It came to our attention last week that five of our cream linen tablecloths are missing. Someone may have taken the tablecloths home to launder them. If you have them, please return the tablecloths to the church so they are available to be used at our next function. Thank you!

NAOMI CIRCLE: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 2nd, 10:00 a.m., in the Chapel of Bethel Park Retirement Residence. Please bring your Bible!

New Church T-Shirts!!



Help support our youth who will be attending the Reach Mission Trip this summer by purchasing one of these great new Bethel Presbyterian Church t-shirts for yourself or for a gift!

T-shirts come in adult sizes S-XXL

\$15.00

See Pastor Cathie or Kasey to purchase a shirt.

Thank you for your support!



EXPLORE 1ST AND 2ND THESSALONIANS: Have you ever wondered why Paul wrote these books and wanted to look in depth at what he has to say? Join the Wednesday night Bible Study for Max Lucado's study of Thessalonians. The books are \$5. We meet in the McMillan Room at 7:30 p.m. Please see Jessica or Pastor Cathie for additional details or to order a book.

YOU'RE INVITED FOR BREAKFAST: Who? Any member of Bethel Presbyterian. **Why?** For fun and a chance for fellowship. **Where?** We will try to find room at the Eat'n Park on Library Road. If it is too crowded, we will try the Panera across the street. **When?** Saturday, January 12th, 8:00 a.m. To sign up or for additional details, please contact Jessica Kelecava.

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

2999 Bethel Church Rd., Bethel Park, PA 15102
412/835-0405 Church Office 412/835-1037 Fax
Website: www.bethelpresby.org
Email: bethelpres@verizon.net

Pastor: Rev. Cathie Smith, 412/965-4253 or pastorcathie.bethelpc@gmail.com
Director of Discipleship: Jessica Kelecava, 412/835-0405 or jessica.discipleship.bethelpc@gmail.com
Director of Youth Ministries: Kasey Wilfong, 412/835-0405
Director of Music and Worship: Jason Wilcox, 412/651-4638
Organist: Cody Soska, 412/877-9139
Administrative Assistant: Kathy Young, 412/835-0405
Financial Secretary: Nancy Carr, 412/835-0405
Custodian (Day): Bob Murphy, 412/835-0405
Custodian (Evening): Rob Roche, 412/835-0405
Sunday Child Care: Jill Bower, 412/835-0405

CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR

Sunday, December 30 (Daily Readings: Psalm 93, 150, Isa. 62:6-7, 10-12, Heb. 2:10-18, Matt. 1:18-25)

10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor: Rev. Cathie Smith
(child care provided for infants up to 5 years of age)

Monday, December 31 (Daily Readings: Psalm 98, 145, Isa. 26:1-6, 2 Cor. 5:16-6:2, John 8:12-19)

Child Care Closed
Preschool Closed

Tuesday, January 1 (Daily Readings: Psalm 98, 146, Gen. 17:1-12a, 15-16, Col. 2:6-12, John 16:23b-30)

Church Office Closed
Child Care Closed
Preschool Closed

Wednesday, January 2 (Daily Readings: Psalm 48, 147:1-11, Gen. 12:1-7, Heb. 11:1-12, John 6:35-42, 48-51)

10:00 a.m. Naomi Circle
7:00 p.m. Macdonald Pipe Band Rehearsal
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Thursday, January 3 (Daily Readings: Psalm 111, 147:12-20, Gen. 28:10-22, Heb. 11:13-22, John 10:7-17)

5:00 p.m. Kinder Karate
6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:45 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, January 4 (Daily Readings: Psalm 20, 148, Exod. 3:1-5, Heb. 11:23-31, John 14:6-14)

Saturday, January 5 (Daily Readings: Psalm 99, 149, Josh. 1:1-9, Heb. 11:32-12:2, John 15:1-16)

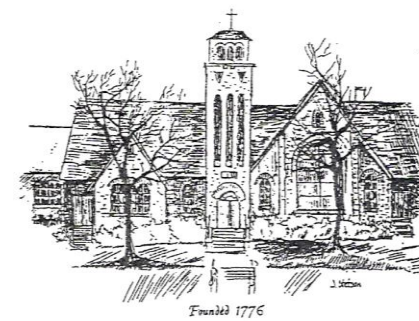
Sunday, January 6 (Daily Readings: Psalm 72, 150, Isa. 52:7-10, Rev. 21:22-27, Matt. 12:14-21)

9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Small Groups
10:30 a.m. Worship
Communion Sunday - Team 1
Pastor: Rev. Cathie Smith
(child care provided for infants up to 5 years of age)
11:30 a.m. Fellowship: Families I - L
12:00 p.m. Youth Group

Stephen Ministry

Middle Age ...

Full of change, crisis and growth. We must deal with aging parents, adult children and our own mortality. If you are going through this crisis and need a sympathetic, trained listener, a Stephen Minister would like to be there for you.



Bethel Presbyterian Church
Worship for the Lord's Day
Covenant Renewal
December 30, 2018
10:30 A.M.

"Changed by Christ So We Can Change the World"

** Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.*

PRELUDE *Improvisations on the Day's Hymns*

THE RINGING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP

*** SONG OF ADORATION**
Hymn #31: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Please sign the friendship pad (the red folder) and pass along to others in your row, greeting others by name after worship.

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*** SONG OF PREPARATION**
Hymn #56: "The First Nowell" (Verses 1, 2, 6)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING *Song of Solomon 2:10-14*

ANTHEM *"Rise Up Shepherds and Follow"*

SECOND READING *Isaiah 44:1-8, 21-23; 45:22-25*

SERMON *"Narnia: Awakening"*

COVENANT RENEWAL

Proclamation

Invitation

Pastor: God of the Covenant, we offer You this prayer:
People: My righteous God, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, see me now as I fall down before You. You promise mercy if I turn to You with my whole heart. Forgive my unfaithfulness when I have not done your will.

Pastor: God requires that you rid yourself of every idol in your life.