

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO THE LORD

OFFERTORY "Sing an Alleluia" Joseph M. Martin

*** DOXOLOGY**

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

All: O Mighty One, you have done great things for us and holy is your name. Bless all we offer you - ourselves, our time and our possessions - that through us your grace and favor may be made known to all the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Righteousness, our Redeemer. Amen.

*** SONG FOR SENDING**

Hymn #79: "Light Dawns on a Weary World"

*** BLESSING**

*** CHORAL RESPONSE** "Christmas Is Coming" Joel Raney

*** POSTLUDE** "Postlude on an Old English Carol" Roger C. Wilson

UPCOMING EVENTS!

- Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Services
- Jan. 10th - 12th Youth Retreat
- Feb. 2nd Souper Bowl Sunday
- Feb. 7th - 8th 30 Hour Famine
- Feb. 9th Skating Party
- Feb. 25th Pancake Dinner

Christmas Eve Services

4:00 pm
For Families and Young Children

A special service of story and song with an opportunity for all children to take part in the story of Christmas and share in a peaceful moment of (safe) candlelight.

9:00 pm
Candlelight Service

A joyous and peaceful celebration with special music by the chancel choir, bell choir and a meaningful time of candlelight as the light of Christmas fills our hearts.

Bethel Presbyterian Church 2999 Bethel Church Rd. www.bethelpresby.org

Reminder: All 2019 pledges must be received or postmarked by December 31, 2019 to be counted for the 2019 calendar year.

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, January 5th, Team 2, Heather Hunter.

MEMBERS IN SERVICE

LITURGISTS: Cathy Misko; Dec. 24th 4:00 p.m. Barbara & Maria Jay, Dec. 24th 9:00 p.m. Dan Beckstrom & Cathy Misko; Dec. 29th Cathy Misko

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: No Fellowship on Dec. 22nd or Dec. 29th due to the holiday.

WORSHIP WELCOME TEAM: Team 8: Carole Carroll, Gail Anderson, Wendy Roithner, Marian Rhodes*, Hazel Knapp*; Dec. 29th - Team 9: Phyllis Criss, Judy & Fred Shoemaker, Tom Hultz*, Joanne Wells* (*Chairlift)

SANCTUARY COORDINATORS: Carol MacDonald; Dec. 24th 4:00 p.m. Gary May, Dec. 24th 9:00 p.m. Pam Decker & Carol MacDonald; Dec. 29th Gary May

GRAPHICS TEAM: Robin Macherey; Dec. 24th 4:00 p.m. Larry Jay, Dec. 24th 9:00 p.m. Robin Macherey; Dec. 29th Larry Jay

SOUND BOARD: Frank Jackson; Dec. 29th Steve Kloc

CHANCEL FLOWERS:

Poinsettia Memorials

PRAYER CONCERNS: Rob Backstrom, Hank Barr, Ansley Basso (Virgin), Betty Bauer, Gary Bittner, Carl Bonanni, Marilou Booth, Marina Bowser, Art Brandenburg, Michele Cobb, Phyllis Criss, Bob Dare, Sueann DeFurio, Marilyn DeHuff, Pete Edwards, Ginny Flynn, Bill Franciscus (Marilyn DeHuff's son), Bettyjean Gamble, Steve Kloc, Dick Kraft, Pat Kraft, Whitten Little, Carol MacDonald, Carol McDonald, Emily Parise, Dave Rawlings, Ann Reid, Joan Sherbak, Sally Sinatra, Jean Smith, Lynne Smith (Pastor Jim's wife), Anne Unger (Pastor Cathie's sister), Sheila and Rich Vandevander, Kristi Wade, Edith Wallace, Russell York

Congregation Life
Weekly Newsletter
December 22, 2019



2019 ANNUAL REPORT: Please be sure all Annual Report information is forwarded to Kathy Young by December 31st. Thank you for your cooperation!

SOUTH HILLS INTERFAITH MOVEMENT FOOD PANTRIES: Since the holiday season is here, SHIM would like to stock 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 holiday treat. SHIM will greatly appreciate any nonperishable food item you choose to donate.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY: Never worry about money again with Financial Peace University (FPU)! It's the proven plan to help you master budgeting, beat debt and live the life of your dreams. Through nine lessons rooted in biblical wisdom, your FPU Group will learn from Dave Ramsey and his team of financial experts. Class starts January 26th, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. Contact Kristen Kiesling or the church office for more info or visit fpu.com/1108235 to sign up!

2020 Chancel Flowers

With the new year comes the need to update the Chancel Flower Calendar. I will be sending Chancel Flower sponsor letters; however, there are several Sundays open in January and February:

- January 12
- January 26
- February 2
- February 16
- February 23
- One Vase \$25.00
- Two Vases \$50.00



If you would like to sponsor chancel flower openings in January or February, please contact:

Bethel Presbyterian Church
2999 Bethel Church Road
Bethel Park, PA 15102
412/835-0405

Thank you to all those who continue to sponsor our chancel flower vases.

Carol MacDonald

TAX RELIEF FOR YOUR GIVING TO OUR CHURCH!

At the age of 70½, the IRS requires you to withdraw a certain amount from your IRA or 401K accounts and pay ordinary income tax on it. This is called a required minimum distribution or "RMD". A portion of this required withdrawal can be transferred directly from these accounts by your financial advisor to our church and be part of your pledged giving or a special additional gift. This credit will avoid taxes on these monies and perhaps lower one's overall tax rate. Check with your financial advisor for details.

CHANGES! CHANGES! CHANGES!



Has your contact information changed recently? New address? Phone number? Email address? If so, please be sure to let the church office know so we might better serve you. Please call Kathy Young in our church office at 412/835-0405 or email her at bethelpres@verizon.net. Thanks so much!

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



#1 holiday hack:
When you buy your gifts at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates.

amazon smile

Welcome to AmazonSmile!

Thank you for supporting **Bethel Presbyterian Church**.

Remember, always start at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

Prime Members: Once you log on using smile.amazon.com, you will be asked for your user name and password. You will then be directed to amazon smile prime. Under the search bar will be "Supporting: Bethel Presbyterian Church".



Support Bethel Presbyterian Church.
When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)

amazon smile

Our Unique Charity Link

This link will take you directly to smile.amazon.com to support our church so you won't have to search for BPC among almost a million other organizations. Use this link in all your AmazonSmile marketing promotions.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/25-0974289>

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. Dr. Cathie Smith, 412/965-4253 or pastorcathie.bethelpc@gmail.com

Parish Associate: Rev. Dr. James Smith, Sr., 412/551-4765 or dr.jamesksmithsr@yahoo.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

Administrative Assistant: Nancy Carr, 412/835-0405

Custodian (Day): Bob Murphy, 412/835-0405

Custodian (Evening): Rob Roche, 412/835-0405

CONGREGATIONAL CALENDAR

Sunday, December 22 (Daily Readings: Psalm 24; 150; Isa. 60:1-6; Gal. 3:23-4:7; Matt. 1:18-25)

10:30 a.m. Worship, Advent 4
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cathie Smith
12:00 p.m. Youth Group – Christmas Party

Monday, December 23 (Daily Readings: Psalm 2; 145; Micah 4:1-5, 5:2-4; 1 John 4:7-16; John 3:31-36)

Preschool Closed
5:45 p.m. Girl Scout Meeting

Tuesday, December 24 (Daily Readings: Psalm 116; 146; 2 Chron. 24:17-22; Acts 6:1-7; Acts 7:59-8:8)

Child Care Closed
Preschool Closed
10:00 a.m. Quilters Meeting
4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Children's Service
9:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 25 (Daily Readings: Psalm 34; 147:1-11; Prov. 8:22-30; 1 John 5:1-12; John 13:20-35)

Church Office Closed
Child Care Closed
Preschool Closed

Thursday, December 26 (Daily Readings: Psalm 2; 147:12-20; Isa. 49:13-23; Isa. 54:1-13; Matt. 18:1-14)

Child Care Closed
Preschool Closed

Friday, December 27 (Daily Readings: Psalm 96; 148; 2 Sam. 23:13-17b; 2 John 1-13; John 2:1-11)

Child Care Closed
Preschool Closed

Saturday, December 28 (Daily Readings: Psalm 93; 149; 1 Kings 17:17-24; 3 John 1-15; John 4:46-54)

Sunday, December 29 (Daily Readings: Psalm 98; 150; 1 Sam. 1:1-2, 7b-28; Col. 1:9-20; Luke 2:22-40)

10:30 a.m. Worship
Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cathie Smith



Bethel Presbyterian Church
Worship for the Lord's Day
Advent 4: Love
December 22, 2019
10:30 A.M.

"Changed by Christ So We Can Change the World"

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

PRELUDE "Away in a Manger" J. E. Spillman

RINGING OF THE BELL

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

*** SONG OF EXPECTATION**
Hymn #105: "People, Look East"

*** CALL TO HUMILITY**

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

All: God of grace, your eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. We confess the times we hold back our lives from you, seeking our own will rather than yours. Prepare our hearts for your Son's coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom for the sake of Jesus Christ, the ruler of all, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*** ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

*** SONG OF PRAISE**
Hymn #129: "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

(Children may come forward as we sing the last verse for their special time.)

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(Children may return to their seats.)

ANTHEM "Mary's Song" Lloyd Larson

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Matthew 1:18-25

SERMON "Heaven and Nature Sing: A Song of Love"

SONG OF RESPONSE
Hymn #378: "We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom"

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

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