



Welcome to Bethel Presbyterian Church

December 8th, 2024

Sunday School 9:30-10:15 a.m.

Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

BETHEL CHURCH

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

4135 Norrisville Road

White Hall, MD 21161

Office Phone: 410-692-5282

Office Email: churchoffice@bethel-md.org

Website: www.bethel-md.org

Rev. Todd Smith's email: pastor@bethel-md.org | Cell 410-805-8604

Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Office is CLOSED on Fridays.

Staff

Pastor/Moderator: The Rev. Todd D. Smith

Music Director/Organist: Kirsten Fitzsimmons

Children's Youth & Family Program Coordinator: Chrissie Galliher

Office Manager: Kristen Hamann

Church Treasurer: Lynda McRee



2nd Sunday of Advent

Our worship begins with the entering of the Light of Christ.
Please silence all electronics and be prayerfully attentive to the quiet presence of God.
+ indicates standing; congregational readings/responses are shown in bold print.

Welcome and Announcements

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

Pastor Todd Smith

And also with you

Voluntary

Carol of the Bells

Grace Bauson
Harp

Call to Worship

Laurie Falkner

Leader: And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear,

People: We may have confidence and not be ashamed before him at his coming.

+Hymn #13

Prepare the Way O Zion

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Mary Lee Swift and Joe Ostrowski

As we light the candle of Peace let us Pray together, Lord give us the courage to shine before others, that your name may be Glorified. Amen

Advent Reading

Mary Lee Swift and Joe Ostrowski

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, You are sovereign and holy, compassionate and faithful. You created us to be in a loving relationship with You. You seek to shape us and guide us by Your perfect will. Yet, we rebel against Your will and seek our own way. We choose to follow our own desires, even when they are destructive. Our hearts are rebellious as we do what we think is right. You have called us to deny ourselves, take up our crosses, and follow You. Forgive us for missing the mark. Forgive us for slipping away. Forgive us for our sinful nature and action. Transform our lives by the power of Your Spirit. Redeem and restore us to glorify You.

(Silent prayer of confession)



Christmas Flowers



A freewill donation will be taken this year in memory of or in honor of your loved ones. Please fill out the form below with the information you would like in the Christmas Eve Bulletin. A special flower arrangement will be prepared for the Christmas Eve services to honor and remember. We would ask that you have your donations in by December 15th so we can have the insert prepared for the Christmas Eve Service. Please contact the church office with any questions.

In Memory of _____

By: _____

In Honor of: _____

By: _____

In Memory of _____

By: _____

In Honor of: _____

By: _____

Church Leadership

Elders (Session) -- Meet 3rd Thursday
each month

2024	2025	2026
Krista Batchelor	Margie Fielder	Pete Capozzoli
David Hinkley	Carmie Messenger	Bob Dennison
Kirk Jones	Gary Lowe	Charles Henry

Deacons -- Meet 1st Monday each
month

2024	2025	2026
Jane Burgess	Donna Jones	Pat Chlebda
Sandy Louderback	Terri Schwarz	Rebecca Comaty
Rebecca Smith	MaryLee Swift	Gail Lowe

Trustees -- Meet 1st Tuesday each
month

2024	2025	2026
Bruce Batchelor	Dave Kirchner	Tim Sherwood
Jan Berlage	Sam Fielder	Brian Calary
R. Donald Scott	Bob Horn	Bruce Mattheiss
Greg Burgess	Steve Kauffman	Craig Messenger

Open and Close Trustee for

This week is Don Scott

Ushers this week

Donna Jones & Terri Schwarz

The 2024 Per Capita fee per congregation member is

\$40.00

**Please be sure to submit your portion
by the end of the year.**

Please write per capita in memo of check. Thank you!

The Lord's Prayer

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor Todd Smith

Gloria Patri

+The Apostles' Creed

+ Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Children's Lesson

Chrissie Galliher

Prayer for Illumination

Laurie Falkner

First Lesson

Luke 1:26-38

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Lesson

Luke 1:39-56

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Todd Smith

+ Hymn #13

Prepare the Way O Zion

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Prayers of the People

Rev. George Toole

Offertory

I Wonder as I Wander, Appalachian Carol Grace Bauson
adapted by John Jacob Niles & Carlos Salzedo

+ Doxology #592

+ Hymn #9

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Benediction

Pastor Todd Smith

Postlude

Kirsten Fitzsimmons

Announcements

This Week at Bethel:

Last Week's attendance 105(33)

Congregational meeting after church

December 8th - Play Practice after meeting

Zoom Bible Study - off until Jan 5th

BWG Bible Study - off until Jan 6th

December 9th - Mission Meeting, Foyer @ 4:00 pm

December 10rd - Choir Practice, Church @ 6:00 pm

December 11th - Finance Meeting, Church office @ 7pm

December 14th - Wreaths Across America, 11:30 am

Pastor Todd office hrs 12/9 10:30-2:30, 12/11 12:30-3:30, 12/13 9:30-12:30

Christmas Flower

A freewill donation will be taken this year in memory of or in honor of your loved ones. Please have donations in by December 15th.

(see back page of bulletin)

Christmas Joy Offerings

Please use your Christmas envelope or write in the memo of your check.
Thank you for your continued generosity!

Upcoming Events

- Giving Tree - November 17- December 15th
- Wreaths across America - December 14th
- Lessons & Carols - Handbells - December 15th
- Happy Birthday Jesus Party- December 15th
- Children's Play - December 22nd 10:30 am
- Family Candlelight Service 5 pm & 11 pm (communion @ 11pm)
12.24.24

Daily Bible Readings for the Second Week of Advent

*It is grace at the beginning
and grace at the end*

(Daily Bible readings for the second week in Advent.)

Grace going forward..... Jeremiah 31:2-3

Healing Grace.....1 Peter 5:10

Receiving Grace..... Hebrews 4:16

Grace & Glory..... Psalm 84:11

Grace to Follow..... Romans: 4:16

The Gift of Grace..... Romans 6:14

Grace upon GraceJohn 1:16

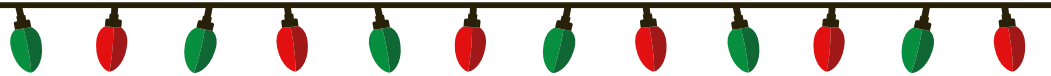


Upcoming Events



The event is Saturday December 14, 2024 and begins at 12 noon. Parishioners should arrive between 11:30 and 11:45, gather near the flagpole and are asked not to park along the cemetery driveway.

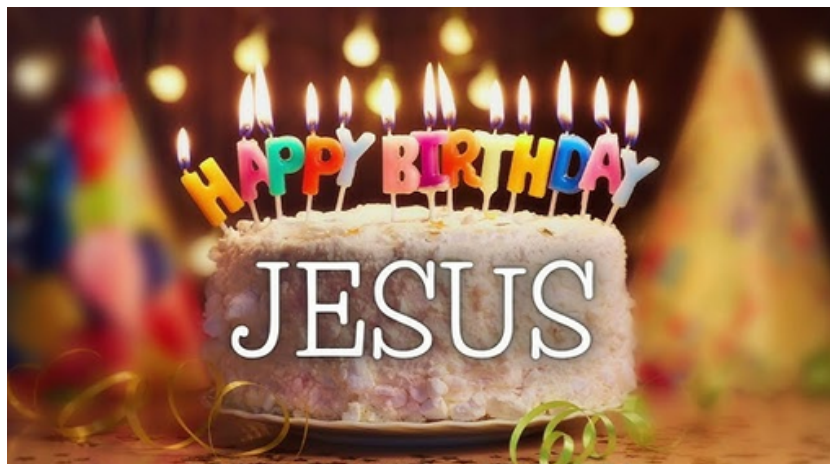
Parishioners who wish to place a wreath on a veteran marker within their family will be invited to do so during the ceremony.



Happy Birthday Jesus Party - December 15, 9:30 am

The Sunday school is having a birthday party for Jesus during Sunday school on the 15th. 9:15 to 10:15,

This is in lieu of Sunday School Classes



Opportunities for Giving Back

The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s.



Donations to this worthy cause are accepted throughout December.

Please use your Christmas offering envelope or write Joy in the memo.

The Christmas Joy Offering supports church workers and their families in the PC(USA) who need critical financial assistance. Your congregation has the opportunity to make an impact. You can be the difference between financial hardship and a blessed breath of relief. The Christmas Joy Offering is committed to helping promote educational opportunities and leadership development, in Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Your congregation can enable these institutions to provide students with a transformative education.

Bethel Joys & Concerns:

Happy Birthday: Carolina Galliher, Steve Saneman, Heather Saneman

Please keep the following in your prayers this week:

Allen Henderson	Clark Scott - Dan's Brother
Susan Wyatt	Mary Omerzu, Pastor Todd's friend
Terri Dannettel	Pat St Clair-Wertman-Lynda's Sister
Heidi Nash	Debbie Bulstrum
Emily Mowbray- Bettie Clarks's Granddaughter	Darlene Shuttlesworth, Sister of Nancy Cowman
Amy Litchfield - Becca's SIL	John Dale- Will Behner's Uncle
Matthew Thomas -Friend of Mackenzie	Linda Berberich- Sam Brooks Sister
Sandy Louderback	Brian - Cousin of Amy Kauffman
Patrick Platt- Mackenzie Platt	Carol Himmer
Betty Jane Foard	Dawn Zipay
Pat Denbow	Carol Hays, friend of Nancy Mory
Mary Martha Rutledge	Bob Jacobs. friend of Nancy Alexander
Marylin Bradford	Jane Wilson Branham friend of Nancy Alexander
Carolyn Mattheiss	Christine Zurenko Friend of Dan & Mary Beth Scott
Ed Chwalek - Friend of Bruce Mattheiss	



Christmas Play

December 22

10:30 am



“A mom is decorating her home with her children. As they add different items to their home, they discuss the meaning behind each item and how they all lead to Jesus.”

Please plan to come enjoy this presentation on Sunday Morning.