

Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina www.bethanypreschurch.org www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

January 28, 2024 – 11:00 am *Fourth Sunday after Epiphany*



Untitled, bibliotecaria2

The woman, full of fear and trembling, came forward. Knowing what had happened to her, she fell down in front of Jesus and told him the whole truth. He responded, "Daughter, your faith has healed you; go in peace, healed from your disease." Mark 5:33-34 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to our service of worship. Although we are worshipping in a variety of locations, we still affirm that God is present in our worship, whether in-person or virtually. Our prayer is that all who worship with us this day will truly feel the presence of God in this time. Know that you are loved and we are so glad you are here! Parts of today's liturgy are from Kimberly Bracken Long, ed, Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year B, Vol. 2, (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015); and LiturgyLink, https://www.liturgylink.net.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: Forgiveness

Donald F. Callender

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Opening Hymn #263: Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise

WALTER CHAMBERS SMITH

Immortal, invisible, God only wise, In light inaccessible hid from our eyes, Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might; Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small; In all life Thou livest, the true life of all; We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, And wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.

Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light, Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight; All praise we would render; O help us to see 'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

*Opening Sentences "Broken Places," Rob Smith

Healing God, we come today seeking your presence in our broken places. *In our own stories, we have struggles, we carry burdens, and mask our shame.*

Help us find the courage to reach out to you in all the places – not just in the church, but also out in the streets.

May we touch the hem of your garment and be reminded of your words – that we are enough – that our faith has made us well.

We invite you into our hearts and welcome the transformation you continually inspire! Let us turn to you with our whole heart, mind, soul, and strength. Let us worship our God!

*GATHERING PRAYER FEASTING ON THE WORD

Almighty God, in Jesus Christ you show us the breadth of your power and the depth of your love.
You listen to our cries of pain and hear our laments.
You see the fear in our eyes and know the secrets of our hearts.
You do not turn from our distress,
but stretch out your hand
to heal, to comfort, and to save.
All thanks and praise be to you, O God;
your steadfast love endures forever. *Amen.*

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A Prayer for Illumination

"HELP US HEAR," NATHAN WILLIAMS

God our Parent, your voice claims us as your people and calls us into new relationships with ourselves and others. By your Holy Spirit, help us hear your voice speaking to us through these words of scripture, and prepare us for your service, in Jesus' name. *Amen.*

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 131 PEW BIBLE, 769

MARK 5:21-43 PEW BIBLE, 1221

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF OUR PLEDGES

OFFERTORY

*Doxology #592: Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

THOMAS KEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*BLESSING OUR GIFTS

*HYMN OF THE DAY #357: O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee

WASHINGTON GLADDEN

O Master, let me walk with Thee In lowly paths of service free; Tell me Thy secret; help me bear The strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move By some clear, winning word of love; Teach me the wayward feet to stay, And guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me Thy patience; still with Thee In closer, dearer company, In work that keeps faith sweet and strong, In trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broadening way;
In peace that only Thou canst give,
With Thee, O Master, let me live.

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

"HEM," THOM SHUMAN

Let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves.

We know the words we have spoken which have broken a relationship; we know the deeds we have done which separate us from friends and families. We know how we have failed to be faithful followers of Jesus. Let us confess our sins, trusting that God will touch us with the healing power of grace.

All too often, God of Excellence, it is the hem of sin we cling to, letting it drag us through the mud of fear and failures. You offer us that love which will always be with us, but we find it difficult to share it with those who need it most. You fill us with an abundance of gifts, but we think we need them all for ourselves.

Forgive us, God of Gentle Hope. You do not keep a list of all that we have done wrong, but erase our failings and foolishness, writing a new ending for our lives. You touch us with your grace, you lift us to our feet, you strengthen us so we may follow our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in service to all your children.

Silence

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is the good news, dear friends: God's love has no ending; God's hope rests upon us each day; God's forgiveness restores us to new life.

Our God listens to us – to our cries, and to our joys; to our hopes and to our hearts. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine. Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.

Let it shine. Let it shine. Let it shine.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC: Come, Christians Join to Sing

Dave and Jean Perry

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: "Touching Hems and Rising Again"

REV. PHILLIPS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*CLOSING HYMN #276: Great is Thy Faithfulness

THOMAS OBEDIAH CHISHOLM

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 will be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

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**)

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, with ten thousand beside! (**Refrain**)

*SENDING FEASTING ON THE WORD

May God our Guardian protect you, Christ the Healer restore you, and the Holy Spirit sustain you this day and forevermore. *Amen.*

POSTLUDE: Rejoice With a Song

EDWARD BROUGHTON

^{*} Please stand in body or spirit.



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sunday, Jan 28th 9:45 Bible 101 Part 2: The New Testament – Evie C. Marshall Room

We're back this Sunday! With a brand New Testament! Join Jon and friends as we continue our Bible 101 survey of the Biblical text, focusing on how it is interpreted, its context, and its content.

Tuesday, January 30th Alamance Co. Mobile Library

The Alamance County Public Libraries mobile library will be in the church parking lot 10:30 – 11:30. Please stop by and "check-out" this wonderful service the library has to share

Sunday, February 4th Snow Ski with Scout Troop 9

Troop 9 invites any Youth and Family to Snow Ski - February 4th

MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeff Benes, benes.nc@att.net, (336) 675-9086

Sunday, February 11th 11am – Scout Sunday – Sanctuary

Our annual Scout Sunday service. Our Scouts from the Pack and Troops will lead us in worship on this Sunday closest to the anniversary of BSA.

Ash Wednesday, February 14th 11am-1pm, 4-6pm - Drive Thru Ashes - Parking Lot

All are welcome to participate in this ancient practice of marking the sign of the cross with the ashes of burnt palm leaves from previous Palm Sunday celebrations as we enter into the season of Lent – the time of solemn prayer and preparation in the 40 days before Easter.

All Day Throughout Lent – Stations of the Cross – Recreation Area

The Stations of the Cross have been a part of the Lenten journey of Christians to express their faith in a multisensory way for centuries. You are invited to participate in this ancient tradition of remembering Christ's death by walking an ecumenical version in our Recreation Area this Lenten season.

Thursdays Throughout Lent 11:30am-1pm – Drive Thru Prayer – Parking Lot

Do you need prayer? You are invited to stop on by our parking lot on Thursdays from 11:30-1 for prayer with Jon or an elder throughout the Lenten season.

Sundays February 18 – March 17th 11am – Lenten Worship - Sanctuary

The season of Lent. Our Lenten Sunday worship will include extended periods of silent prayer.

Sunday, March 24th 11am - Palm Sunday Service - Sanctuary

Thursday, March 28th 6pm – Maundy Thursday Dinner Church – Fellowship Hall

Come and join us for Dinner Church, a meal and liturgy around the table as we commemorate the Passover meal that Jesus celebrated with his disciples. Come as you are and invite a friend – all are welcome!

Friday, March 29th 6:30pm - Good Friday Seven Last Words - Sanctuary

A service of prayer and reflection on the Seven Last Words. Please note that there will be extended periods of silence and a darkened sanctuary during this service.

Sunday, March 31st 11am Easter Sunday - Sanctuary

Our Easter celebration. Celebrate Jesus' resurrection with us!

This Week's Calendar:

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Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany
9:45 – Adult Sunday School - Bible 101 – New Testament Evie C. Marshall classroom
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)
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Wednesday, January 31st 6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, February 4th – 5th Sunday after Epiphany and Communion 9:45 – Adult Sunday School - Bible 101 – New Testament Evie C. Marshall classroom 11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)



Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2023:

Chip Allen Randy Cousins Shelby Smith

Class of 2024:

Karen Maxwell Kim Snyder Tracey Troxler

Class of 2025:

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