



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

February 3, 2019 – 11:00 am

Fourth Sunday After Epiphany



“When they heard this, everyone in the synagogue was filled with anger. They rose up and ran him out of town. They led him to the crest of the hill on which their town had been built so that they could throw him off the cliff. But he passed through the crowd and went on his way.”
Luke 4:28-30 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

So much spurious information is afloat on the seas of social media, that sometimes it’s difficult to know who and what to believe. This is how the local congregation must have felt when they heard one of their own young people who had returned to town read the Scriptures and make a provocative pronouncement that challenged everything they’d ever believed.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Oh How He Loves You and Me*

K. KAISER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* AN OFFERING OF PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please take a moment to share the peace of Christ with your neighbor.)

* **GATHERING SONG:** *As the Deer* (see page 4)

MARTIN NYSTROM / AS THE DEER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

With powerful words and dramatic gestures, with a quiet conversation and a gentle touch,
we respond to God’s call to offer healing and hope to our world.

With courage to face the injustices around us, with the willingness to go into the brokenness,
we fulfill the call of Jesus to engage in faithful obedience.

With the patience of a teacher of six-year-olds, with the gentleness of a nurse helping a patient,
we become the Spirit’s refuge for all who live in worry and fear.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN INVITATION TO THE WORD

As God has spoken through the prophets,
God speaks now to us.
Hear the word of the Lord.

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE:

LUKE 4:21-30

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1249

This is the promise of God to our ancestors and to us.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

In you, God of love, we find that panic room when our terrors try to break down the doors of our hearts. In you, we discover the patience to keep our expectations from getting in the way of the fulfillment of your kingdom.

With you, Child of our hearts, we find the One we have leaned on every step of our uncertain journey even when we thought we walked alone. With you, we discern the passion to speak up for the voiceless and the forgotten who are all around us.

Through you, Gentle Spirit, we can offer a hand to partner with those trapped in the tight grasp of oppression. Through you, we can catch on to the arrogance which too often is our attitude and replace it with your humility.

In you, with you, through you, God in Community, Holy in One, we can seek to be your people.

Arrogance, envy, harsh words, empty hands, pleasure in doing what we know is wrong – these are what we often use to fill our lives. Let us confess in faith, trusting in the hope that God's love restores us and makes us whole.

Lord God, we do not know how to speak words of hope, because we listen to the purveyors of fear. We do not know how to be loving because our role models are ridicule and anger. We do not know how to be faithful to you, because at an early age, we learned to trust the promises of all the false prophets who entice us with their simple thoughts.

But you know how to forgive, so we pray you would pour out your mercy upon us. May faith abide in us, so we may serve others even as you have served us; may hope abide in us, so we may surround the broken with your compassion and grace; may love abide in us, not only in these moments of brokenness, but in every moment of our life with Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who abides in us.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

The good news is that, in our God, we find that safe place for our lives. In God's forgiveness, we are offered the healing we need.

In God's acceptance, we discover the love in which we may abide in every moment of our lives. Thanks be to God! Amen.

* **RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE:** *Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!*

TRADITIONAL

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

I feel better, so much better since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" Since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

* **SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE**

As the people of God gathered in this place, who are we?

We are a community of believers, called by God to WORSHIP, SERVE, TEACH, and SUPPORT.

With the whole church, let us say what we believe. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third

day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

S. MILLER / J. JACKSON

*** A DOXOLOGY:** *We Lift Our Voices*

DWIGHT LILES

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering; we are an offering.

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*** HYMN OF THE DAY #260:** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

EIN' FESTE BURG

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS AND 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.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

MOMENT FOR MISSION

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *How Beautiful*

T. PARIS

How Beautiful the hands that served

The Wine and the Bread and the sons of the earth

How beautiful the feet that walked

The long dusty roads and the hill to the cross

How Beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ

How Beautiful the heart that bled

That took all my sin and bore it instead

How beautiful the tender eyes

That choose to forgive and never despise

How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ

And as He lay down His life

We offer this sacrifice

That we will live just as He died

Willing to pay the price

Willing to pay the price

How Beautiful the radiant bride

Who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes

How Beautiful when humble hearts give

The fruit of pure lives so that others may live

How beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ

How beautiful the feet that bring

The sound of good news and the love of the King

How Beautiful the hands that serve

The wine and the bread and the sons of the Earth

How Beautiful, how beautiful, how beautiful is the body of Christ

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: FAKE NEWS AND FAKE IN THE PEWS

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: *Jesus Calls Us*

GALILEE

*Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth saying, "Christian, follow me."*

*Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more."*

*In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."*

*Jesus calls us: by thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thy obedience, serve and love thee best of all.*

* SENDING

God touches our mouths,

so we may go to share the good news.

Jesus touches our hands,

so we may serve all in need of life and hope.

The Spirit touches our hearts,

so we may be a haven for those who are longing for acceptance and love.

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE: *O Brightly Streaming Star*

J. DENTON

* Please stand in body or spirit.

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As the Deer

As the deer pants for the wa - ter, so my
soul longs af - ter you. You a - lone are my
heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.
You a - lone are my strength, my shield; to you a - lone
may my spir - it yield. You a - lone are my
heart's de - sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

Chords: D, A, Bm, Dsus, D, G, A7sus, A7, D, G, A7, D, A, Bm, Dsus, D, G, Asus, A7, D, Bm, Bm/A, G, D/F#, G, Bm, Em, F#sus, F#, D, A, Bm, Dsus, D, G, A7sus, A7, D



Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and A. J. Campbell)

WELCOME to this service of worship at Bethany Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). Whether you are a member or a guest we are so glad that you are worshipping with us this morning and pray that this time of worship will be both renewing and rewarding for you. If you have any questions about Bethany, please speak to the pastor or call the church at 336.227.4041. You can find us online through our website at www.bethanypreschurch.org; on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian; or on Twitter by following [@bpresbyterian](https://twitter.com/bpresbyterian).

“I will show love to those who were called unloved and, to those who were called ‘not-my-people’, I will say ‘you are my people’ and they will answer, ‘you are our God.’” (Hosea 2:23) Bethany Presbyterian Church is a place where the mind is nourished as well as the spirit, and where we affirm the dignity and worth of every person. As we are all created in the image of God, we believe discrimination is incompatible with Christ’s Gospel of unconditional love. While we celebrate our Presbyterian identity, we acknowledge that we are not alone on the path to understanding God. We invite conversations that move us to seek a deeper understanding of life in the Spirit. **Be who you are and be welcome here.**

For our children: Childcare is available during the entire worship hour for infants and preschool children. Children are invited and welcome to stay in the service, in whatever manner befits their person: they should feel free to squirm, whine, dance, sing, cry, pray, or otherwise make themselves known. Activities for children can be found at several locations throughout the sanctuary. See an usher if you can’t find one.

Audio and Visual Assistance: A hearing enhancement system is available for those who have a need. An usher will be happy to provide you with a receiver this morning. Large print bulletins are also available.

Please take a moment – members and guests – to sign the **Fellowship Pads** that are located on each row. If you are a guest, please share any contact information you wish to, so that we may be in touch.

Operating our audio and video systems this morning is **Rick Purcell**. Anyone wishing to join this team of volunteers please contact the church office at any time.

Audio Recordings of each Sunday’s sermons are available through a link on our website, on our Facebook page, or at www.buzzsprout.com/9198.

Resources used in this morning’s worship:

- *Homiletics Online* website (www.homileticonline.com)
- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- *The Text This Week* website (www.textweek.com)

John will be away this week, attending the annual conference of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators in Galveston, TX. In John’s absence next Sunday, we welcome **Elder Rick Purcell** to the pulpit. John and Debbie will return home on Tuesday, the 12th.

Do you have a smartphone? Are you on Facebook? If so, take a moment to **“check in” on Facebook**, letting your friends know that you are here at Bethany Presbyterian Church! It may seem like a small thing, but in reality, it is a wonderful message of evangelism and witness, as you let the cyber-world know what is important to you.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Jean Payne and Randy Cousins)

Our ongoing prayer list is below. Please let the church office know if there are any changes.

Bill Faucette
Family of Faye Campbell
Frances Nolan
Shirley Lane

Diane Miller
Jack Cook
Joan Richardson
Teresa Wilborn

John & Ann Sutton
Peter Slater
Joey Leake
Shannon Russell

Ida Whitney
Katherine Turner
Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Mike Sutton
Steward Dillard
Shelvia Russell
Ruby Martin
Foy Bayliff
Bill Abplanalp

Tiffany Tauchren
Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norma Proctor
Levi Byrd
Katherine Bayliff
Randy Thompson

Mary Moore
Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Pete Campbell
Ben Johnson
Ruth Younts
Alex Thomas
Susie Hunley
Robert Sykes

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Karen Maxwell and Tracey Troxler)

All are invited to take advantage of the several educational opportunities for all ages on Sunday mornings. Sunday school classes begin at 9:45 a.m.

Fellowship Class (Fellowship Classroom – by ramp door)

This class is using our denomination's *Present Word* curriculum and lives up to the class name in all aspects of their life here at Bethany.

Children (Upstairs – the really, really green room!)

This class for younger children is using our denomination's *We Believe* curriculum in introducing our children to the faith.

Youth (Upstairs, across from the choir room)

Using a variety of creative curricula, this class explores topics that relate to faith and adolescence.

Our weekly Bible study, ***Disciple Bible Study: Into the Word, Into the World***, has resumed its normal schedule, meeting on each Tuesday (except for the second Tuesday of the month) at 7:00 here at the church. The second part of the study focuses on Luke and Acts.

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Chip Allen, and Ben Russell)

As per his Terms of Call that the congregation approved upon his coming to Bethany, John is scheduled for a **Sabbatical** in 2020. Articles in the past few newsletters have outlined some of the details. Each week, there will be more information shared in this space. If you have questions, please feel free to ask John, or the Sabbatical Support Group (Helen Brown, Ron Kimrey, Sandy Russell, and Tracey Troxler). Here's this week's tidbit:

- From Merriam-Webster's Dictionary: *sabbatical* - noun - a leave granted usually every seventh year for rest, travel, or research.
- From Salem Presbytery's Minimum Compensation Guidelines for Ministers: "In the seventh year of service, the congregation is encouraged to provide for a three-month Clergy Renewal Leave (Sabbatical), continuing the salary and benefits for that period, and providing for pulpit supply in the pastor's absence."

Elders of the Month for February are **Karen Maxwell** and **Tracey Troxler**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Monday, the 5th - Tuesday, the 12th: John away

Tuesday, the 5th:

- 7:00 - Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, the 6th:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 10th:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship / Rick Purcell, preaching

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Karen Maxwell

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell

Ben Russell

Tracey Troxler

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love learn serve



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Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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