



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)

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February 17, 2019 – 11:00 am

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany



*“The most cunning heart—it’s beyond help. Who can figure it out?  
I, the Lord, probe the heart and discern hidden motives, to give everyone what they deserve,  
the consequences of their deeds.”*  
Jeremiah 17:9-10 (CEB)

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Today’s text refers to our hearts as devious and perverse. So we begin with perhaps the best cultural expression of the same idea: the song recorded by Hank Williams Sr. called “Your Cheatin’ Heart.” But although there’s no hope for the lovesick crooner of the song, hope abounds for those with a “devious” heart in today’s text.*

### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *Day of Glory*

W. BARNETT

### 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: *Jesus, We Are Here*

*Jesus, we are here; Jesus, we are here; Jesus, we are here; we are here for you.*

*Savior . . . Teacher . . . Spirit . . .*

PATRICK MATSIKENYIRI

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed are those who trust - in God.

***We come in trust, to be grounded in God’s love.***

Blessed are those who hope - in God.

***We come in hope, trusting in the One who gives us life.***

Blessed are those who delight - in God's Word.

***We come to hear God's Word, and to be healed of our brokenness.***

\* **OPENING HYMN #482:** *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*

LOBE DEN HERREN

## 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:

**JEREMIAH 17:5-10**

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 941

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

***Thanks be to God.***

### AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

God of our hearts, Heart of creation: we are blessed when we feast on your Word: that Word which embraces us; that Word which teaches us; that Word which transfigures us; that Word which grounds us. Give us your Word.

***Jesus Christ, Heart of God's children: we are blessed when we have your heart: a heart for the poor; for the hungry; for those who weep; for the rejected. Give us your Heart.***

Holy Delight, Grace's Heartbeat: we bear fruit when we are filled with your spirit, the spirit of generosity, the spirit of emptying ourselves for others; the spirit of bearing one another's burdens. Give us your Spirit.

***God in Community, Holy in One, may our hearts beat as one with your heart.***

Now if what we have heard from the world is true, we would have no need to come before our God. But in fact, the witness of scripture, and of the faithful, is true: God is to be trusted with the secrets of our hearts, as well as our brokenness.

***We confess what we are afraid to confront, that the seductions of the world nibble away at our hearts. We have more and more to pick from at the supermarket, and so we forget those whose only choice is hunger.***

Our sense that we are your favorites causes us to make fun of those we believe are not. We are so consumed with saving enough for the future, we ignore those who have so little today.

***Forgive us, Heartbroken God, for thinking we are the center of your world. Pour your living water into us, so we might send down roots into your heart, and so become those people who are blessings to others, as we have received new life from Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.***

### AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

### AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Blessed are you: for God forgives you and restores you to new life. Rejoice in this day and dance for joy.

***Thanks be to God. Our faith is true and our hope is grounded in the promises of One we can trust, not only on this day, but in all the days to come. 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:** *Softly and Tenderly*

W. THOMPSON / ARR. L. SMITH

\* **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 #282:** *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

#### **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:** *I Wanna Be Ready*

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL / ARR. R. POWELL

TINA PATTERSON, SOLOIST

*I wanna be ready to walk in Jerusalem like John . . .*

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED:** *YOUR CHEATIN' HEART*

REV. JOHN W. JOHNSON

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

\* **CLOSING HYMN #432:** *Song of Hope* (sing twice)

ARGENTINA

\* **SENDING**

God touches our souls,

***so we may go to share the good news.***

Jesus calls us to serve,

***so we may answer our heart's call.***

The Spirit touches our hearts,

***so we may love all of God's people.***

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **POSTLUDE:** *Stand Up for Jesus*

G. WEBB / ARR. F. RITTER

\* *Please stand in body or spirit.*



# *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](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org); on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](http://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](http://www.buzzsprout.com/9198).

Resources used in this morning’s worship:

- *Homiletics Online* website ([www.homileticonline.com](http://www.homileticonline.com))
- *The Text This Week* website ([www.textweek.com](http://www.textweek.com))

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  
Ida Whitney  
Katherine Turner  
Jeremy Harden  
Anne McDaniels  
Mike Sutton

Diane Miller  
Jack Cook  
Joan Richardson  
Teresa Wilborn  
Tiffany Tauchren  
Jean Berry  
Christy Lutterloh  
Eleanor Thompson  
Nancy Sutton

John & Ann Sutton  
Peter Slater  
Joey Leake  
Shannon Russell  
Mary Moore  
Barbara Cousins  
Pat Kennedy  
Donna Mitchell-Ayers  
Pete Campbell

Steward Dillard  
Shelvia Russell  
Ruby Martin  
Foy Bayliff  
Bill Abplanalp

Norma Proctor  
Levi Byrd  
Katherine Bayliff  
Randy Thompson

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***, meets 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)

The Session has called for a **Congregational Meeting** and the mandated annual **Meeting of the Corporation for Sunday, February 24<sup>th</sup>**, immediately fellowship worship. The purpose of these meetings will be for the sharing of the 2019 Budget, approved by the Session at its February meeting, and to elect the President and Treasurer of the corporation.

It's **Scholarship Season!!** All post-high school students are invited to apply for a scholarship from our Scholarship Fund. **The deadline is March 31<sup>st</sup>**. Scholarship applications are available in the mailboxes across from the office. Please see Ron Osborne if you have any questions.

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:

- The focus of the study portion of John's sabbatical will be on "Digital Theology" - with the main emphasis being on how to minister in a largely digital world to those who may not be "plugged in."
- A good portion of the sabbatical will be for rest, renewal, and travel. The first part of that will be a Holy Land tour.

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

Tuesday, the 19<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 - Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, the 20<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 24<sup>th</sup>:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship
- 12:00 – Congregational Meeting / Meeting of the Corporation

### 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

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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### Staff

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Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – [office@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:office@bethanypreschurch.org)

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – [finance@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:finance@bethanypreschurch.org)

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