



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

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

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February 24, 2019 – 11:00 am  
Seventh Sunday After Epiphany



*“So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘ Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay.”*  
Genesis 45:8-9 (CEB)

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*The greatest aviation mystery in the history of flying is the disappearance of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH370 in March 2014. Although the search for this plane has been unsuccessful, some interesting discoveries have occurred incidental to the main quest. So it is in our life journey as we seek to know God.*

### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *Seek Ye First*

K. LAFFERTY

### 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: *I Love You, Lord*

LAURIE KLEIN

*I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to worship you; O my soul, rejoice.  
Take joy, my King, in what you hear; may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.  
(Repeat)*

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

We come, those who seek to trust in God.

***We commit ourselves to do as Jesus would do for those around us.***

We come, delighting in all the wonders God provides for us.

***We would not worry, but open ourselves to God's heart.***  
We come, waiting patiently for God to speak.  
***We will be still, listening for God's words of hope, of peace.***

\* **OPENING HYMN #261:** *God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us*

O QUANTA QUALIA

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

### AN INVITATION TO THE WORD

As God has spoken in ages gone by.  
***God speaks now to us.***  
Hear the word of the Lord.

### AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE:

**GENESIS 45:3-11, 15**  
Holy wisdom, Holy Word.  
***Thanks be to God.***

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 57

### AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

You are our heart's Desire, who chooses grace over grudges, who provides rather than withholding, who creates community with us rather than standing isolated from us.

***You are our Brother and Servant, who delights in those who resist you, who cradles the fists of hatred in your scarred hands, who does good to those who do evil.***

You are the Breath of wonder, who blows death's dust off our shoulders, who fills our empty souls with resurrection life, who whispers words of peace into hearts full of anger.

***God in Community, Holy in One, You are for whom we wait patiently, even as we pray. Over and over we are told how simple life with God can be: trust, do good to others, take delight in the wonders God provides for us. But we simply have trouble living such a life.***

In this season of light we find ourselves wandering the shadows of the world. In this time when we focus on Jesus' ministry of healing, we hold tight to all those emotions – hatred, fear, worry – which continue to damage us. In these days when we are invited to listen to Jesus' teachings, we confess it is easier to hear the seductive words of sin.

***Forgive us, Resurrecting God, for trusting in promises which are short-lived, rather than in your Word which endures forever. You have sent Jesus before us so that, as we follow him, we might travel from that far country of fear and doubt to that better country of resurrection life.***

### AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

### AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Take delight in the good news, dear friends. Salvation is from our God, who restores us to new life.

***God chooses to be gracious; God longs to give us our heart's desires; God provides healing and hope to all. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.***

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

*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)*

TRADITIONAL

### \* 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:** *Peace Like a River*

H. LIVINGSTONE

\* **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:** *Be Still My Soul* (see next page)

FINLANDIA

#### **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:** *Jesus, Son of God, Son of Man*

P. WILLIAMS / B. BRAMAN

*Jesus, Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man;*

*Jesus, Jesus, Savior of the world.*

*Jesus, Jesus, Came to earth a tiny babe;*

*Jesus, Jesus, Came to save us all.*

*He left the glory of heaven above to walk the dust of earth.*

*He was born in a lowly manger, yet angels sang at His birth.*

*Jesus, Jesus, Son of God and Son of Man;*

*Jesus, Jesus, Savior of the world.*

*Jesus, Jesus, Came to serve, not to be served;*

*Jesus, Jesus, Came to set us free.*

*Jesus, Jesus, Crucified upon a tree;*

*Gave His life willingly died for you and me.*

*He was not just a man from Galilee who was a carpenter by trade.*

*But He was the precious promised one. He was the Son of God.*

*Jesus, Jesus, Rose in triumph from the grave;*

*Jesus, Son of God, Savior of the world.*

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED:** *INCIDENTAL DISCOVERY*

REV. JOHN W. JOHNSON

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

\* **CLOSING HYMN #386:** *O for a World*

AZMON

\* **SENDING**

We leave, our hearts filled with God's love.

***We will go to offer the wonders of laughter and hope to everyone we will meet.***

We leave, following Jesus into the world.

***We will serve alongside him in the brokenness of our neighbors and our communities.***

We leave, having heard the whispers of the Spirit.  
**We will speak justice to those who would hoard it only for themselves.**

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **POSTLUDE: Praise to the Lord Our God**

L. SMITH

\* Please stand in body or spirit.

LIVING AND DYING IN CHRIST

# 819 Be Still, My Soul

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.  
2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth un - der - take  
3 Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.  
to guide the fu - ture sure - ly as the past;  
when we shall be for - ev - er with the Lord;

Leave to thy God to or - der and pro - vide,  
Thy hope, thy con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;  
when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang - es faith - ful will re - main.  
all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.  
sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heaven - ly Friend  
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past

through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.  
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.  
all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.



# *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 **Brandon Troxler**. 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  
Ruby Martin  
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  
Katherine Bayliff  
Randy Thompson

Norma Proctor  
Levi Byrd  
Alex Thomas  
Bill Abplanalp  
Robert Sykes

Ben Johnson  
Family of Ruth Younts  
Foy Bayliff  
Dusty Kimrey

**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** 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
- 12:00 - Congregational Meeting / Meeting of the Corporation

Monday, the 25<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 - Sabbatical Support Group

Tuesday, the 26<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 - Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 3<sup>rd</sup>:

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

### 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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