



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

March 15, 2020 – 11:00 am

Third Sunday in Lent



"We even take pride in our problems, because we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us."
Romans 5:3-5 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

"God, my maker, hold me this day, with the same hand that shapes the mountains, with the same hand that cradles the deep. Keep my heart soft and supple, make my faith strong and firm. Renew me, re-form me, re-create me into the image of Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen." - Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Year A

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Ah Holy Jesus, How Has Thou Offended*

HELMUT WALCHA

CHORAL INTROIT: *Behold the Lamb*

DOTTIE RAMBO

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 HYMN #356: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

NETTLETON

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, you who are thirsty—

here is water that sustains weary souls.

Come, you who are despairing—

here is the Rock of Our Salvation.

Come, make a joyful noise to the Lord.

Let us enter God's presence with praise!

* **OPENING HYMN:** *Come, Worship God* (see next page)

O QUANTA QUALIA

386 Come, Worship God

(Psalm 95)



1 Come, wor-ship God, who is wor - thy of hon - or;
 2 Ruled by your might are the heights of the moun - tains;
 3 We are your peo - ple, the sheep of your pas - ture;
 4 Now let us lis - ten, for you speak a - mong us;

en - ter God's pres - ence with thanks and a song!
 held in your hands are the depths of the earth.
 you are our Mak - er, and to you we pray.
 o - pen our hearts to re - ceive what you say.

You are the rock of your peo - ple's sal - va - tion
 Yours is the sea, yours the land, for you made them,
 Glad - ly we kneel in o - be - dience be - fore you;
 Peace be to all who re - mem - ber your good - ness,

to whom our ju - bi - lant prais - es be - long.
 God a - bove all gods, who gave us our birth.
 great is the one whom we wor - ship this day!
 trust in your word, and re - joice in your way!

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

ROMANS 5:1-11

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

When we were determined to remain at war with you,

you sent the Prince of Peace.

When our relationship with you was laying in pieces on the floor,

you offered the broken Bread to restore us to wholeness.

When petty pride stiffens our necks so much we cannot bow down in your holy presence,

you massage our souls with grace's tender touch. We worship you in joy, God, our God.

When our ears become stuffed with our selves,

you open them with songs of grateful praise.

When our mouths overflow with rich, sweet wine,

you wash them out with living waters of hope.

When all we can say is 'Give me! Give me!'

you challenge us to submit to servanthood. We worship you in spirit, Jesus, Water Giver.

When our souls are empty,

you fill them with living water.

When we are reluctant to follow Jesus,

you steer us in the right direction.

When we are tempted to boast,

your whispers of grace silence us. We worship you in truth, Comforter of our hearts.

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Lord, you know who we are. You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us.

We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation.

Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life.

Forgive us, Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God does not disappoint us. Our sins are forgiven, our lives are made whole, we are sent forth to serve.

In Jesus Christ, living water breaks through the roof of our hearts, in such abundance that we don't have enough buckets to hold it all. Thanks be to God. Amen.

* RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE #579: *Glory Be to the Father*

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

* SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE

ADAPTED FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH (PCUSA BOOK OF CONFESSIONS)

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.

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *Kyrie*

GIROLAMO FRESCOBALDI

* **THE DOXOLOGY #592:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDRETH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN OF THE DAY #84: *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

RATHBUN

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

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

JAMES MONTGOMERY / RICHARD REDHEAD

*Go to dark gethsemane, you who feel the tempter's power;
Your Redeemer's conflict see; watch with Him one bitter hour;
Turn not from His griefs away; learn of Jesus Christ to pray.
Follow to the judgment hall; view the Lord of life arraigned;
O the wormwood and the gall! O the pangs His soul sustained!
Shun not suffering, shame, or loss; learn of Him to bear the cross.
Calvary's mournful mountain climb; there, adoring at His feet,
Mark that miracle of time, God's own sacrifice complete.
"It is finished!" Hear the cry; learn of Jesus Christ to die.
Early hasten to the tomb where they laid His breathless clay;
All is solitude and gloom; who has taken Him away?
Christ is risen! He meets our eyes: Savior, teach us so to rise.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *Endurance, Character, Hope*

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN #368: *I've Got Peace Like a River*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

* SENDING

Let us go now, to meet all who are thirsting for God.

We will share the living water with everyone we meet.

Let us go now, to listen as Jesus does with us.

We will hear the stories and hearts of all who are considered voiceless by our world.

Let us go now, to bring the Spirit's wholeness to others.

We will bring peace and healing to the broken and lonely, even as they offer us hope and grace by their lives.

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE: *Hosanna, Loud Hosanna*

WILLIAM HENRY MONK

* *Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and Helen Brown)

WELCOME to this service of worship at Bethany Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). Whether you are a member or a visitor 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 today’s worship:

- *Glory to God* (Presbyterian Hymnal)
- *Feasting on the Word* worship resources
- *The Text this Week* website (www.textweek.com)
- *Call to Worship* resources from the PCUSA.

In Chris’ absence this morning we welcome once again our guest organist, **Michael Bayless**. Michael is principal at Ray Street Academy, and occasionally plays for churches who are in need of a substitute. We certainly appreciate Michael sharing his talents with us this morning.

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: Randy Cousins and Tina Patterson)

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

Bill Faucette
Jack Cook
Joan Richardson

Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Joey Leake

John & Ann Sutton
Ruby Martin
Shirley Lane

Teresa Wilborn
Tiffany Tauchren
Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norma Proctor
Katherine Bayliff
Randy Thompson
Frederica Beatty
Christopher Bagley
Family of Harry Smith

Shannon Russell
Mary Moore
Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Pete Campbell
Ben Johnson
Alex Thomas
Glenn Thompson
Carol Brooks
Lou Crutchfield

Ida Whitney
Katherine Turner
Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Mike Sutton
Steward Dillard
Shelvia Russell
Family of Foy Bayliff
Ritchie Fishburne
Janie Holt Clapp
Robert Sykes
Jean Payne

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

Our **Lenten Study *The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life*** continues each Monday evening for six weeks, beginning on Monday, March 2nd at 7:00 here at the church. Come join us even if you have not signed up. Books can be ordered and arrive very quickly.

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.

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Chip Allen, Ben Russell, and Bill Abplanalp)

Elders of the Month for March are **Chip Allen** and **Tina Patterson**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- **Third Sunday in Lent**
- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Monday, the 16th:

- 7:00 - Lenten Study Series, *The Walk*

Wednesday, the 18th:

- 7:00 - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 22nd:

- **Fourth Sunday in Lent**
- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 - Worship

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Karen Maxwell

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen
Randy Cousins
Karen Maxwell

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell
Ben Russell
Tracey Troxler

Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp
Helen Brown
Tina Patterson

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love learn serve



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Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org
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Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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