



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

May 27, 2018 – 11:00 am

Trinity Sunday



*"Praise God with drum and dance! Praise God with strings and pipe!
Praise God with loud cymbals! Praise God with clashing cymbals!
Let every living thing praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!"*
Psalm 150:4-6 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to our service of worship! Join in with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength . . . don't hold back! Sing from your toes! Pray from your guts. Worship the Eternal Creator from your soul. It's not about perfect music. It's not about the perfect prayer. It's about joining the holy roar of a community honestly wrestling with what it means to follow their Creator.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

WILLIAM WILLIAMS (1717-1791)

Notes on Prelude: William Williams originally studied medicine, but abandoned it for theology. He was ordained Deacon in the Church of England, but was refused Priest's Orders, and subsequently attached himself to the Calvinistic Methodists. For half a century he travelled in Wales, preaching the Gospel. Williams composed his hymns chiefly in the Welsh language; they are still largely used by various religious bodies in the principality.

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 #469:** *Morning Has Broken*

BUNESSAN

* CALL TO WORSHIP

BASED ON PSALM 92 AND PSALM 95

Come, let us sing to God;

Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into the Divine presence with thanksgiving;

Let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

It is good to give you thanks, O God;

To sing praises to your name, O Most High;

to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

and your faithfulness by night,

to the music of the lute and harp,

to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O God, have made us glad by your work;

At the works of your hands we sing for joy.

* OPENING HYMN #464: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN INVITATION TO THE WORD #324: *Open My Eyes That I May See* (stanza 2)

OPEN MY EYES

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE: PSALM 96

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 740

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Holy, Creating, Creative God, we sing from the depths of our sorrow. We sing from the abundance of our joy. We sing in voices separate and unique. We sing with one voice as your body.

May the words of our mouths, whether in speech or song, and the meditations of our hearts, whether in prose or poetry, be pleasing in your sight.

O God, you call us to sing your song anew, yet we confess that sometimes we don't feel much like singing. Sometimes we just want to sing of the past. Other times we ignore the witness of your people singing out through the ages.

Forgive us when we trap your good news in our preferred language, when we insist that your grace must be known through our approved tunes, when we limit your story to the good old days.

Forgive us when our lips are sealed in protest or in fear. Forgive us when we keep our voices low and our feet firmly planted, refusing to join you in the song and dance of holy life.

Open our lips, O God, that we may proclaim your praise.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

FROM PSALM 95

"Come, let's sing out loud to the Lord! Let's raise a joyful shout to the rock of our salvation! Let's come before him with thanks! Let's shout songs of joy to him!"

"The Lord is a great God, the great king over all other gods. The earth's depths are in his hands; the mountain heights belong to him." Because of God's grace and goodness, we are a forgiven people! Amen!

* RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE #403: *What a Friend We have in Jesus*

CONVERSE

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!

O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,

All because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE THROUGH OUR HYMNS

HYMN STORY

HYMN #302: *Lord of the Dance* (stanzas 1, 3, 5)

1963 / AMERICAN SHAKER MELODY / SYDNEY CARTER

HYMN STORY

HYMN #306: *Fairest Lord Jesus* (all stanzas)

1677 / SILESIAN FOLK MELODY

HYMN STORY

HYMN #267: *All Things Bright and Beautiful* (stanzas 1, 4)

1848 / CECIL ALEXANDER / ENGLISH MELODY

HYMN STORY

HYMN: *In the Garden*

1913 / AUSTIN MILES

*I come to the garden alone, while the dew is still on the roses;
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear, the Son of God discloses. (Refrain)
And He walks with me, and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own,
And the joy we share as we tarry there, none other has ever known.
I'd stay in the garden with Him tho' the night around me be falling;
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe, His voice to me is calling. (Refrain)*

HYMN STORY

HYMN #467: *How Great Thou Art* (stanzas 1, 3, 4)

1885 / SWEDISH FOLK MELODY / CARL BOBERG, STUART HINE

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *Jesus Loves Me*

JESUS LOVES ME

Notes on Offertory: Based on Debussy's Clair de Lune – this poem was written in 1860 by Anna Bartlett Warner (1827–1915). The tune (along with the refrain “Yes, Jesus Loves Me” was added in 1862 by William Bradbury (1816–1868).

*** THE DOXOLOGY:**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

HYMN STORY

HYMN #377: *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore* (stanzas 1, 4)

1979 / CESAREO GABARAIN

HYMN STORY

HYMN: *Because He Lives*

1971 / BILL AND GLORIA GAITHER

*God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus; He came to love, heal and forgive;
He lived and died to buy my pardon, An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives! (Refrain)
(Refrain): Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone;*

*Because I know He holds the future, and life is worth the living, just because He lives!
And then one day, I'll cross the river, I'll fight life's final war with pain;
And then, as death gives way to victory, I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives! (Refrain)*

HYMN STORY

HYMN #404: *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* (all stanzas)

1938 / THOMAS DORSEY

HYMN STORY

HYMN ##280: *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* (stanzas 1, 3, 5)

1779 / JOHN NEWTON

HYMN STORY

HYMN #276: *Great Is thy Faithfulness* (all stanzas)

1923 / THOMAS CHISHOLM, WILLIAM RUNYAN

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

CLOSING PRAYER

* **CLOSING HYMN #264:** *When in Our Music God Is Glorified*

ENGELBERG

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

MARTIN LUTHER (1484-1546)

Notes on Postlude: It is fitting that this hymn, known as "The Battle Hymn of the Reformation," speaks of fortresses, strategy, ancient foes, and winning the battle. In Martin Luther's time, it was an all-out battle for the faith. Martin Luther was a bulldog of a defender, going head-to-head with the established church and her officials. He didn't flinch when challenging the Catholic Church's departure from the true faith. Even Luther, however, had his bouts of depression. He penned the words to the song around 1527 as a paraphrase of Psalm 46. At times of discouragement, Luther would sometimes turn to his young friend Melancthon, saying, "Let's sing the Forty-sixth Psalm. He would pull out his lute and strum the chords of this triumphant song. "A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing." As the Protestant reformation rolled on, believers often experienced the sting of persecution and even death. In their final moments, many were known to sing that inspiring stanza, "Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever."

* 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; 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 can 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.

Welcome to our **Hymn Sing Worship** this morning! Our service this morning centers around the gift of music and the gift of hymns that have graced our church – some for many years, and some that are newer. Thanks to those who made suggestions over the past few weeks. There were so many that we could not sing them all! Thanks also to **Elder Rick Purcell** for his leadership in the service this morning, and as always to **Chris Bagley**, for his musical leadership.

John is away this morning, recovering from knee surgery this past Friday. He appreciates your prayers and good wishes! John will be out of the office most of this week, but will return to worship next Sunday.

Next Sunday, June 3rd, will mark the beginning of a new **Summer Sermon Series: *The Answer to Bad Religion is Not No Religion: A Guide to Good Religion for Seekers***. Here is the schedule for this unique series:

- June 3rd: *What to Do With No Religion*
- June 10th: *The Answer to Judgment is Love*
- June 17th: *The Answer to Negativity is Hope*
- June 24th: *The Answer to Arrogance is Openness*
- July 8th: *The Answer to Division is Community*
- July 15th: *The Answer to Passivity is Passion*

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 Sandy Cook)

ATTENTION NON-COMPUTER USERS: We realize that there are some in our congregation who do not use computers, and thus miss out on emails and other correspondence regarding prayer requests and other information. If you will let Joy know in the office, she will put you on a list to call whenever one of these emails goes out. The office number is 336.227.4041.

We are in the process of putting together a new in-house **Pictorial Directory**. We are using photographs from the previous directory, unless you indicate otherwise. To view the picture we have on file for you, you may come by the church office and Joy will show it to you, or call Joy and she will send it to you electronically. To submit a new photo, send it to Joy (office@bethanypreschurch.org) or bring a print by so it can be scanned.

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

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Bill Faucette | Diane Miller | John & Ann Sutton |
| Faye Campbell | Jack Cook | Peter Slater |
| Frances Nolan | Polly & Dick Wilson | Joey Leake |
| Layla Benoklen | Teresa Wilborn | Shannon Russell |
| Ida Whitney | Tiffany Tauchren | Mary Moore |
| Rachel Poteat | Jean Berry | Barbara Cousins |
| Jeremy Harden | Christy Lutterloh | Pat Kennedy |
| Anne McDaniels | Eleanor Thompson | Donna Mitchell-Ayers |
| Mike Sutton | Nancy Sutton | Pete Campbell |
| Steward Dillard | Norma Proctor | Ben Johnson |
| Shelvia Russell | Family of Celeste Bayliff Agner | Ruth Younts |
| Ruby Martin | Levi Byrd | Diane Bullis |
| | Susie Hunley | |

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

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.

Young at Heart Class (Young at Heart Classroom – across from pastor's office)

Using the *Uniform Series*, this class engages in lively discussions pertaining to the biblically based curriculum. The class is taught by a very capable team of teachers.

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: Ron Osborne, Chip Allen, and Glenn Patterson)

Copies of the **Narrative Budget** that was distributed at the recent meeting of the corporation are available in the church office or at the mailboxes.

Elders of the Month for May are **Glenn Patterson** and **Nancy Purcell**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Tuesday, the 29th:

- 7:00 – *Jesus for President* Book Study

Wednesday, the 30th:

- 7:00 – Choir Practice

Friday, the 25th – Friday, the 1st: John out

Sunday, the 3rd:

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

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Sandy Cook

Karen Maxwell

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love learn serve



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Staff

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org
Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – music@bethanypreschurch.org
Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org
Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

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