Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina
www.bethanypreschurch.org
www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

June 22, 2025 – 11:00 am
Second Sunday of Pentecost

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to our service of worship. Although we are worshipping in a variety of locations, we still affirm that God is present in our worship, whether in-person or virtually. Our prayer is that all who worship with us this day will truly feel the presence of God in this time. Know that you are loved and we are so glad you are here!

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *My Heart Rejoices* — EDWARD BROUGHTON

WELCOME

***PROCESSIONAL #155:** *Rejoice, the Lord is King* — CHARLES WESLEY

Rejoice, the Lord is King!
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
And triumph evermore:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

God's kingdom cannot fail,
Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope!
For Christ the Judge shall come
To glorify the saints
For their eternal home:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES (BASED ON PSALM 42)

As a deer longs for flowing streams, our souls long for you, O God.
Our souls thirst for God, for the living God.
Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for we shall again praise the Lord, our help and our God.

GATHERING PRAYER (1 KINGS 19, LUKE 8)

God of power and might, bring your awesome presence into our worship and our world.
Open us to your wholeness and healing and embolden us to answer your call,
that we might face unafraid the demons of this world. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

*HYMN OF THE DAY #492 : *Baptized in Water* MICHAEL A. SAWARD

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
Heirs of salvation,
Trusting the promise,
Faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
One with his rising,
Freed and forgiven
Thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
Born of the Spirit,
We are God's children,
Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

Telling the Truth About Ourselves

In the prophet Isaiah, God declares a readiness to be sought out, even by those who did not ask,
and a willingness to be found, even by those who do not seek.
With confidence in God's readiness to receive us however we are, let us boldly pray this prayer of confession.

God of gospel freedom, we find it difficult to imagine that we could indeed be your children through faith. We cannot believe that we could belong to Christ and be heirs of the promise made to Abraham and his offspring. Help our unbelief; rekindle our imagination. Tame our rebellion. Bring us back to ourselves and to you.

An Offering of God's Grace (from Galatians 3)

In Christ Jesus, we are all children of God through faith; we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.
We are heirs according to the promise and made free in Christ Jesus.
Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A Prayer for Illumination

God revealed in fire, earthquake, and silence, reveal yourself to us now in the reading of your holy Word. Amen.

Encountering Scripture

Psalm 43 pew Bible, 697

Galatians 3:23-29 pew Bible, 1419

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Word in Music: *Amazing Grace* John Newton/arr. by Chris Owenby

The Word Proclaimed
Sermon: *"God's Children"* Rick Purcell, CRE

Prayers of the People

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.

An Offering of Our Gifts

Offertory

***DOXOLOGY #593:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* THOMAS KEN

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. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

***BLESSING OUR GIFTS**

***CLOSING HYMN #538:** *Lord, Dismiss Us With Thy Blessing* JOHN FAWCETT

Lord, dismiss us with Thy blessing;
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Thy love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
Traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration
For Thy gospel's joyful sound;
May the fruits of Thy salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, Ever faithful
To the truth may we be found.

So that when Thy love shall call us,
Savior, from the world away,
Let no fear of death appall us,
Glad Thy summons to obey.
May we ever, May we ever
Reign with Thee in endless day.

***SENDING**

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit be with you, those you love, and for whom you pray, this day and forevermore. Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Lord of All Life* EDWARD BROUGHTON

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sundays, 9:45am Bible Study – Evie C. Marshall Room

Tuesday, July 1 10:30am **The Women of Bethany Church Gathering**

The Women of Bethany Church will come together on Tuesday, July 1st at 10:30am in the Evie C. Marshall classroom.

Tuesday, July 1st **Alamance Co. Mobile Library**

Starting in June the Alamance County Public Libraries mobile library with be at Bethany on the first Tuesday of each month. The mobile library will be in the church parking lot 10:30 – 11:30. Please stop by and "check-out" this wonderful service the library has to share

S.A.F.E. (Southern Alamance Family Empowerment)

How we can help S.A.F.E. for the month of **June**? They are asking for **Breakfast items (Cereals, Granola Bars, Oatmeal, Breakfast Bars), Children and Adult diapers and Feminine products.**
S.A.F.E. will be closed the 1st and 5th Saturday of the Month.
Consider donating your plastic and paper bags.

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, June 22nd – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 – Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, June 25th

6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, June 29th – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

9:45 – Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

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Session
Moderator: Rick Purcell, CRE
Clerk: Randy Cousins
Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2025:
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Tina Patterson
Nancy Purcell

Class of 2026:
Chip Allen
Jean Payne
Ben Russell

Class of 2027:
Karen Maxwell
Kim Snyder
Brandon Troxler

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