



Bethany Presbyterian Church

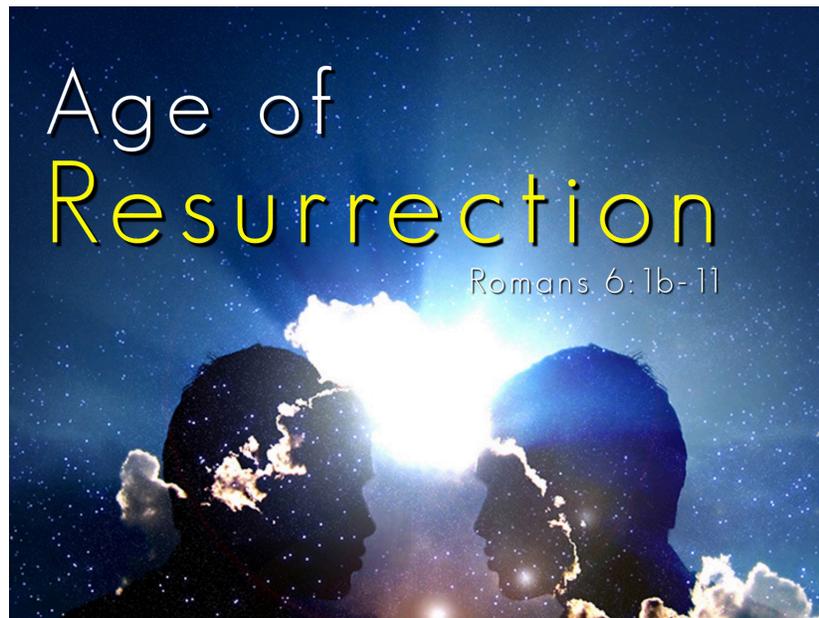
Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

June 25, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday after Pentecost



“We know that Christ has been raised from the dead and he will never die again. Death no longer has power over him. He died to sin once and for all with his death, but he lives for God with his life. In the same way, you also should consider yourselves dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.”

Romans 6:9-11 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Holy God, together with you we enter the sacred act of worship. We come as a consecrated people, dedicated for your purposes. We set apart this time and place in which we renounce all other loyalties and competing interests that we might behold your glory. Come to us, we pray. Amen.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Lord of Hope*

H. LIVINGSTONE

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 Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

ANONYMOUS

*I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus,
I have decided to follow Jesus – no turning back, no turning back.*

*The world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me,
The world be behind me, the cross before me – no turning back, no turning back.*

*Though none go with me, still I will follow, though none go with me, still I will follow,
Though none go with me, still I will follow – no turning back, no turning back.*

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Troubled prophets and struggling families, you listen to our voices, whoever we are.

There is no one like you, God of the listening heart.

Those who live in fear, and those who look for signs, you fill us with hope and surprises.

There is no one like you, God of steadfast love.

Seekers of power, as well as those who serve the vulnerable, you challenge us to use our gifts for others.

There is no one like you, God of all people.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

* **HYMN OF PRAISE #272:** *God of the Sparrow*

ROEDER

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

God of those empty of hope and those who are cast out: into the chaos of every life you enter with the silence of love; when we choke on bitter memories, you hand us the cup of healing; when we wander down lonely streets, you bring us home to your heart.

Jesus Christ, conqueror of sin's power: into our deepest pain where life has bottomed out, you dare to enter; when we cry out with fear, you cradle our hearts; when we face death, you stride out of the grave, pointing the way to the kingdom.

Spirit of the forsaken and bearer of compassion: you are the mist shimmering over the valleys, stirring the waters of creation; you are the dew bathing the flowers every morning, anointing us with resurrection's grace. We struggle daily with that human tendency to always do wrong, say hurtful things, turn our back to others. But God will never hold our sins against us or our foolish nature. Let us confess to our God, who frees us forever from judgment, as we pray,

In baptism, we are promised new life, yet we continue to focus on those old ways which are so comfortable and seductive. We are so good at fooling others that we are convinced we can trick you as well. We have been called to walk with you, and run down those paths paved with foolishness and fears.

Forgive us, O God. You have claimed our lives in baptism, so we might be set free from sin and be raised to new life.

Just as you save us, so give us the strength to be willing to take up whatever task you give us, and the faith to be willing to lose our lives for others, so we might find life forever with you, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is the good news: God hears our prayers, our cries, our hearts. And, in Christ, we receive new life. We are free, free to walk in the Light of the Lord.

So, this is what we will do. We will open our hearts to God's grace; we will live as people who have died to sin and who live for Christ. Amen.

*** RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE #355:** *Hear the Good News of Salvation*

NETTLETON

*Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from Heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love You! Jesus Christ, You save from sin!
How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.*

*** SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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 confess our faith. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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 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.

*** HYMN OF THE DAY #357:** *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

MARYTON

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *Offertory in D Minor*

J. S. BACH / ARR. D. PAXTON

*** THE DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG (@ HEART) / MOMENT FOR MISSION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #316: *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

TRENTHAM

*Breathe on me, Breath of God. Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love, And do what Thou wouldst do.*

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Let the Whole Creation Cry*

J. ALTHOUSE

*Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high!"
Heav'n and earth awake and sing: "Praise Him! Praise Him! He is our King!"
Praise Him angels from above, every bright and fair in love.
Sun and moon, lift up your voice, night and stars in God rejoice.*

*Prom the north to southern pole let the mighty chorus roll.
Heavenly angels loud and strong raise their voice in song.
Servants working for the Lord, prophets burning with His word.
All who work and all who wait praise Him, praise Him, for He is great!
Men and women, young and old, know His glories manifold.
With one voice this song we raise and sing His praise!*

THE SPOKEN WORD

A Reading from Romans 6:1b-11

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.

Thanks be to God!

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1374

SERMON: AGE OF RESURRECTION

REV. JOHNSON

LEAVING TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME

* **CLOSING HYMN #495:** *We Know That Christ Is Raised*

ENGELBERG

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *High Praise*

R. SAWYER

* *Those who are able may 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. 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).

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 this morning's worship:

- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- *Homiletics Online* website (www.homileticsonline.com)
- *Sing the Faith* song book

Our year-long 125th Anniversary Celebration didn't end with our wonderful celebration at the end of May. As has been noted before our theme scripture passage for the celebration is Isaiah 40:28-31, **Growing Stronger – Growing Deeper – Reaching Higher**. Mark your calendars for our final celebration events:

- **Saturday, September 23rd** – Concert by renowned artist, **David LaMotte** (www.davidlamotte.com)
- **Sunday, September 24th** – Culmination of anniversary celebration / **Rev. J. Herbert Nelson**, preaching (Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (USA) / **David LaMotte** providing music / Anniversary luncheon following worship

Anniversary T-Shirts are now available for purchase. There will be a table set up in the Welcome Center. Cash, checks, or credit cards accepted.

Chris will be leaving this afternoon to attend the annual Montreat Conference on Worship and Music. John will also be in Montreat the latter part of the week and through the weekend. In John's absence next Sunday we will welcome **Rev. Newton Cowan** as our guest preacher. Newton serves as Associate Pastor of Jamestown Presbyterian Church.

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.

To the parents of young children: Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel that you must suppress those wiggles in God's house. **Please note that a professionally staffed nursery is available during the worship hour.** Here are some hints to make worship with your children more rewarding:

- Consider sitting towards the front where it is easier for little ones to engage. On the second pew nearest the choir loft, there are activities for children of all ages to keep busy with during the service.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, musicians, and leaders.
- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me!"
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

- **To adult worshippers:** The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our church is growing! Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Jean Payne and Sherrie Moore)

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	Harold Baldwin
Mike Sutton	Nancy Sutton	Duffy Strigo
Steward Dillard	Infant Sadie Ruth Majors	Norma Proctor
Donna Mitchell-Ayers	Ben Johnson	Gloria Carden Woods
	Pete Campbell	

Each week **Salem Presbytery** lists churches and other ministries that we are to lift up in prayer that week. A complete list can be viewed online at the presbytery website: www.salempresbytery.org. On the prayer list for this week are: **Church of the Covenant, Greensboro; UKirk, Salem College (College Ministries); Fieldstone Presbyterian, Mooresville.** Please keep these churches and ministries in your prayers this week.

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.

Seeker's Class (Church Office)

The Seeker's Class is currently using the *Wired Word* curriculum, looking at current events as they relate to our faith.

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.

SAVE THE DATES: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 11TH AND 12TH.

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Ron Kimrey, and Glenn Patterson)

Elders of the Month for June are **A. J. Campbell and Jean Payne.**

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Wednesday, the 28th – Sunday, the 2nd:

- John in Montreat – Worship & Music Conference

Wednesday, the 28th:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 2nd:

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

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2017:

Ron Kimrey
Karen Maxwell
Sherrie Moore

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson
Nancy Purcell
Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell
Ron Osborne
Jean Payne

bethany presbyterian

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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