



Bethany Presbyterian Church

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

July 17, 2022 – 9:30 am
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



Icon of James, the Just, brother of Jesus

"You must be doers of the word and not only hearers who mislead themselves."
James 1:22 (CEB)

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! Some of the liturgy today is from Ruth Burgess, Summer: Liturgical Resources for May, June and July including Eastertide and Pentecost, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2020).

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Reflections on "Woodworth" (Just as I Am)*

HUGH S. LIVINGSTON, JR.-BASED ON TUNE BY WILLIAM B. BRADBURY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING SENTENCES

Ps. 95:1-2

O come, let us sing to the Lord and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving, singing joyful songs of praise.

Let us worship our God.

***GATHERING PRAYER**

"FOR THE SUN'S RISING," SALLY HOWELL JOHNSON

For the sun's rising and beams of precious warmth,

Thanks be to you, O God.

For the morning's gleaming promise... plants awakening, flowers blooming, trees dancing in the soft wind,

Thanks be to you, O God.

For the air, warm and wet with summer's invitation to play and rest,

Thanks be to you, O God.

For the birds signing their returning song and the fragile nests that hold new life,

Thanks be to you, O God.

For the noontime heat and the refreshing lap of water on the shore,

Thanks be to you, O God.

For shoeless feet and toes that wriggle in sand and grass,

Thanks be to you, O God.

For the long evenings stretching out like a blanket of restful sleep,

Thanks be to you, O God.

For the brilliant blue-black of night sky, silent stars dancing in flickering magic,

Thanks be to you, O God.

For the arc of this summer's day, and for all days, our hearts are full to overflowing with gratitude to you, Creator God. ***Amen.***

OPENING HYMN #150: *Come, Christians, Join to Sing

CHRISTIAN HENRY BATEMAN

Come, Christians, join to sing

Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ our King;

Alleluia! Amen!

Let all, with heart and voice,

Before His throne rejoice;

Praise is His gracious choice;

Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high;

Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky;

Alleluia! Amen!

He is our guide and friend;

To us He'll condescend;

His love shall never end;

Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet our Christ again;

Alleluia! Amen!

Life shall not end the strain;

Alleluia! Amen!

On heaven's blissful shore

His goodness we'll adore,

Singing forevermore,

"Alleluia! Amen!"

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2, 6-9

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 221

JAMES 1:17-27

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 1469-1470

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***Hymn of the Day #357:** *O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee*

Washington Gladden

O Master, let me walk with Thee
In lowly paths of service free;
Tell me Thy secret; help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,
And guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me Thy patience; still with Thee
In closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broadening way;
In peace that only Thou canst give,
With Thee, O Master, let me live.

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Our God loves us, and wants to be in a relationship with us. One of the really important things that makes a good relationship work is open and honest communication. This is why we take time during our worship to tell the truth about ourselves, not because we are intrinsically bad, but because we are human, prone to wander, often exhausted with all that life throws at us. Let us, in this moment, take the time to come back to the One who calls us near in love. Let us, in this moment, be open and honest about who we are before the One who knows us more deeply than we know ourselves. Let us approach the One who has suffered as we have suffered, who has hungered as we have hungered, who has been disappointed as we have been disappointed, who has been loved as we have been loved, who has laughed as we have laughed, who has shared bread as we have shared bread, who, in Christ, has been one of us. Let us approach our God in the silence of this moment.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Hear the good news! We are loved, we are forgiven. May we live into this love and forgiveness and live as one who has been raised to new life!
Thanks be to God.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

So now, as Jesus taught us, let us pray in the language we are most familiar with, saying:

*...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.*

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY – THE WORD IN MUSIC: *If You Ask Him*

Karen Maxwell, Soloist

RICHARD ALAN HENDERSON

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

THOMAS KEN

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

*BLESSING OUR GIFTS

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"True Devotion"*

REV. PHILLIPS

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

*PROCLAIMING WHAT WE BELIEVE

FROM "THE WESTMINSTER SHORTER CATECHISM," 1647

What is the chief end of man?

Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

The Word of God which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

What do the Scriptures principally teach?

The Scriptures principally teach what man is to believe concerning God, and what duty God requires of man.

What is God?

God is a Spirit, infinite, eternal and unchangeable, in his beginning, wisdom, power, holiness, justice, goodness, and truth.

Are there more Gods than one?

There is but one only, the living and true God.

How many Persons are there in the Godhead?

There are three Persons in the Godhead: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one God, the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

*CLOSING HYMN #388: *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

JOHN ERNEST BODE

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
Be Thou forever near me,
My Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If Thou art by my side,

Nor wander from the pathway
If Thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel Thee near me!
The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But Jesus, draw Thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear Thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self will;
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, Thou hast promised
To all who follow Thee
That where Thou art in glory
There shall Thy servant be;
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve Thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my friend.

***SENDING**

"BLESS ALL WHO WORSHIP YOU" DA NOUST

Bless all who worship you,
O God, from praise at dawn to sunset song;
From your goodness, you enrich us.
Oh, by your love, inspire us.
Oh, by your Spirit, guide us.
By your power, you protect us.
In your mercy, you receive us,
now and always

Amen

POSTLUDE: *O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

Hymn Story

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

Washington Gladden was a controversial 19th century clergyman of the Congregational Church — a preacher unafraid of a good fight. For a period of time, he served as editor of the New York *Independent* newspaper, and his editorials were credited with starting the investigation that sent the notorious Boss Tweed to jail.

Gladden was especially interested in labor disputes, and got involved in a number of strikes — not to encourage them, but to negotiate peaceful settlements.

He sparked controversy when he opposed the acceptance of a \$100,000 donation to his denomination by John D. Rockefeller — “Tainted money,” he called it, because of Rockefeller’s business policies.

But there has been no controversy associated with Gladden’s hymn, “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee.” This hymn expresses in simple language what we all feel — a need to walk with God — to feel God’s presence — to have God guide us — to have God help us through the tough struggles of life. It is a hymn, but it is also a prayer. It asks God to give us a “winning word of love” that will make a difference in someone’s life. It asks God to give us patience — and hope — and peace. It then concludes by asking, “With Thee, O Master, let me live.”

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Our Faith Community @ Work

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

Bethany Members

Christopher Bagley
Sylvia Donley
Pat Kennedy
Joyce & Norman Mize
Nancy Sutton

Katherine Bayliff
Henry Flythe
Ron & Sue Kimrey
Shelvia Russell
Robert Sykes

Lou Crutchfield
Judy & Darrell Holmes
Ruby Martin
Mike Sutton
Ida Whitney

Friends of Bethany

Carol Abplanalp
Jack Cook
Grace Johnson
Gaynell McCollum
Norma Proctor
Ann Sutton
Randy Thompson
Cindy Uzzo
David Scramage

Carol Brooks
Bill Faucette
Christy Lutterloh
Anne McDaniels
Shannon Russell
Tiffany Tauchren
Teresa Wilborn
Frank Wrenn

Janie Holt Clapp
Ben Johnson
Robert May
Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Alex Thomas
Deborah & Larry
Barbara Smith
Don Burenhiede

Elders of the Month for July are **Shelby Smith** and **Kim Snyder**.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

- Pat & Henry Flythe July 1
- Helen & Glenn Byrd July 10
- Millie & Jay Fuller July 11
- Amy & Dusty Kimrey July 13
- Brenda & Robert Sykes July 27

- Shelby Smith July 3
- Sylvia Hayes July 5
- Janine Osborne July 5
- Tina Patterson July 7
- Xan Wagner July 8
- Diane Bullis July 12
- Debbie Johnson July 17
- Sylvia Donley July 20

Liturgist

July 3rd Tina Patterson
July 10th Helen Brown
July 17th Randy Cousins
July 24th Tina Patterson
July 31st

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

Sunday, July 17th – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:30 – Worship (In-Person in the sanctuary & Live Stream)
- After Church – “Jesus and the Gospels”, Fellowship Hall (not meeting this week)

Wednesday, July 20th

- 6:30 – Choir Practice (not meeting)

Sunday, July 24th – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

- 9:30 – Worship (In-Person outside at the Manse parking lot & Live Stream)
- After Church – “Jesus and the Gospels”, Fellowship Hall

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love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

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Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp

Helen Brown

Tina Patterson

Class of 2023:

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Shelby Smith

Class of 2024:

Karen Maxwell

Kim Snyder

Tracey Troxler

Staff

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Jon Phillips – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org

Chaplain: Rick Purcell – chaplain@bethanypreschurch.org

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – music@bethanypreschurch.org

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – admin@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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