



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian)

August 5, 2018 – 11:00 am

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*



*"You must have no other gods before me."*

Exodus 20:3 (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:** *Holy Spirit, Faithful Guide*

R. HUGHES

### 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:** *We Are Standing On Holy Ground*

*We are standing on holy ground, and I know that there are angels all around;  
let us praise Jesus now; we are standing in his presence on holy ground. (Repeat)*

GERON DAVIS

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

O Lord, you are God. There is no other God but you.

***We renounce all that we have allowed to come between us.***

O Lord, we worship you. We praise and honor your name.

***We worship you on this, your holy day.***

For your love, for your word, for all that you have given:

***O Lord, we thank you and praise you. We love you.***

\* **OPENING HYMN #466:** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

AZMON

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

### AN INVITATION TO THE WORD

The universe proclaims God's truth. God's knowledge flows night and day!

***We open our ears to hear, our minds to comprehend, our hearts to receive.***

### AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE:

**EXODUS 20:3-11**

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 89

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.

***Thanks be to God.***

### AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Gracious God, you have called us to be your faithful witnesses. We struggle with this because so often we are caught up in our doubts and our despair about this world. Help us to turn again to you, living in your household of freedom and peace, of reconciliation and witness.

***Lord, from the mountaintop in ancient Israel, you gave your people ways in which to live in harmony with all creation. As time has progressed the power of those words seems to have faded in our lives and we often succumb to base temptations of power and greed.***

Bring us back to your words of compassion and hope, offered to all creation by your Son Jesus. Open our hearts to receive your love and your direction in our lives.

***We keep slamming into walls, O merciful God, when we are left to our own devices. Throughout our faith history, your Son offered words of healing and hope to people who dwelled in darkness. In the brilliant light of his love, people grew and flourished.***

But now, Lord, we find that this world dominates our lives. We are troubled, angry, and fearful. We want to see your presence in the world, but we spend far too much time looking for the "big picture" rather than seeing the myriad of ways in which your love and healing power is shown.

***Forgive us when we grow impatient with you and with the course of things in our lives. Heal our wounds and put us back on pathways of peace and service. Enable us to speak your words of hope in this darkened world.***

### AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

### AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Hear the words of hope! Though the days seem to darken quickly, the brilliant light of your love and presence will always be a guide and comfort to us.

***This is the good news of Jesus Christ, who forgives us and offers us new life. Thanks be to God! 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**

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.***

## AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

**OFFERTORY:** *Nearer, My God, to Thee*

L. SMITH

### \* 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 OF THE DAY: *Gifts of Love Our Lord Has Given*

LORD, I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN / CAROLY WINFREY GILLETTE

*Gifts of love our Lord has given, Words of life: "I'm your God!  
I have brought you out of Egypt; now I call.  
Listen here, listen well:  
When you live in gratitude you'll keep my law."  
"Have no other gods before me, says the Lord God Most High.  
Don't choose idols that you worship in God's place.  
Know God's name, use it well.  
Keep the Sabbath for it is God's gift of grace."  
"Honor father, honor mother, and rejoice! God will bless you.  
Take no life, for God loves every child on earth.  
Celebrate gifts of love;  
Take to heart what marriage promises are worth."  
"Do not steal from one another, nor speak lies, hurting others;  
Do not wish for what your neighbor has in greed."  
Ten great Words, gifts from God,  
Help us live in thanks for all we have received.*

## 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

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

#### THE WORD IN MUSIC: *I Asked the Lord*

RANDY COUSINS, SOLO

JOHNNY LANGE / JIMMY DUNCAN

*I asked the Lord to comfort me when things weren't going my way;  
He said to me, "I will comfort you and lift your cares away."  
I asked the Lord to walk with me, when darkness was all that I knew;  
And He said to me "Never be afraid, and I will see you through."*

*I didn't ask for riches. He gave me wealth untold,  
The moon, the stars, the sun, the sky, and gave me eyes to behold.  
I thank the Lord for everything, and I count all my blessings each day;  
He came to me when I needed Him, I only had to pray.  
And He'll come to you, if you ask Him to,  
He's only a prayer away!*

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

Sermon: *The First Table – Tuned Into God*

REV. JOHNSON

**RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

\* **CLOSING HYMN:** *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* (see next page)

WELSH MELODY

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **POSTLUDE:** *All Voices in One Accord*

L. SMITH

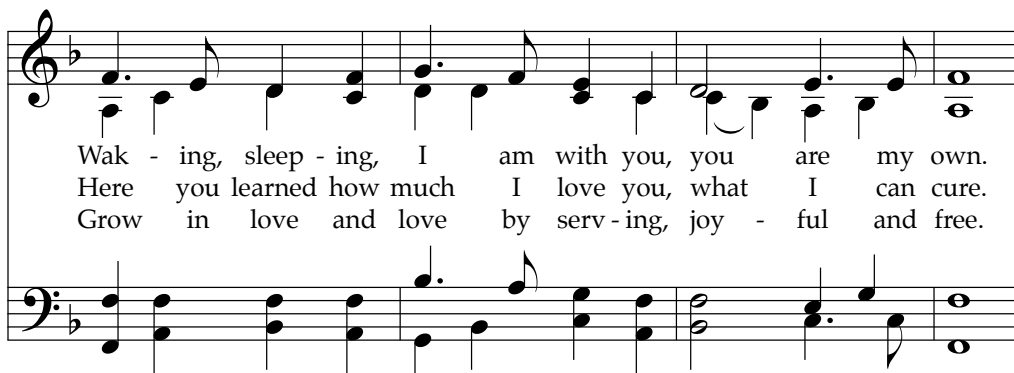
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\* *Please stand in body or spirit.*

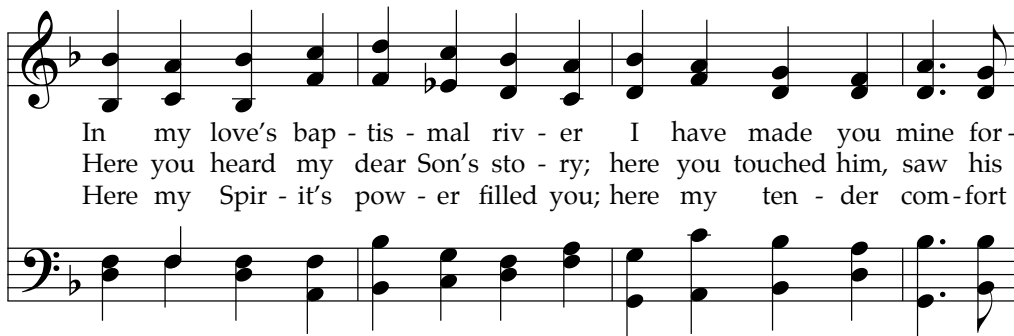
## Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



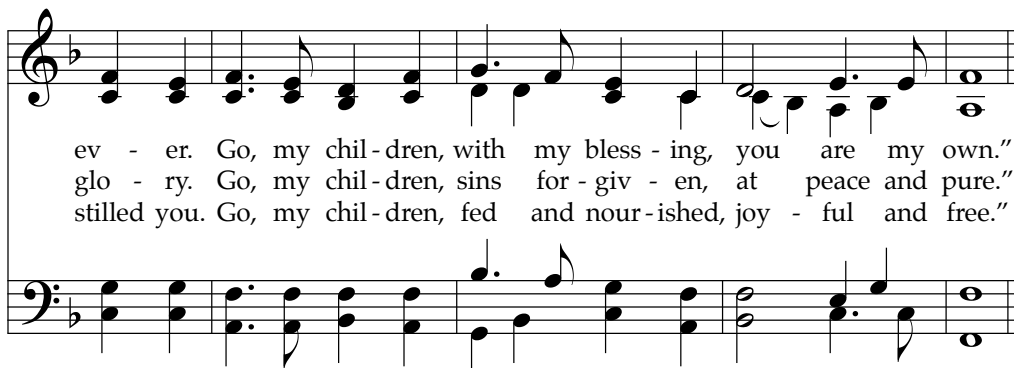
1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his  
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."  
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."



# 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](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org); on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian); or on Twitter by following @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](http://www.buzzsprout.com/9198).

This morning we continue our Summer Sermon Series based on the **Ten Commandments**, entitled: ***Game of Stones: Old Words, New Perspectives***. Over the next few weeks (skipping one Sunday when John is away) we will look at these ancient words and hopefully gain a new understanding and new perspective on God’s commandments. Here are the series’ themes and scripture:

- Today: *“The First Table – Tuned Into God”* – Exodus 20:3-11
- August 19<sup>th</sup>: *“The Second Table – Turned Toward Neighbor”* – Exodus 20:12-16
- August 26<sup>th</sup>: *“The Desires of the Heart: Do Not Covet”* – Exodus 20:17

We are in for a treat next Sunday as our young people will lead us in worship as we observe **Youth Sunday**. Under the leadership of Nancy & Rick Purcell, our youth will share through worship their experience at the Montreat Youth Conference, and other experiences. We look forward to this special Sunday! John will be away next Sunday, and will return on the nineteenth and resume the “Game of Stone” sermon series.

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)

We have been announcing for a while now about the new church directory project that we are working on, and now have some details. Currently, we are using photos that were taken for the last directory some six or so years ago. If you would like to use those photos, you don't have to do anything. If you would like to update your pictures, you have two opportunities to do so. One of our members, **Salina Russell**, is an accomplished photographer, and has agreed to be available to take photos on **August 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>**, either before or after church. She will take both individual and family photographs. These will be used to update our directory, which we hope to publish sometime in September. If you would like to view your current photo on file, you may contact Joy in the church office.

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
Shirley Lane	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	Levi Byrd	Ruth Younts
Ruby Martin	Betty Boggs	Alex Thomas
Katherine Turner	Glenn Thompson	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)

Elders of the Month for August are **Brandon Troxler** and **Glenn Patterson**.

***Did you know . . . that the cost of utilities for the church for one week is \$297.31?***

## This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 12<sup>th</sup>:

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

### 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

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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### Staff

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – [pastor@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:pastor@bethanypreschurch.org)

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – [music@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:music@bethanypreschurch.org)

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – [office@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:office@bethanypreschurch.org)

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – [finance@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:finance@bethanypreschurch.org)

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*Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*

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