



## Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

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

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September 4, 2022 – 9:30 am

*Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost*



Delta News Hub, "Flight attendant performing safety presentation mid-flight"

My brothers and sisters, if any of you wander from the truth and someone turns back the wanderer, recognize that whoever brings a sinner back from the wrong path will save them from death and will bring about the forgiveness of many sins.

James 5:19-20 (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!*

*The liturgy today is from the Wild Goose Resource Group, A Wee Worship Book, (Chicago: GIA Publications, 2015; and Ruth Burgess, Bare Feet and Buttercups, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2008)*

### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *His Name is Wonderful*

AUDREY MIEIR/ARR. BY FRED BOCK

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*OPENING SENTENCES

"God of our journeying," Jan Berry

God of our journeying, inviting us to travel with you,  
***forgive us when we cling to outworn security, afraid to let go of what is safe and familiar.***

*Give us courage to take the risk of answering your call into joyous adventure.*

Let us worship our God.

**\*GATHERING PRAYER**

"Arise with me," Carolyn Smyth

Arise within me, Holy mystery, Holy friend

keep danger near enough for the summoning of protection  
keep doubt strong enough for the deepening of trust  
keep despair near enough for the stirring of hope  
keep darkness strong enough for the glimmering of light  
keep hostility near enough for the sustaining of peace  
keep fear strong enough for the arousing of love  
keep greed near enough for the lavishing of generosity  
keep uncertainty strong enough for the blistering of courage  
keep surprise near enough for the gifting of grace  
keep chaos strong enough for the flowering of creativity  
keep divinity near enough for the perfecting of humanity

Arise within me, Holy mystery, take me to hallowed ground. **Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN :** *Standing in the Need of Prayer*

**Refrain:**

It's me, it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer;  
It's me, it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not my brother, not my sister, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer;  
Not my brother, not my sister, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not the preacher, not the deacon, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer;  
Not the preacher, not the deacon, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer. **[Refrain]**

Not my father, not my mother, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer;  
Not my father, not my mother, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer.

Not the stranger, not my neighbor, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer;  
Not the stranger, not my neighbor, but it's me, O Lord,  
Standin' in the need of prayer. **[Refrain]**

# 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

**1 KINGS 17:1-7**

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 447-448

**JAMES 5:7-20**

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 1473

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY:** *If it Had Not Been For the Lord On My Side*

MARGARET DOUROUX

### **Refrain:**

If it had not been for the Lord on my side  
Where would I be? Where would I be?  
If it had not been for the Lord on my side  
Where would I be? Where would I be?

He kept my enemies away  
He let the sun shine through a cloudy day  
Oh, he wrapped me in the cradle of his arms  
When he knew I'd been battered and torn  
So...[**Refrain**]

He never left me all alone  
He gave me peace and joy I've never known  
He answered when I knelt to Him to pray  
And in victory, the Lord showed me the way  
So...[**Refrain**]

## TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

"ON OUR DAILY JOURNEY," RUTH BOWEN

Let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves:

God of our past, reconcile our brokenness.

God of our future, renew our faith.

God of the present moment, reach out and touch us, and through us, the lives of all we meet on our daily journey. May we be made whole through the holiness of God the Father, the humanity of Christ the Son, and the healing power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

## AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God of the present moment, reach out and touch us, and through us, the lives of all we meet on our daily journey. ***May we be made whole through the holiness of God the Father, the humanity of Christ the Son, and the healing power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

## 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

**\*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:** *"Final Instructions"*

REV. PHILLIPS

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### INVITATION TO THE TABLE

A follower of Jesus once wrote: "Think what kind of people you are whom God has called: not many wise by human standards, not many powerful or of noble birth. Yet to shame the wise, God has chosen what the world counts foolish; and to shame the strong, God has chosen what the world counts weak..."

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***  
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

Yes, it is right to give you thanks and praise for never compromising the truth which you lived...  
...So we gladly celebrate your life as, in concert with the church in heaven and earth, we join the song of your unending praise.

*Holy, holy, holy Lord  
God of power and might;  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

Oh, Holy Jesus, it is not by virtue that we are here, but by your gracious invitation...+

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

"FIRST AND LAST FRUITS," RUTH BURGESS

God of the first fruits,  
let your rain dance on us,  
your sun shine on us,  
and your love and justice grow in us,  
until we bring our last fruits to your harvest. **Amen.**

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

## \*PROCLAIMING WHAT WE BELIEVE

FROM THE CONFESSION OF BELHAR, 1986

*We believe*

*that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ;*

*that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells;*

*that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;*

*Jesus is Lord. To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.*

## \*CLOSING HYMN #525: *Here I Am, Lord*

DANIEL L. SCHITTE

I the Lord of sea and sky  
I have heard my people cry  
All who dwell in dark and sin  
My hand will save  
I who made the stars of night  
I will make their darkness bright  
Who will bear my light to them?  
Whom shall I send?

**Refrain**

Here I am Lord,  
Is it I Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night  
I will go Lord,  
If you lead me,  
I will hold your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain,  
I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them.

They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone,  
Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them,  
Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN**

I the Lord of wind and flame  
I will tend the poor and lame  
I will set a feast for them  
My hand will save  
Finest bread I will provide,  
Till their hearts be satisfied  
I will give my life to them,  
Whom shall I send? **REFRAIN**

**\*SENDING**

God of the warm earth *root us deep*  
God of the green fields *dress us*  
God of the turning years *bring us to fruit*  
God of the harvest *bless us*

"GOD OF THE HARVEST," RUTH BURGESS

**POSTLUDE:** *We Are God's People*

JOHANNES BRAHMS/ARR. BY FRED BOCK

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\* *Please stand in body or spirit.*

## This Week's Calendar:

Today:

Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup> – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost and Communion Sunday

- ☐ 9:30 – Worship (In-Person outside at the Manse parking lot & Live Stream)

Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>

- ☐ 6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- ☐ **11:00 – Worship (In-Person in the Sanctuary & Live Stream)**

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



### Session

**Moderator:** Rev. Jon Phillips

**Clerk:** Randy Cousins

**Treasurer:** Glenn Patterson

1500 S. Main Street  
Graham, NC 27215

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

336.227.4041

### 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](mailto:pastor@bethanypreschurch.org)

Chaplain: Rick Purcell – [chaplain@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:chaplain@bethanypreschurch.org)

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

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

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

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