



## Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

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October 2, 2022 – 11:00 am

*World Communion Sunday*



Nenad Stojkovic - "Toddler holding Rye bread"

But Moses said to the people, "Don't be afraid. Stand your ground, and watch the LORD rescue you today."  
Exodus 14:13 (CEB)

## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Welcome to our service of worship on this World Communion Sunday. 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! Parts of our liturgy today are from Ruth Burgess, Acorns and Archangels: Resources for Ordinary Time, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2009); and the Rev. Katie Owen Aumann for the Presbyterian Mission Agency. According to PMA:*

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world. Paul tells us that we are to "discern the body" when we partake of Holy Communion, mindful that we note our relationship to all our brothers and sisters in Christ in the celebration. One is not to go hungry while another is drunk! (I Cor. 11:21). This is scandalous behavior opposed to the Way of Christ. Thus it is appropriate that World Communion Sunday is also a time when we receive the annual Peace and Global Witness Offering as a way of continuing the ancient Christian practice of sharing what we have with brothers and sisters in need.

*The Communion Set today was a gift to Bethany from the Venerable Riah Abu El-Assal, Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East on his consecration to this office on January 6, 1996. His congregation, Christ Evangelical Episcopal Church of Nazareth, Israel, is our sister church.*

## TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *Here is the Bread and Wine is Offered*

HUGH S. LIVINGTON, JR.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #234 (GLORY TO GOD):** *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*

JOHN OF DAMASCUS

Come, you faithful, raise the strain  
of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought forth Israel  
into joy from sadness,  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke  
Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with unmoistened foot  
through the Red Sea waters.

Tis the spring of souls today:  
Christ has burst his prison,  
and from three days' sleep in death  
as a sun has risen.  
All the winter of our sins,  
long and dark, is flying  
from the Light, to whom we give  
laud and praise undying.

Now the queen of seasons, bright  
with the day of splendor,  
with the royal feast of feasts  
comes its joy to render;  
comes to glad Jerusalem,  
who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strains  
Jesus' resurrection!

Neither could the gates of death,  
nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal  
hold you as a mortal:  
but today, among your own,  
you appear, bestowing  
your deep peace, which evermore  
passes human knowing.

## \*OPENING SENTENCES

KATIE OWEN AUMANN

From north and south and east and west,  
***all Creation sings forth your praises!***  
The mountains and the hills burst into song;  
***the trees of the field shall clap their hands.***  
Your steadfast love never ceases.  
***With joy and peace, let us worship God together.***

## \*GATHERING PRAYER

"PRAYER FOR ST. FRANCIS DAY," JULIE GREENAN

God of unrelenting beauty,  
you are the origin and home of our deepest longing;  
you are the beckoning word

that draws us into the truth of ourselves.  
Through Jesus Christ,  
through the Holy Spirit,  
and through one another,  
may we be released  
from all that stands in the way of real freedom,  
so that,  
naked to the eyes of the world,  
we may revel in the rich garments of your grace and truth. **Amen.**

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

KATIE OWEN AUMANN

In the quietness of this hour, we wait for your Spirit. Tune our ears to hear the promise of your salvation. Incline our hearts toward your message of peace. Summon our will to respond to your Word with justice and love, that we might go forth with joy; through Christ. **Amen.**

### ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

**MATTHEW 2:13-15**

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1170-1171

**EXODUS 14:5-7, 10-14, 21-29**

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 82-84

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

**\*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.

**\*BLESSING OUR GIFTS**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #334:** *When Israel Was in Egypt's Land*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL - ARR. MELVA W. COSTEN

When Israel was in Egypt's land,  
Let my people go!  
Oppressed so hard they could not stand,  
Let my people go!

#### **Refrain:**

Go down, Moses,  
Way down in Egypt's land,  
Tell old Pharaoh,  
To let my people go!

"Thus saith the Lord," bold Moses said:  
Let my people go!  
"If not I'll smite your first born dead,"  
Let my people go! **(Refrain)**

"No more shall they in bondage toil,"  
Let my people go!  
"Let them come out with Egypt's spoil,"  
Let my people go! **(Refrain)**

### TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

"LETTING GO," ANNIE HEPPENSTALL

The birch leaves are falling, Lord,  
yellow diamonds on the green grass,  
released in the autumn wind.  
But I, Lord,  
I still clutch tight the leaves of my old life,  
useless, withered and dry.  
Teach me to let go of the old –  
old hurts and animosities, old troubles and grief.  
Teach me to release them into the wind of your Spirit  
to be whisked away,  
that like the tree I may rest a while  
at peace within,  
then grow again in the spring.

### A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

### AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Friends, water has so often served as a metaphor for chaos and danger in our Scripture.  
And yet, it is through water that our God saves us.  
From the waters of the Sea of Reeds to the waters of our baptism,  
God leads us through the waters into peace.  
May we release the leaves of our old lives that we may embrace the seasons to come.  
May we know peace,  
for we are enough, we are loved, and we are forgiven. **Amen.**

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: #837 (GLORY TO GOD): *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

ELISHA A. HOFFMAN

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms;  
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

#### **Refrain:**

Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Praise You*

WAYNE & ELIZABETH GOODINE

### THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Homily: *"Through the Waters"*

REV. PHILLIPS

# SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

"FOUR COMMUNION PRAYERS," JULIE GREENAN

Come to the heart of Christ,  
where all are one:  
receive the extravagant gift  
which alone expects nothing in return;  
through the boundless hospitality of the Spirit.  
Come, taste God,  
lover and beloved.

## GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

KATIE OWEN AUMANN

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.*

We give you thanks and praise, God of all Creation...  
... With fresh eyes and renewed hope,  
we join our voices with those around the world and with your heavenly chorus to sing:

*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.*

We give you thanks that in the fullness of time, you send your Son Jesus...  
...For great is the mystery of faith:  
*Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again...*

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon our many tables...  
...Through Christ our peace,  
who taught us to pray in the language most familiar to us, saying together:

## 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.*

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

"FOUR COMMUNION PRAYERS," JULIE GREENAN

In this Holy Communion,  
find healing, rest and release;  
in one another,  
find love for body, mind and spirit;  
come home to God  
and be at peace.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

"FOUR COMMUNION PRAYERS," JULIE GREENAN

Let the people come  
to our hearts' true allegiance;  
beyond family and land,  
beyond kingdoms and powers,  
beyond time and self,  
may Love draw and shape us;  
through bread, wine and one another,  
make us your body, your people. *Amen.*

## \*CLOSING HYMN #329: *Break Thou the Bread of Life*

MARY ARTEMESIA LATHBURY

Break Thou the bread of life,  
Dear Lord, to me,  
As Thou didst break the loaves  
Beside the sea;  
Beyond the sacred page  
I seek Thee, Lord;  
My spirit pants for Thee,  
O living Word!

Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord,  
Now unto me,  
As Thou didst bless the bread  
By Galilee;  
Then shall all bondage cease,  
All fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace,  
My all in all!

## \*SPOKEN CHARGE

"GO OUT INTO THE WORLD," PAT BENNETT

Go out into the world to meet people  
and find them no longer strangers  
but fellow travelers;  
no longer aliens to be avoided  
but family to be welcomed;  
no longer enemies to be feared  
but friends to be enjoyed.  
Go out into the world to meet God's people!

**\*CHORAL BLESSING:** *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*

PETER C. LUTKIN

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord lift his countenance upon you,  
and give you peace;  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you,  
and be gracious unto you.  
Amen, amen.

**POSTLUDE:** *The Trumpet of Resounding Praise*

FRANKLIN RITTER

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*\* Please stand in body or spirit.*

## This Week's Calendar:

Today:

Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost & Communion Sunday  
Pennies for Hunger Sunday  
11:00 – Worship (In-Person inside & Live Stream)

Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

□ 6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> – Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



### Session

**Moderator:** Rev. Jon Phillips

**Clerk:** Randy Cousins

**Treasurer:** Glenn Patterson

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### Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp  
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Tina Patterson

### Class of 2023:

Chip Allen  
Randy Cousins  
Shelby Smith

### Class of 2024:

Karen Maxwell  
Kim Snyder  
Tracey Troxler

### Staff

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