



Bethany Presbyterian Church

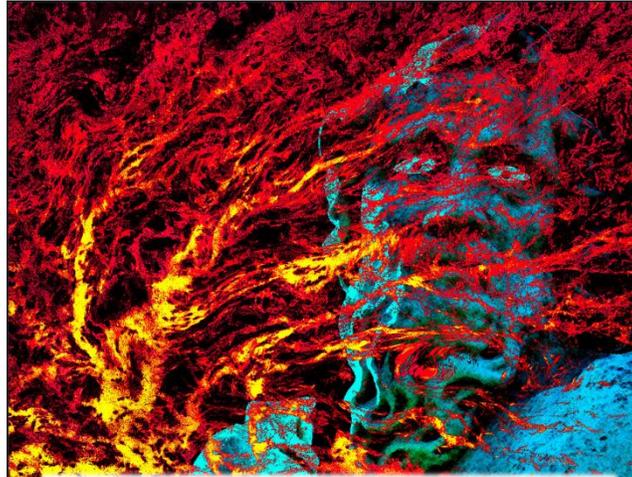
Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

October 3, 2021 – 11:00 am

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



“Naming and Remembering”

“God heard their cry of grief, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, Issac, and Jacob. God looked at the Israelites, and God understood.”

Exodus 2: 24-25 (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.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *If Thou Art Near*

J. S. BACH – ARRANGED BY L.N. PORTER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather from the west to the east,
from the south to the north,
to celebrate the God of peace,
who accompanies us in our acts of peace.
***This God of peace accompanies us
in each and every circumstance around us.
We praise God’s name! Amen!***

REV. GLORIA ULLOA, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF COLOMBIA

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 words 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 'Til their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? (REFRAIN)

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(MAGDALÉNA TRGALOVÁ, EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF CZECH BRETHREN)

Holy Spirit, grant us openness and give us understanding of what each one of us needs to receive through Holy Scripture. When we are facing a difficult choice between the easy and the right decision, ***help us to choose the narrow path. We also pray for all who are about to set on an adventurous journey of faith anywhere in the world. Amen.***

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

JOHN 8:58

EXODUS 2:23-25; 3:1-15; 4:10-17

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1272

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 67-69

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

JAMEEL MAHER KHADIR, EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN JERUSALEM AND THE HOLY LAND

Gracious Lord, creator of this universe, in your generosity you have given us a world of abundance and diversity, yet we live guided by greed and selfishness.

We confess that we have defaced your creation and poisoned your environment through our consumerist behavior and for personal gain.

In Christ, you made us brothers and sisters and intended for us to be united, ***and yet we have built walls to separate us from those who are different from us.***

You gave us wisdom and creativity and we have used those to trick each other and to develop weapons of destruction and death.

You gave us laws to order our lives and we have abused them to take revenge and punish our enemies.

We love war rather than strive for peace.

We ignore the poor and the weak and honored the rich and powerful.

In all this we have not lived according to your will. Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements and for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise. In your mercy, forgive our sins.

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

SHANT AGOUSHIAN, UNION OF ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCHES IN THE NEAR EAST

"God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ," through whom our sins were forgiven.

May he help us to continue to "preach peace to those who are near and far." Amen.

PHIL. 3:9; EPH. 2:17

* RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: *What a Fellowship (Leaning on the Everlasting Arms)*

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

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

* A Doxology #428: *We Give Thee but Thine Own*

WILLIAM W HOW

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Be Still*

MARY McDONALD (ASCAP)

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *Naming and Remembering*

REV. PHILLIPS

* HYMN OF PREPARATION #329: *Break Thou the Bread of Life*

MARY A. 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 blessed the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;
and I shall find my peace, my All in all!

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

It is right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, loving God, creator and sustainer of all life. You planted the first fields - wheat, barley, rice, and maize - and made us in your image to care for your creation...

... Then, in the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, the living bread, to lift up the oppressed and lowly and fill the hungry with good things. Therefore we praise you, joining the faithful who hunger and thirst for righteousness and signing the hymn of the whole creation:

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 praise you, most holy God, for Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. He taught us to share the abundance of your love, feeding the multitude, eating with sinners and strangers, offering his own body to save us, and pouring out his life for the world... Remembering all that you have done in Jesus Christ, we offer our lives to you with great thanksgiving as we share this feast of love and grace, remembering and proclaiming that great mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of staple food and festival drink, that this bread we break and this cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, and one with all who share this meal, a great multitude from every nation and throughout time... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, loving One, who in Jesus taught us to pray:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

From every place on this planet, we turn our face to you, O God. Gather us, all your people, together, to pray. In the midst of the forces which would separate us, bind us in your love as the Church, together. Strengthen us through the grace of your people gathered, no matter how we gather, with the truth of your presence... Make us a world that grows into the shape of your communion table, where all are welcomed and all are fed. Make us a people who grow your family by practices of mutuality, generosity and justice. And may we be found to be witnesses, when Jesus returns, to the truth of who we were created to be - people who belong to each other, people who belong to you, O God, in your Son, Jesus.

Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

*** CLOSING HYMN #488: *The God of Abraham Praise***

DANIEL BEN JUDAH

The God of Abraham praise, Who reigns enthroned above;
The ancient of eternal days, The God of Love!
The Lord, the great I Am, By earth and heaven confessed,
We bow before Your holy name, Forever blest.

Your spirit still flows free, High surging where it will;
In prophet's word You spoke of old And You speak still.
Established is Your law, And changeless it shall stand,
Deep writ upon the human heart, On sea, or land.

You have eternal life Implanted in the soul;
Your love shall be our strength and stay, While ages roll.
We praise You, living God! We praise Your holy name;
The first, the last, beyond all thought, And still the same!

*** SENDING**

BOOK OF COMMON ORDER OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Come, Lord Jesus.

We are open to your Spirit.

We await the fullness of your presence.

Our world finds rest in you alone.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE: *New Faith, New Life***

FRANKLIN RITTER

**** Please stand in body or spirit.***



Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and Helen Brown)

WELCOME to this service of worship at Bethany Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). 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).

“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.**

A Note About the Offering: As we have returned to worship as the pandemic has been becoming less and less a threat, we have continued the practice of not passing the offering plates at the time of the offering during our service, thus decreasing the threat of spreading germs. Instead, you are invited to make your contribution in one of four ways: drop it in the offering plate that is located at the narthex door (before worship) and in the narthex (following worship); mail it in to the church; drop it off at the church in person; or, use our quick and secure online giving platform. This can be accessed through our website, or by scanning the QR code on the last page of this bulletin. Thanks for your generosity and cooperation.

As the threat of the pandemic does ease somewhat, we are still not completely out of the woods. Recently the CDC adjusted the guidelines for wearing masks, suggesting that all persons - vaccinated or not - wear masks indoors in areas that are experiencing more infections. We will continue to urge our congregation to use their own best judgment in whether to wear a mask in worship, always remembering our hope to keep all worshippers healthy and free from infection.

Our service this morning includes the **Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**. Please be attentive to the instructions that will be given during the announcement time. All necessary precautions are being taken to insure that as the elements are being served that everyone is safe and the chances of any spreading of virus is at a minimum.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Randy Cousins and Tina Patterson)

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

Bethany Members

Christopher Bagley
Sylvia Donley
Laura Mitchell-Ayers
Mike Sutton

Katherine Bayliff
Pat Kennedy
Joyce & Norman Mize
Nancy Sutton
Ida Whitney

Barbara Cousins
Ruby Martin
Shelvia Russell
Eleanor Thompson

Friends of Bethany

Carol Brooks
Bill Faucette
Christy Lutterloh
Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Alex Thomas

Janie Holt Clapp
Ben Johnson
Gaynell McCollum
Norma Proctor
John & Ann Sutton
Randy Thompson
Frank Wrenn

Jack Cook
Grace Johnson
Anne McDaniels
Shannon Russell
Tiffany Tauchren
Teresa Wilborn

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Tracey Troxler and Shelby Smith)

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) - NOT CURRENTLY MEETING DUE TO COVID

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.

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: Chip Allen, Ben Russell, and Bill Abplanalp)

Elders of the Month for October are **Ben Russell** and **Bill Abplanalp**.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

- Sue and Ron Kimrey – October 12th
- Shelby and Danny Smith – October 12th

- Carolyn Thompson – October 4th
- Lila Dampier - October 7th
- Robert Sykes - October 8th
- Barbara Cousins - October 11th
- Pat Flythe - October 11th
- Salina Russell - October 11th
- Mandy Snyder- October 13th
- Lauren Kimrey - October 17th
- Lisa Donley - October 22nd
- Joan Perdue - October 22nd
- Eli Smith – October 24th
- Brenda Sykes - October 25th
- Christopher Bagley – October 31st
- Lou Crutchfield – October 31st

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (as scheduled)
- 11:00 – Worship (In-person and Live Stream)
- After Service – Meet and Greet on the front lawn of church

Sunday, October 10th :

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (as scheduled)
- 11:00 – Worship (In-person and Live Stream)

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell

Ben Russell

Tracey Troxler

Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp

Helen Brown

Tina Patterson

Class of 2023:

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Shelby Smith

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Staff

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Jon Phillips

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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Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

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