



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

October 23, 2022 – 11:00 am

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



"Challenge Accepted," Andreina Schoeberlein

"So now, revere the LORD. Serve him honestly and faithfully. Put aside the gods that your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates and in Egypt and serve the LORD. But if it seems wrong in your opinion to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve. Choose the gods whom your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you live. But my family and I will serve the LORD."

Joshua 24:14-15 (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! Parts of today's liturgy are from Kimberly Bracken Long ed. Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Vol. 2 (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2015).

PRELUDE: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

FRANKLIN RITTER (BASED ON LOBE DEN HERREN)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #507:** *I Come with Joy*

BRIAN WREN

I come with joy to meet my Lord,
Forgiven, loved, and free,
In awe and wonder to recall
His life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near
To find, as all are fed,
The new community of love
In Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share,
Each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
And strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
Is in such friendship better known:
We see and praise Him here,
We see and praise Him here.

Together met, together bound
We'll go our different ways,
And as His people in the world,
We'll live and speak His praise,
We'll live and speak His praise.

*OPENING SENTENCES

Ps. 34:22

The Lord redeems the life of God's servants.
Thanks be to God!
No one who takes refuge in God will be condemned.
Praise the Lord!

Let us worship our God.

*GATHERING PRAYER

JOHN 6:65

Living God, your Son Jesus Christ has the words of eternal life. Grant that we may come to him in faith, follow him in the world, and abide with him forever in the world to come; for he dwells with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ***Amen.***

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord Jesus Christ,
as we hear the reading of Holy Scripture,
speak to us your words of spirit and life. ***Amen.***

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 4:8-10

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1172

JOSHUA 24:1-26

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 298-299

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. Amen.

***BLESSING OUR GIFTS**

***HYMN OF THE DAY #400:** *When We Are Living*

Spanish Melody

When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind,
but when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Friends, let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves. Please pray with me.

God of our redemption, we confess that we have not been faithful servants. We have not served you with sincere hearts nor trusted in your salvation. We have forsaken you, the living God, and have chosen to follow the lifeless idols of worldly power and wealth. Forgive us our sin, O God. Lead us to heartfelt repentance that we may honor you with our lips and serve you with our lives; through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

JOHN 6:68

Hear the good news: Christ himself is the Word that offers eternal life to all who receive him. This proves his love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. ***Thanks be to God.***

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: *Through it All*

ANDRE CROUCH

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Challenge Accepted"*

REV. PHILLIPS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Merciful God,
hear our prayer.

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.*

***CLOSING HYMN:** *Trust and Obey*

JOHN H. SAMMIS

When we walk with the Lord
in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will,
he abides with us still,
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear,
not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss,
not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey. **[Refrain]**

Then in fellowship sweet
we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do,
where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey. **[Refrain]**

***SPOKEN CHARGE**

Family in Christ,
you have chosen to serve God
because God has chosen you in Jesus Christ.
Go, therefore, to love and serve as God's people in the world.
We go in Jesus' name.

***CHORAL BLESSING:** *3-Fold Amen*

Amen. Amen. Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Celebration of Life*

GARY DAVIDSON

** Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

October 29th – Fall Festival

2-5pm. Fun for the whole family! Come on out to the Rec Area for games, trunk-or-treating, food, face painting, balloon animals, and more! Proceeds from food sales will go to our Helping Hands Fund.
<https://www.bethanypreschurh.org/fall-festival.html>

October 30th – 130th Anniversary

We are celebrating the 130th anniversary of our officially being a congregation (and the 140th anniversary of the little Sunday School that became Bethany!). Come join us for a service of stories and hymns. A special dedication in memory of Rev. Whitney will immediately follow.

November 6th – All Saints and Souls

This year we will hold our remembrance during Communion. The names of the members we have lost in the past year will be read as part of the liturgy, followed by the tolling of the church bell. During the sacrament you are invited to light a candle in memory of those you wish to remember on this day.

November 13th – Brass Sunday / Stewardship Sunday

We're getting the (brass) band back together! This will be a celebratory service that will also include the blessing of our pledges.

November 20th – Reign of Christ

Hanging of the greens will immediately follow the service, and all will be invited to stay and participate.

November 27th – December 18th Advent

Let Joy or me know if you're interested in being a candle lighter or reader in the Advent season

Scouts Looking for Storage Space

Pack and Troop 9 Scouts are looking for a Donor to provide a 1,000 Sq foot storage type building, or warehouse, to store the following Scout Equipment:

2 camping trailers , 1 sailboat (Sailing Merit Badge), 1 demo car (Automotive Merit Badge).

Space needed for security and protection from the weather.

Feel free to contact:

Jeff Benes

Committee Chair Cub Pack 9 & Troops 9

(336) 675-9086 cell

benes.nc@att.net

Scouts Annual Popcorn Sale – is still going on through the end of October. The order form is in the Welcome Center. Please make checks payable to Troop 9.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

Sunday, October 23rd – Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
11:00 – Worship (In-Person inside & Live Stream)

Wednesday, October 26th

□ 6:30 – Choir Practice

Saturday, October 29th

2-5 pm Fall Festival

Sunday, October 30th – Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Reformation Sunday
130 Years of Stories and Hymns

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

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love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

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

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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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