



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

November 1, 2020 – 11:00 am

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost



*“Brothers and sisters, we ask you to respect those who are working with you, leading you, and instructing you. Think of them highly with love because of their work. **Live in peace** with each other.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

“Perhaps we have all said this at some time in some particular context: ‘Enough is enough.’ We say this when circumstances drive us into a corner. We’re forced to say, ‘Enough.’ At that point in time something changes. But often, we are not likely to say ‘Enough is enough’ when it comes to money. Somehow, we never have enough money. Few people ever call a halt to the quest for wealth and say, ‘You know what? I have enough. I’d like to spend less time making money and more time making a difference.’” - Homiletics Online for November 11, 2018

PRELUDE: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

EDWARD BROUGHTON / HENRY ALFORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

AN OFFERING OF PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

*(Please take a moment to **socially distantly** share the peace of Christ with your neighbor.)*

* **GATHERING SONG:** *God Is So Good*

ANONYMOUS

*God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God’s so good to me.
God cares for me; God cares for me; God cares for me; God’s so good to me.
God loves me so; God loves me so; God loves me so; God’s so good to me.
God is so good; God is so good; God is so good; God’s so good to me.*

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

When we stand at the edge of fear and worry,
God invites us to step into the waters of faith and trust.

When we stand at the edge of the world's pain and need,

Jesus invites us to step into the land of humble service.

When we stand at the edge of our hunger and thirst:

the Spirit invites us to sit at the Table of grace.

* **OPENING HYMN #551:** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.

God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

*All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise to yield,
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.*

First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;

from each field shall in that day all offenses purge away;

give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,

but the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.

Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,

there forever purified, in thy presence to abide:

come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-18

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

God-ever-with-us: you draw us near to your heart, so that, cradled in compassion, we might see the brokenness of all who are around us.

Teacher-beside-us: you draw us near to yourself, so that, by following you, we may discover the deep joy of serving the broken of the world.

Spirit-within-us: you draw near to us with your peace, so that, reconciled and restored to God, we may be the healers of a world shattered by despair.

God in Community, Holy in One, as we draw near to you in this time, we lift our prayers to you.

We know how easy it is to do exactly the opposite of what we learn from our Teacher, Jesus. So, let us draw near to our God, for in confessing our failures, we will discover the grace and mercy God has in store for us.

When we come to the edge of your holiness, we know how we have not lived as your children. We dam up for ourselves your rivers of love, while the lives around us turn into deserts of loneliness. All too quickly, we place our feet on the quicksand of fear, not wanting to step across to your faith.

We tie up our angers and worries and burden our families and friends with them. Forgive us. By your patient grace, give us more time to practice our calling to discipleship, so we might learn all we need to live as sisters and brothers of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is the good news: God hears us, God forgives us, God is with us as we journey into that land called Promise.

Let the redeemed of God say: this is indeed great news! Accepting God's word of joy and grace, we will live as God's children in all the days to come. Amen.

* **RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE:** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness shines on Me*

PAUL M. VASILE

582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)
B^b F B^b F B^b F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(D) (G) (C) (G) (Em7) (A7)
F B^b E^b B^b Gm7 C7

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(A7) (D) (F#) (Bm)
C7 F A Dm

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

(Bm7) (D) (Bdim7) (Em7) (Dm)(A7) (D)
Dm7 F Ddim7 Gm7 Fm C7 F

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

* **SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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 say what we believe. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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 God 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.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: STEWARDSHIP I - WORSHIP

ELDER HELEN BROWN

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

* **A DOXOLOGY:** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

BEACH SPRING

*God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.*

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

* **HYMN OF THE DAY #335:** *Though I May Speak*

O WALY WALY

*Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.*

*Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.*

Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; our spirits long to be made whole.

Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Jesus, You're the Center of My Joy*

RICHARD SMALLWOOD

RANDY COUSINS, SOLO

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *Live In Peace*

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* **CLOSING HYMN #122:** *Thine Is the Glory*

JUDAS MACCABEUS

*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.*

*Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.*

*No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life!
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife.
Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.*

*Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory, thou o'er death hast won.*

* **SENDING**

Go forth as God's people into the world.

We will go to serve those who stand at the edges of life.

Go forth as sisters and brothers of Jesus.

We will go to teach the world the ways of peace and hope.

Go forth as those filled with the Spirit.

We will go to share our lives with everyone we meet.

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *Immortal, Invisible*

WALTER C. SMITH / LANI SMITH



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.

“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.**

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. A **Video Recording** of our Zoom Worship and our Facebook Live stream will be available on our Facebook page and on our website.

We also rejoice that we have returned to **worshipping in person** in our beautiful sanctuary. Here are some guidelines to follow to ensure the health and safety of our congregation:

- **Masks must be worn at all times.**
- Please do not sit in any pews that have been blocked off. This is to make sure that social-distancing guidelines are being followed.
- Bulletins are available at the doors. They will not be distributed but you may pick one up as you wish. See the QR code to download our Interactive Digital Bulletin to your smartphone or tablet.
- The offering will not be collected but offering plates are available in the narthex. You may place your offering in the plates on your way out, or you may follow the QR code below to give online.
- Please refrain from physical interaction during our “meet and greet” time. Waves and virtual hugs are our new normal - at least for awhile!
- Although we normally encourage singing hymns with gusto, that might not be the wisest thing to do right now. Either sing softly through your mask, or hum.
- John will be at the door to greet following the service, but will not shake hands or hug . . . just an elbow bump and the knowledge that he’s smiling beneath the mask!

Resources used in today’s worship:

- *Glory to God* Presbyterian Hymnal
- *The Text This Week* website (www.textweek.com)
- *Call to Worship* worship resource

Stewardship Season Sermon Series: This morning begins our four-week journey through **Stewardship Season 2020**. Our theme is **“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”** and is based on 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18. Each Sunday during this Stewardship Season one of our Generosity Team members will share a **Moment for Mission** focusing on one of our ministry areas. This morning we welcome **Elder Helen Brown**. Here are the themes for each Sunday during the series:

- **Sunday, November 1st: Live in Peace**
- Sunday, November 8th: *Rejoice Always*
- Sunday, November 15th: *Pray Continually*
- Sunday, November 22nd - Consecration Sunday: *Give Thanks*

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.

Bill Faucette
Jack Cook
Joan Richardson
Teresa Wilborn
Tiffany Tauchren
Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norma Proctor
Christopher Bagley
Randy Thompson
Frederica Beatty

Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Joey Leake
Shannon Russell
Family of Mary Moore
Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Mike Sutton
Pete Campbell
Ben Johnson
Grace Johnson
Frank Wrenn
Sylvia Donley
Family of Norman Whitney

John & Ann Sutton
Ruby Martin
Family of Shirley Lane
Ida Whitney
Katherine Turner
Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Alex Thomas
Stewart Dillard
Shelvia Russell
Carol Brooks
Ritchie Fishburne
Janie Holt Clapp

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Karen Maxwell and Tracey Troxler)

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.

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 November are **Tracey Troxler** and **Helen Brown**.

Scan the QR code here to access and download our new Interactive Digital Bulletin.



This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- **Stewardship Season I - *Live in Peace***
- 9:45 - Faith Formation Hour (as announced per class)
- 11:00 - Worship

Tuesday, the 3rd:

- ELECTION DAY - PLEASE VOTE!

Wednesday, the 4th :

- 7:00 - Choir Rehearsal (not meeting)

Thursday, the 5th:

- 5:15 - Generosity Team

Sunday, the 1st:

- **Stewardship Season II - *Rejoice Always***
- 9:45 - Faith Formation Hour (as announced per class)
- 11:00 - Worship

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Karen Maxwell

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen
Randy Cousins
Karen Maxwell

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell
Ben Russell
Tracey Troxler

Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp
Helen Brown
Tina Patterson

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love learn serve



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Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org
Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

Elder Emeritus: Bobby Peele

Elder Emeritus: Don Boggs

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