



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

November 5, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost



“Tell them to do good, to be rich in the good things they do, to be generous, and to share with others. When they do these things, they will save a treasure for themselves that is a good foundation for the future. That way they can take hold of what is truly life.”
1 Timothy 6:6-19 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to our service of worship! Join in with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength . . . don’t hold back! Sing from your toes! Pray from your guts. Worship the Eternal Creator from your soul. It’s not about perfect music. It’s not about the perfect prayer. It’s about joining the holy roar of a community honestly wrestling with what it means to follow their Creator.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Here the Bread and Wine is Offered*

H. LIVINGSTON, JR.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

AN OFFERING OF PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

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

* **GATHERING SONG:** *Lord, When I Came Into This Life*

LAND OF REST

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The word has come for us from God:

who promises to shelter us under the wings of hope and grace.

The word has come to us from Jesus:

who encourages us to remember the good news we have received.

The word flows to us from the Spirit:
who reminds us to place our hope and trust in God.

* **HYMN OF PRAISE #263:** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENY

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

When we fall into the traps of groundless fears, you deliver us. When an epidemic of worry threatens to overcome us, you protect us. When harmful words are flung at us, you answer our cries for help. Gracious God, we worship you.

When our lives crumble, you urge us to buy hope's fields. When we are tempted by wealth, you point us to those who have nothing but share everything. When we are eager to grasp senseless lies, you wrap our hands around God's promises. Servant of the poor, we follow you.

When the world silences our hope, you give us the words to make the good confession of faith. When we have lost our way and can no longer endure the emptiness of our lives, you satisfy us from the abundance of God's grace and joy. Sheltering Spirit, we seek your peace.

God in Community, Holy in One, our Refuge, our Trust, our Hope, we lift our prayer to you.

In God's presence, our lives are exposed, our words are shown for their hollowness, our need is revealed. Let us confess who we are, as we ask God to embrace us with grace and hope.

We need to confess how often we are not content with the simple gifts and lives you offer. Tempted by everything, we can become insensitive to those who have nothing. Encouraged by the world to accumulate more, we may miss the chance to gather your goodness and godliness. Chasing after all which has no value, we may not have the energy to pursue the faith, the love, the gentleness you have for us.

Forgive us, O God. You have sent the One who speaks the words we need to listen to in order to have life. Help us to remember how you have redeemed us, and in remembering, may we make that good confession that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior, now and forever.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is the good news that comes from God: I will hear your prayers, I will answer with hope and peace, I will deliver you from your sins.

God has covered us with grace; under God's hope we will find shelter. Thanks be to God. Amen.

* **RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE:** *Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!*

TRADITIONAL

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

I feel better, so much better since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" Since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

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

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 confess our faith. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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 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.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *Master Speak, Thy Servant Heareth*

* THE DOXOLOGY:

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

MOMENT FOR MISSION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: *Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet*

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Repeat)
When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *For All the Saints Who From Their Labors Rest*

*For all the saints who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confess,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest,
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou wast their Rock, their Fortress, and their Might;
Thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon, to faithful warriors cometh rest.
Sweet is the calm of Paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of Glory passes on His way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: ***Why Church? Reason Four: Money Matters***

Text: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

* **HYMN OF PREPARATION:** *Join Hearts and Voices*

*Join hearts and voices as we lift / Our gratitude for every gift,
And multiply each gift with praise / To God who gives us all our days.
Our gifts, no matter what their worth, / We give as stewards here on earth.
Called and empowered by God's command, / We multiply the gifts at hand.
All praise to Christ, the living bread / By which our hungry souls are fed.
Salvation's cup is offered too, / As God in Christ makes all things new.
So may we answer Christ's clear call / To offer talents, treasures, all.
God's love abounding, grace on grace, / Enriches life in every place.*

- From *A Singing Faith*. Words © 1982

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SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

May God our refuge be with you!

And also with you!

Open your hearts to the One who watches over you.

We lift our hearts to God, who covers us with grace.

Sing to the One whose faithfulness wraps around you like a warm shawl.

Our voices unite in praise to God, in whom we trust.

In your presence, life-shaping God, your heart besieged chaos . . . So, with those who have trusted you in every time and place, we join our voices with our sisters and brothers, singing your glad praises:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God of faithfulness. All creation takes hold of your life. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who dwells in unapproachable light. Hosanna in the highest!

King of Kings, Jesus humbled himself as our servant, bringing everything we need into our world . . . As we remember Jesus' faithfulness in life, as we celebrate his victory over death, we would speak of that mystery we know as faith:

Christ died, enduring the cross; Christ was raised, taking hold of eternal life; Christ will come, giving new life to all things.

Here, in the shelter of your grace, surrounded by the gifts of the bread and the cup . . . And when all life has ended and your Word calls to us, at that time we will gather with our sisters and brothers around the Table of wonder and mercy you have prepared, forever singing our praises to you, and praying as you taught us:

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

As is our custom, communion will be served by intinction. Please come forward by the middle aisle to the serving elders closest to you. Tear off a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, and partake. You may return to your seat by the side aisles. As a demonstration of our commitment to the ministry and mission of Bethany, please bring your Pledge Cards forward and place them on the communion table.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

In gratitude, in deep gratitude for this moment, this meal, these people, we give ourselves to you. Take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the Living Bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of earth and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.

LEAVING TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME

* CLOSING HYMN #391: *Take My Life*

HENDON

* CHARGE AND BLESSING

* POSTLUDE: *Promenade*

G. YOUNG

* *Those who are able may stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and A. J. Campbell)

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

Operating our audio and video systems this morning is **Rick Purcell**. Anyone wishing to join this team of volunteers please contact the church office at any time.

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.

Resources used in this morning's worship:

- *The Text This Week* website (www.textweek.com)
- *Homiletics Online* website (www.homileticsonline.com)

Today, we complete our four-week **Stewardship Emphasis Season** with our **Stewardship Dedication Sunday**. The focus of these four Sundays is designed to mirror the four ministry areas at Bethany, and will try to answer the question, "Why Church?" Here are the themes for each Sunday:

- October 15th: *Why Church? Reason One: Community (Worship)*
- October 22nd: *Why Church? Reason Two: Real People (Serve)*
- October 29th: *Why Church? Reason Three: Mentors (Teach)*
- **Today – Stewardship Dedication Sunday: Why Church? Reason Four: Money Matters (Support)**

All members and friends of Bethany should have received a **Pledge Card** to indicate your commitment for 2018, in the mail this week. If you did not receive a card, one can be obtained from an usher. After prayerfully considering what God is calling you to do to support the ministry and mission of Bethany, we ask that you bring your card forward as you come forward for communion, and place your card on the Communion Table. Thank you if you have already mailed your card to the office. If you are not prepared to make that commitment today, please mail your card in at your earliest convenience.

Do you have a smartphone? Are you on Facebook? If so, take a moment to "**check in**" on Facebook, letting your friends know that you are here at Bethany Presbyterian Church! It may seem like a small thing, but in reality, it is a wonderful message of evangelism and witness, as you let the cyber-world know what is important to you.

To the parents of young children: Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel that you must suppress those wiggles in God's house. **Please note that a professionally staffed nursery is available during the worship hour.** Here are some hints to make worship with your children more rewarding:

- Consider sitting towards the front where it is easier for little ones to engage. On the second pew nearest the choir loft, there are activities for children of all ages to keep busy with during the service.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, musicians, and leaders.
- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me!"
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.
- **To adult worshippers:** The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our church is growing! Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elder: Jean Payne)

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

Bill Faucette	Diane Miller	John & Ann Sutton
Faye Campbell	Jack Cook	Peter Slater
Frances Nolan	Polly & Dick Wilson	Joey Leake
Layla Benoklen	Teresa Wilborn	Shannon Russell
Ida Whitney	Tiffany Tauchren	Mary Moore
Rachel Poteat	Jean Berry	Barbara Cousins
Jeremy Harden	Christy Lutterloh	Pat Kennedy
Anne McDaniels	Eleanor Thompson	Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Mike Sutton	Nancy Sutton	Pete Campbell
Steward Dillard	Norma Proctor	Carolyn Thompson
Ben Johnson	Sandy Cook and niece Rachel	Shelvia Russell
	Ruby Martin	

Please join us in our **Thanksgiving Food Drive**. Realizing the fact that as we enjoy the usual feasts of the season, there are many who do not have enough food to eat, and cannot properly feed their families. As a demonstration of our concern and care, we are participating in a Thanksgiving Food Drive. We ask that you bring non-perishable foods to church over the next two weeks and place them on and around the Communion Table. On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 19th, our service will include a blessing of these gifts, and they will be distributed to local agencies.

Each week **Salem Presbytery** lists churches and other ministries that we are to lift up in prayer that week. A complete list can be viewed online at the presbytery website: www.salempresbytery.org. On the prayer list for this week are: **Graham Presbyterian; Trinity Presbyterian, Winston-Salem; Epiphany (New Church Development), Greensboro.** Please keep these churches and ministries in your prayers this week.

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

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.

Young at Heart Class (Young at Heart Classroom – across from pastor's office)

Using the *Uniform Series*, this class engages in lively discussions pertaining to the biblically based curriculum. The class is taught by a very capable team of teachers.

Seeker's Class (Church Office)

The Seeker's Class is currently using the *Wired Word* curriculum, looking at current events as they relate to our faith.

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: Ron Osborne, Ron Kimrey, and Glenn Patterson)

Elders of the Month for November are **Ron Kimrey** and **Glenn Patterson**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- **Stewardship Dedication Sunday**
- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship with Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Tuesday, the 7th:

- 7:00 - *What is the Bible?* Book Study

Wednesday, the 8th:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 12th:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2017:

Ron Kimrey

Karen Maxwell

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

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love learn serve



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