



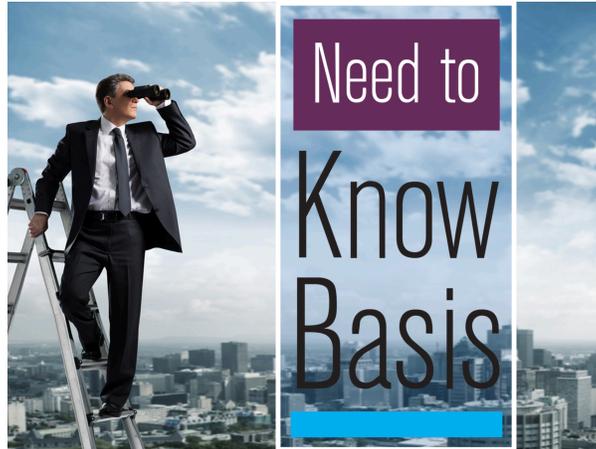
Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

November 18, 2018 – 11:00 am
Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost



“Jesus said, ‘Watch out that no one deceives you. Many people will come in my name, saying, ‘I’m the one!’ They will deceive many people. When you hear of wars and reports of wars, don’t be alarmed. These things must happen, but this isn’t the end yet.”

Mark 13:5-7 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

When a government agency deals with sensitive information, the agency will attempt to restrict access to this information to all except a few for whom such access is absolutely necessary for optimum performance. The government of God deals with us sometimes in the same way. We’re on a need-to-know basis.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *There is a Fountain*

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 #559:** *We Gather Together*

KREMSEER

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us give thanks to God!

We gather together to praise the One who strengthens the weak, and hears the prayers of the forgotten.

Come, let us give thanks to Christ!

We gather together to sing of the One who calls us to serve those who are hungry and alone at this time of year.

Come, let us give thanks to the Spirit!

We gather together to exalt the One who provokes us to love not only our family and friends, but the guest among us.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN INVITATION TO THE WORD

The universe proclaims God's truth. God's knowledge flows night and day!
We open our ears to hear, our minds to comprehend, our hearts to receive.

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE:

MARK 13:1-8

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1235

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

You raise up the poor, to give them the best rooms in your house; you pull the broken from the dust of the world, brushing them off and clothing them with joy; you exalt those we have pushed aside, and let them say grace at the feast in heaven. You are our God, and we worship you.

When we are tempted to wander off after the rumors of sin, you guard our feet so we can walk as faithful people; when we think we need to pay attention to all the gossip around us, you give us a double portion of good news, so we will not fear. You are the Christ, and we will listen to you.

When no one else will listen to us, we can pour out our soul to you; when no one notices us, you see our misery, and fill us with joy; when everyone else forgets who we are, you remember us and call us by name. You are our Spirit of Love, and we welcome you into our hearts.

God in Community, Holy in One, we raise our prayers to you. Longing for the touch of God, we cry out; humbled by the awareness of our human nature and brokenness, we bring our prayers of confession to God.

We have to admit that we are more likely to be irritated by the lives of others, rather than being provoked to love them. When we are called to encourage those around us, too often our actions and words discourage them. Offered lives of peace and hope, we wander around filled with anxiety and despair.

Forgive us, O God. Cleanse our hearts, so we might be more loving; keep us on the path of faithfulness, so we might find those whom we are called to serve; give us your words, so we might confess your hope offered to all who are broken, who are lost, who cry out to you. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is the good news: God gives us hope, God gives us peace, God gives us joy so we may share these gifts with everyone we meet.

Thanks be to God, who has forgiven us and provoked us to love others and to serve all who are around us. Amen.

* RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE #355: *Hear the Good News of Salvation*

NETTLE TON

*All the sins I have committed to my Savior now I bring.
I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing:
Jesus Christ, how much I love You! Jesus Christ, You save from sin!
How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.*

* 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 say what we believe.

We believe in God – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church.

We believe the church is one worldwide communion of saints, called from the entire human family.

We believe the church is the single community of believers, reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that through the working of God's Spirit, unity is a binding force and also that we must seek this unity, which must become visible to the world.

We believe that the sin of division, separation and hatred between people and groups has been conquered by Christ.

We commit ourselves to protecting the unity of the church universal.

We pledge to make this unity active in all of our words, thoughts and deeds. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *A Jubilant Song*

ALLEN POTE

Sing to the Lord a jubilant song.

Rejoice and sing and let the earth be glad,

Let the heavens be filled with joy and a jubilant song.

Sing alleluia to the Lord, alleluia, alleluia;

Tell of His salvation from day to day.

Shout His marvelous works among the people,

For great is the Lord, great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were made, or the land and the sea were born,

From age to age you are God, and we pray for the coming of your Kingdom.

We shall rejoice, we shall be glad all the days of our lives.

*** THE DOXOLOGY:**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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.

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

HYMN OF THE DAY #84: *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

RATHBUN

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

MOMENT FOR MISSION

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *I'll Praise My Maker*

LLOYD PFAUTSCH

I'll praise my Maker while I've breath,

And when my voice is lost in death,

Praise shall employ my nobler powers;

My days of praise shall ne'er be past,

While life and thought and being last,

Or immortality endures.

Happy the man whose hopes rely on Israel's God,

He made the earth and seas with all their train:

His truth forever stands secure;

He saves the oppressed, He feeds the poor,

And none shall find His promise vain.

The Lord pours eyesight to the blind;

The Lord supports the fainting mind;

He sends the laboring conscience peace;

He helps the stranger in distress,

The widow, and the fatherless,

And grants the prisoner sweet release.

*I'll praise Him while He lends me breath,
And when my voice is lost in death,
Praise shall employ my nobler powers;
My days of praise shall ne'er be past,
While life and thought and being last,
Or immortality endures.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *NEED-TO-KNOW BASIS*

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* **CLOSING HYMN #264:** *When in Our Music God Is Glorified*

ENGELBERG

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *I Will Sing*

In our understanding of worship, the Postlude is part of the worship service, and not "exit music" played while we leave the sanctuary. Following the benediction, please sit and enjoy the Postlude as our worship service concludes.

* *Please 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 (PCUSA). Whether you are a member or a guest 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.**

For our children: Childcare is available during the entire worship hour for infants and preschool children. Children are invited and welcome to stay in the service, in whatever manner befits their person: they should feel free to squirm, whine, dance, sing, cry, pray, or otherwise make themselves known. Activities for children can be found at several locations throughout the sanctuary. See an usher if you can’t find one.

Audio and Visual Assistance: A hearing enhancement system is available for those who have a need. An usher will be happy to provide you with a receiver this morning. Large print bulletins are also available.

Please take a moment – members and guests – to sign the **Fellowship Pads** that are located on each row. If you are a guest, please share any contact information you wish to, so that we may be in touch.

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:

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

We are thrilled to welcome to our worship this morning our **guest musicians**. We are grateful for their giving of their time to enhance our worship, and we are grateful for their talents that they are willing to share with us.

- Trumpets: Dr. Russell Smith, Jay Meachum, Brad Landess
- Trombones: Ken Davis, William Harris, Charles Morgan
- Tuba: David Palmer

Two weeks from today will be the **First Sunday of Advent**, and we begin our journey to the manger. This is always such an exciting and expectant time of year, and one that brings us much joy and hope. Once again this year, our sanctuary will be adorned with live **poinsettias**. You are invited to give poinsettias in honor or in memory of loved ones or friends. Please use the order form provided as an insert in the bulletin, or fill out the form online on our website.

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.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Jean Payne and Sandy Cook)

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	Joan Richardson	Joey Leake
Shirley Lane	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	Ben Johnson
Shelvia Russell	Levi Byrd	Ruth Younts
Ruby Martin	Katherine Bayliff	Alex Thomas
Katherine Turner	Randy Thompson	Susie Hunley
Deanna Yates	Foy Bayliff	Bill Abplanalp
	Family of Pat Testerman	

As the holiday season approaches, our heart goes out to those who are in need of help in order to celebrate the season in a joyous manner. Once again this year, our **Angel Tree** is up in the west entryway. **KidsPath** and **Eldercare** will once again be the beneficiaries of our generosity. So, take an angel or a snowflake from the tree and be joyous in your giving! Please refer to the next page for details and further instructions.

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.

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.

Our weekly Bible study, ***Disciple Bible Study: Into the Word, Into the World***, continues to meet each Tuesday at 7:00 (except for the second Tuesday of the month when the Session meets.)

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Chip Allen, and Glenn Patterson)

Elders of the Month for November are **Jean Payne** and **Brandon Troxler**.

Thank you to all who have submitted their pledges for the mission and ministry of Bethany for the coming year. For those who have not yet turned their pledges in, it's not too late. **Pledge cards** are available in the church office and can be returned to Pam Hurt or put in her mailbox. Thank you for your generosity.

BETHANY ANGEL TREE 2018

Again this year the Presbyterian Women's Council has decided to adopt KidsPath and Eldercare families for the Christmas Season. The Angel Tree will be loaded and ready for your choosing on Sunday, November 18th. Several have asked to have Angels in hand prior to Black Friday shopping.

KidsPath

KidsPath is a division of Hospice of Alamance/Caswell. KidsPath provides services to families with children who are experiencing a life threatening illness. They also provide grief counseling to children who have lost a loved one. KidsPath assists these families in many ways. In participating with our Angel Tree, we help out with Christmas gifts for the sick children and their siblings. This helps the parents who are struggling monetarily from the effects that a life threatening illness can bring to a family. Often one parent has to quit their job to help care for the ailing child. Traveling to hospitals, overnight stays, paying for food when the child is in the hospital, surgeries, chemo, and overall medical costs are devastating to these families at times. Our generosity helps make Christmas merrier and less stressful for these families facing a crisis with a child.

Alamance Eldercare

Alamance Eldercare provides assistance to Elderly citizens in our area who have very little to no family to assist them. These citizens usually still live in their homes, many of them alone, and have no one to make their Christmas special. In participating in our Angel Tree effort, we help provide these beautiful people who are often overlooked, with some simple Christmas cheer!!!

How does the Angel Tree work?

The social workers who are familiar and are assisting these families interview the families and come up with "wish lists". These lists are turned over to us at Bethany, and we place the items requested on Angels (for KidsPath) or Snowflakes (For Eldercare). Each KidsPath child or Eldercare patron will have several Angels/Snowflakes represented on the tree. (One Angel is not "all they will get" for Christmas)

How to participate?

- Choose Angels or Snowflakes from the tree
- Purchase the item written on the Angel or Snowflake
- Wrap the gift, and **attach the Angel/Snowflake you chose to the gift** so that we know which item the gift contains. *Please tie the angel/snowflake to the gift so that it is easily removed without damaging the packaging*
- Return the gift to the Fellowship Hall (Look for signs) **NO LATER THAN Sunday, December 16th.**
- **OR DONATE \$** - If you can't, or don't like to shop and would rather give a monetary donation, we welcome and need donations. Please give the money (Cash / or Check to Presbyterian Women) to Tina Patterson, or Brenda Sykes by **Wednesday, December 12th.** Monetary donations are welcomed, and every dollar will be used to purchase items for Angels left on the tree, or gift cards for Christmas Meals, and/or Groceries.

The "Wrap Up"

Monday, December 17th - at 6:30 pm - Please join us in the Fellowship Hall to SORT the gifts, and Wrap any gifts that were purchased with monetary donations. Please bring scissors and tape.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Tuesday, the 20th:

- 7:00 – Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, the 21st:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, the 22nd:

- OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING DAY

Sunday, the 25th:

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

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Sandy Cook

Karen Maxwell

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



**1500 S. Main Street
Graham, NC 27215
www.bethanypreschurch.org
336.227.4041**

Staff

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – music@bethanypreschurch.org

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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