



Bethany Presbyterian Church

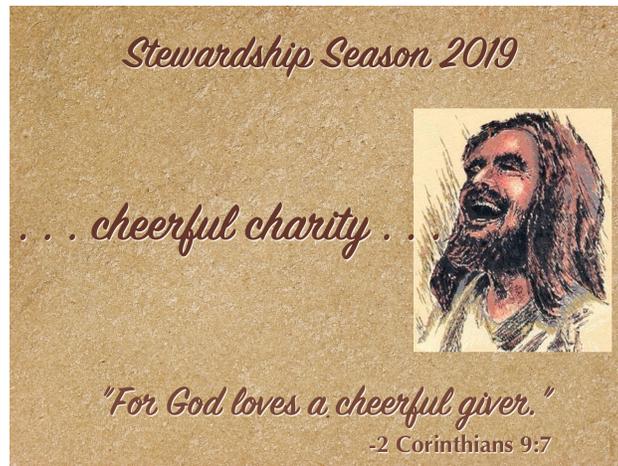
Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

November 24, 2019 – 11:00 am

Christ the King



*"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7 (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: *Come, Thou Almighty King*

G. PETERSON

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:** *God, Your Blessings Overflow* (tune to *For the Beauty of the Earth*)

God, your blessings overflow! What can we begin to say?

How can we begin to show, All our gratitude this day?

God, we join to worship you, Giving thanks for all you do.

Thank you for the life you give, For each friend and family,

For the land in which we live, For your love that sets us free.

Thank you, God, for daily bread, And for feasts of joy you spread.

DIX

*Yet at tables where we share, Sometimes there is also pain.
There may be an empty chair: When will we feel whole again?
When our days of grief are long, Thank you that your love is strong.
So we join in thanks this day, So your gifts we freely share,
So we follow Christ the Way, Loving, serving everywhere.
Spirit, may our lives express, All our daily thankfulness.*

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Blessed be the Lord God who looks with kindness on us.

We are the inheritors of the promises made long ago to our ancestors.

Blessed be the Lord God who gathers us here in this place.

From across the street, from halfway around the world, God brings us home to the heart of grace.

Blessed be the Lord God who has remembered us.

Scoffers and singers, watchers and wigglers, we are those redeemed by God.

*** OPENING HYMN #464: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

HYMN TO JOY

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

2 CORINTHIANS 9:1-9

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1412

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Gathering God: when we have only a few pennies of hope in our pockets, you multiply us into a blessing. When the world whispers seductively to us, you tell us of your joy for us. When everyone has forgotten even who we are, you shout out our name with delight: "My Beloved!"

Dawn from on high: when we would divide people by class, by race, by age, you cast your lot with the outcasts of society. When we get lost from the muddled directions the world gives us, you lead us down that path called Peace.

Spirit of wisdom: when we grow impatient with all the trivial matters of life, you surround us with serenity. When the world puts us on the route to sin, you transfer us to the streets of the kingdom. We know that we have not lived as God hopes. But however fragmented we become, God longs to hold us together in grace and peace.

In these moments we bring to you all the ways we have not lived as your people: we stand by watching while those in need struggle to survive; we cast our lots with those who worship power and success; we offer insults rather than words of grace to those who care for us; we scoff at your words which call us to a different lifestyle.

Forgive us, God of Mercy, for not knowing what we do to you, to others, to ourselves. Speak to us through Jesus Christ, our King and our Savior, who bears words filled with your tender mercy and gracious hope.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is the good news: God remembers! Not our sins, not our foolish lives, not our rebellion. God remembers us - and redeems us!

God prepares the way for us - the way to grace, to hope, to new life. Joyfully, we offer our thanks to God. 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.

* AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR CONSECRATION SUNDAY

ALLEN AND SARA EWING-MERRELL 2004

We believe in God, Creator of the universe, Giver of every good gift, Author of life itself.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who reminded us of the coming of God's kingdom, who commanded us to care for those in need, who taught us to store up treasures in heaven, not on earth, and who gave us the example of self-giving love.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, who inspires us to faithful stewardship of God's gifts, in whom we live and move and have our being, by whom all things are possible.

We believe that God has given us gifts to be shared freely and generously, in a spirit of love and joy. We acknowledge that we are merely stewards of all that is God's, caretakers of God's home. We believe that faithful stewardship is an act of worship, a means of praising God who has blessed us so abundantly. We believe that God has great things in store for us, for it is in giving that we receive. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

W. B. BRADBURY (BRASS ARRANGEMENT BY JAY MEACHUM)

* **A DOXOLOGY:** *We Lift Our Voices*

DWIGHT LILES

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices; Lord, use our hands; Lord, use our lives; they are yours: we are an offering.

All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.

We lift our voices; we lift our hands; we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering; we are an offering.

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

* **HYMN OF THE DAY #369:** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Joy in the Morning*

NATALIE SLEETH

*There'll be joy in the morning on that day,
there'll be joy in the morning on that day,
for the daylight will dawn when the darkness is gone,
there'll be joy in the morning on that day.*

*There'll be peace and contentment evermore,
there'll be peace and contentment evermore,
ev'ry heart, ev'ry voice on that day will rejoice,
there'll be peace and contentment evermore.*

*And the glory, glory, glory of the Lord will shine,
Will shine all around us,
and the glory, glory, glory of the Lord will bring us truth divine.*

*There'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere,
there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere,
and the way of the Lord will that day be restored,
there'll be love and forgiveness ev'rywhere.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: . . . ***cheerful charity*** . . .

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN #145: *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

MARION

During the final hymn, you are invited to bring forward your Commitment Card for 2020 and place it on the communion table. If you do not have a card, they are available in the Narthex. Envelopes are available as well in the pews.

* SENDING

Now, God sends us out to sow seeds,

to nurture the kingdom into full bloom.

Now, Jesus sends us out to heal hearts,

so hate, greed, and apathy are no longer a part of our reality.

Now the Spirit encourages us to cheerfully give,

so that Christ's message of love and compassion can be spread throughout the world.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE: *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*

W. WHITING / J. DYKES (BRASS ARRANGEMENT BY JAY MEACHUM)

* *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 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.**

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 today’s worship:

- *The Text this Week* website (www.textweek.com)
- Carolyn Winfrey Gillette hymns (carolynshymns.com)
- *Feasting on the Word* worship resources.

Today concludes our journey through our **2019 Stewardship Season**. Our theme this year is taken from 2 Corinthians 9:7, ***“For God Loves a Cheerful Giver.”*** Our service will conclude this morning with the always moving and powerful moment when you bring your Commitment Cards for 2020 and place them on the table during the final hymn. If you do not have a card, they are available in the narthex.

Please give a warm Bethany welcome to our **guest musicians** this morning: Trumpets: Dr. Russell Smith, Jay Meachum, Brad Landress; Trombones: William Harris, Ken Smith, Charles Morgan; Tuba - David Palmer. Welcome also our **guest vocalists:** Ann Coward, Alondra Mendez-Davis, Soprano; Kesha Graham, Alto; Chrissy Harris, Alto; and Zachary Graham, Tenor.

Mark your calendars also for our special Advent Series: ***Away in a Manger***, which begins on next Sunday, December 1st, the first Sunday of Advent. The themes for each Sunday are listed below.

- December 1st - Advent I: *Isaiah . . . Hope* / Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper
- December 8th - Advent II: *Shepherd . . . Peace*
- December 15th - Advent III: *Joseph . . . Joy*
- December 22nd - Advent IV: *Mary . . . Love* / Choir musical presentation
- December 24th - Christmas Eve: *O Come, All Ye Faithful* / Candlelighting and Communion

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 Randy Cousins)

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

Bill Faucette	Diane Miller	John & Ann Sutton
Jack Cook	Peter Slater	Ruby Martin
Joan Richardson	Joey Leake	Shirley Lane
Teresa Wilborn	Shannon Russell	Ida Whitney
Tiffany Tauchren	Mary Moore	Katherine Turner
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	Family of Don Boggs	Shelvia Russell
Katherine Bayliff	Alex Thomas	Foy Bayliff
Randy Thompson	Glenn Thompson	Ritchie Fishburne
Frederica Beatty	Carol Brooks	Janie Holt Clapp
	Ben Johnson	

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. The Fellowship Class is currently participating in the *Feasting on the Word* summer series.

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, Chip Allen, and Ben Russell)

Elders of the Month for November are **Karen Maxwell** and **Tracey Troxler**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- **CONSECRATION SUNDAY**
- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship
- **12:00 - CELEBRATION LUNCHEON**

Wednesday, the 27th:

- 7:00 - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 1st:

- **ADVENT I**
- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship / Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Karen Maxwell

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell

Ben Russell

Tracey Troxler

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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