



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian



Regeneration

July 5, 2020 – 9:00, *the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost*

*“Put on my yoke, and learn from me. I’m gentle and humble. And you will find rest for yourselves.” (v.29)
Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 (CEB)*

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Loving God, I receive this new day as a gift from you. Help me to see signs today of your compassion, which is over all that you have made. Please keep me mindful to watch for ways today in which I can ease others’ burdens and give them rest, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

PRELUDE: *BEAMS OF HEAVEN*

Charles A. Tinsley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved of God,
the winter is past,
the flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come.
Let us lift our voices in praise to our Creator.

* **OPENING HYMN:** *O How I Love Jesus* (see insert)

Frederick Whitfield

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Comforting God, by your Holy Spirit
lift the burdens from our souls
through the reading of your Word for us,
that we may learn how easy it is
to live in a loving relationship with you. **Amen**

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 11:16-19, 25-30

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1183

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

God upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down.
Therefore let us confess our sin with every confidence that we will be lifted up.
**Lord, we marvel at the thought of a well-fitted yoke,
a burden scaled to match our frames; we do not know how to rest in the promise
of such labor. Some of us are weary from unceasing responsibility;
others find no welcome in the marketplace.
We confound your vision for our common life.
Forgive our blind striving, our stifled concern, the judgments we cast on others.
Make yourself known to us in the silence.
Shape your children for the commonwealth of your love.
In Jesus' name we pray.**

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

Sisters and brothers, your sins are forgiven by the mercy of Christ.
Be at peace, for you have been freed from sin that you may serve with righteousness, to the glory and praise of God.
Thanks be to God!

Since we are justified by faith we have peace with God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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.)

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

* 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:

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for human beings when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's

forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.
(The Confession of 1967)

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

Sisters and brothers, God is faithful and gracious to us, upholds us, and raises us up. Let us show our thanksgiving by giving generously to support ministries that ease burdens and give rest to those in need.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Compassionate God, we ask that you bless and multiply these gifts, that they may be used to proclaim the glory of your kingdom and make known to all people the power of your saving acts. **Amen.**

* THE WORD IN MUSIC: *VICTORY IN JESUS*

duet by Tina and Glenn Patterson

Eugene M. Bartlett

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *Regeneration*

RICK PURCELL, CLP

* HYMN OF PREPARATION: *ROCK OF AGES, CLEFT FOR ME* (see insert)

Augustus M. Toplady

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

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 kingdom. Amen

* **CLOSING HYMN #377:** *LORD, YOU HAVE COME TO THE LAKESHORE*

C. Gabarain

Lord, you have come to the lakeshore,
looking neither for wise nor for wealthy.
You only wanted that I should follow.

Refrain

O Lord, with Your eyes You have searched me,
And, while smiling, have called out my name.
Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;
Now with You I will seek other seas.

You know that I own so little,
In my boat carries no money nor weapons,
You'll only find there my nets and labor.
(*Refrain*)

You need the caring of my hands.
Through my tiredness, may others find resting.
You need a love that just goes on loving.
(*Refrain*)

You, who have fished other oceans,
Ever longed for by souls that are waiting,
My dear and good friend, as thus You call me.
(*Refrain*)

* **SENDING**

Grow to know the yoke that is easy and the burden that is light,
which Christ offers you, and in turn, become rest for those who are weary
and heavy laden.

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

May the God who feels compassion for all lead you to find love in your life
and the peace that comes from living with a gentle and humble heart.

* **POSTLUDE:** *WE'RE MARCHING TO ZION*

Isaac Watts

* *Please stand in body or spirit.*



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](https://twitter.com/bpresbyterian).

Obviously, due to the ongoing health crisis surrounding the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, we are not worshipping in person at this point in time, but rather gathering virtually using the Zoom meeting platform. Each week the congregation will be emailed a link by which everyone can join the meeting using their computer, laptop, smartphone, or tablet. John will lead worship in this manner, and congregants are invited to participate as they are able. For those who are unable to connect via Zoom, we are also hoping to be on Facebook Live as well. We are still trying to work out some glitches in that.

For those unable to get the link via email, it will also be on our Facebook page, and on our website.

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 will be available on our Facebook page and on our website.

Resources used in today's worship:

- *Feasting on the Word* worship resources
- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- *Homiletics Online* website (homileticonline.com)

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
Alex Thomas
Randy Thompson
Frederica Beatty
Christopher Bagley

Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Joey Leake
Shannon Russell
Mary Moore
Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Pete Campbell
Ben Johnson
Katherine Bayliff and Family
Glenn Thompson
Carol Brooks
Lou Crutchfield

John & Ann Sutton
Ruby Martin
Shirley Lane
Ida Whitney
Katherine Turner
Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Mike Sutton
Steward Dillard
Shelvia Russell
Robert Sykes
Ritchie Fishburne
Janie Holt Clapp
Jean Payne

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. (Classes will resume when we return to having church in person!)

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 July are **Bill Abplanalp** and **Chip Allen**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:00 – Worship Outside at Manse House

Wednesday, the 8th:

- 7:00 – Choir Practice (not meeting)

Sunday, the 12th:

- 11:00 – Worship Online

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Karen Maxwell

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

1500 S. Main Street

Graham, NC 27215

www.bethanypreschurch.org

336.227.4041

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Karen Maxwell

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

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell

Ben Russell

Tracey Troxler

Elder Emeritus: Bobby Peele

Elder Emeritus: Don Boggs

Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp

Helen Brown

Tina Patterson

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Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

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