



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)

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January 26, 2020 – 11:00 am

*Third Sunday after Epiphany*



*“Continuing on, he saw another set of brothers, James the son of Zebedee and his brother John. They were in a boat with Zebedee their father repairing their nets. Jesus called them and immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.”  
Matthew 4:21-22 (CEB)*

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Last Sunday we were encouraged to answer Christ’s call to “Come and See.” Today, we are challenged by Jesus to “Leave our Nets.” What does it mean to leave the burdens of day-to-day living behind as we strive to answer Christ’s call to become disciples?*

### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *I Am With You Always*

S. KEENY

### 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 HYMN:** *We Are Standing on Holy Ground*

DAVID HASS

*We are standing on holy ground,  
and I know that there are angels all around;  
let us praise Jesus now;  
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.*

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come out of the shadows and into God’s light!

***We will not play hide and seek, but will make a pilgrimage to God’s heart.***

Lay down all which is a burden to you!

***We will give our fears to God, who is our help in every moment.***

Follow the One who will lead you to new life!  
***We long to live in God's presence every day of our lives.***

\* **OPENING HYMN #442:** *The Church's One Foundation*

AURELIA

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

**MATTHEW 4:12-23**

This is the Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1290

#### AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Your heart is the shelter for our weary souls. You will not push us away, but clasp us tight in your embrace. You refuse to abandon us, standing by our side all our lives. You are our Hope!

***When others try to tear us apart, you pick up the pieces, making us whole. When we wonder what the day might bring, you whisper, 'follow me, I will make you readers to little children, bandagers of bruised hearts, lovers of the forsaken, pilgrims who show the way to others.' You are our Dawn.***

You appeal to us to set aside all that divides us, so we might be one. You send us to proclaim good news, not with silver-tongued sophistication but with simple words: justice, hope, grace, love, which bring light to the shadows. You are our Joy.

***From the former times to the latter, we lift our prayers to you.***

If we come to God with open hearts and honest words, we will not be pushed away, but wrapped in God's loving and forgiving embrace.

***We admit, God our Light, that we do indeed try to tear Christ apart - a piece of him here to support our politics, a part of him to undergird our economic views, the rest of him to bolster our fears of others. We could leave immediately to follow him, but need to wait until we see where he might lead us. We want you to look upon us with favor always, but have no trouble turning our backs on those around us.***

Hear us, God our Deliverer, as we speak of our failures! Have mercy on us, we appeal to you, have mercy! May your love become the core of our hearts, may your compassion become the words we speak, may your hope illuminate the ways in which we serve others, even as we seek to follow the One who calls us to new life, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

#### AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

#### AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God is our help, so why should we be afraid? God keeps us safe, there is nothing to dread! This is good news for all of us.

***Sheltered in God's gracious heart of mercy and love, we raise shouts of joy: thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.***

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

NETTLETON

*Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus Christ died to show God's love.*

*Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.*

*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**

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.***

#### **AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES**

**OFFERTORY:** *Softly and Tenderly*

L. SMITH / W. THOMPSON

**\* A DOXOLOGY #591:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDREDETH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Christ, all people here below;*

*Praise Holy Spirit ever more;*

*Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**HYMN OF THE DAY #377:** *Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore*

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

#### **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**

**THE WORD IN MUSIC:** *Jesus is a Rock in a Weary Land*

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL

*Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land.*

*My Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in the time of storm.*

*No man can do like Jesus, not a mumbling word He said,*

*He went walking down to Lazarus' grave and He raised him from the dead. (refrain)*

*When Jesus was on earth, the flesh was very weak.*

*He girdled Himself with a towel and washed His disciple's feet. (refrain)*

*Yonder comes my Savior, Him whom I love so well.*

*He has the palm of victory and the keys of death and Hell, (refrain)*

#### **THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

Sermon: ***Leaving Your Nets***

REV. JOHNSON

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

**\* CLOSING HYMN #525:** *Here I Am, Lord*

DANIEL SCHUTTE

**\* SENDING**

Let us take God's light into the world.

***We will go to join others in pilgrimage of trust.***

Let us go to gather the burdens of others.

***We will take away their fears and offer them to Jesus, who helps everyone in every moment.***

Let us go to live in the Spirit's presence.

***We will follow the Spirit into the peace which is offered to all of God's people.***

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\* POSTLUDE:** *Choral Song*

S. WESLEY

**\* 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](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org); on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](http://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.**

**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](http://www.buzzsprout.com/9198).

Resources used in today’s worship:

- *The Text this Week* website ([www.textweek.com](http://www.textweek.com))
- *Call to Worship* resources from the PCUSA.

John will be leaving after worship today to travel to Little Rock, Arkansas for the annual conference of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE). John serves as the conference photographer, and following this event will begin another term of service on the APCE Leadership Council. In his absence next Sunday, we will welcome guest preacher **Rev. Amanda Anderson** to the pulpit. John will return to the office on Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Next Sunday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>** is Super Bowl Sunday, which means we will receive our **Souper Bowl Offering**. As we watch the big game with lots of food and refreshment, we pause to remember those who may not know where their next meal is coming from. Our usual custom here at Bethany is to receive our Pennies for Hunger Offering on the first Sunday of the month. As these two coincide on this Sunday, we will combine these offerings, with all funds collected going to our usual Pennies for Hunger designation. Look for the big soup pot on the communion table!

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: 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  
Katherine Bayliff  
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  
Alex Thomas  
Glenn Thompson  
Carol Brooks

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

**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 January are **Nancy Purcell** and **Helen Brown**.

## This Week's Calendar:

### Today:

- This week: John away attending the annual conference of the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE) in Little Rock, Arkansas
- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

### Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 - Choir Rehearsal

### Sunday, the 2<sup>nd</sup>:

- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 - Worship / guest preacher Rev. Amanda Anderson

### 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,

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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### Staff

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