



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

February 2, 2020 – 11:00 am
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany



*“He has told you, human one, what is good and what the LORD requires from you:
to do justice, embrace faithful love, and walk humbly with your God.”*

Micah 6:8 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Gracious God, as we gather for worship on this Sabbath day, help us to focus all our selves on you and to, just for this hour, leave the world behind us. You have given us the gift of worship. Help us to cherish this special gift and to return to you all due praise and honor. Amen.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE

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: *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

*Brethren, we have met to worship and adore the Lord our God.
Will you pray with all your power while we try to preach the word?
All is vain unless the Spirit of the holy One comes down.
Brethren, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.*

HOLY MANNA

*Sisters, will you come and help us? Moses' sister aided him.
 Will you help the trembling mourners who are struggling hard with sin?
 Tell them all about the Savior. Tell them that he will be found.
 Sisters, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.
 Is there here a trembling jailer, seeking grace and filled with fears?
 Is there here a weeping Mary pouring forth a flood of tears?
 Brethren, join your cries to help them; sisters, let your prayers abound!
 Pray, O pray, that holy manna will be scattered all around.
 Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too.
 Let us love and pray for sinners till our God makes all things new.
 Christ will call us home to heaven; at his table we'll sit down.
 Christ will gird himself and serve us with sweet manna all around.*

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

When we seek justice for the other, when we love kindness more than ever,
we live as God asks us to live.
 When we walk humbly through life, when we offer mercy to those who hurt us,
we are the blessing God hopes we will be.
 When we are willing to look foolish by following Jesus, when we choose weakness rather than power,
we reflect the One who is in our midst.

*** OPENING HYMN #420: *God of Grace and God of Glory***

CWM RHONDDA

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

MICAH 6:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1129

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

We know what the Lord requires of us. Still, we neglect to seek justice and show mercy. But God is faithful. Therefore, with confidence, let us come before the One who shows mercy to us.

Surprising God, You have made foolish the wisdom of the world, teaching that the meek shall inherit the earth and heaven belongs to those who suffer for the sake of justice.

But we cling to the values of this world, things that enhance our status but cheat our souls. We seek comfort in simple answers and easy outs.

We disregard the marginalized and mock weakness, forgetting that Christ lifted up the lowly and made a home among the vulnerable. God of blessing, reorient our hearts, and renew our minds, so that we might act with justice, practice kindness, and—in all things—walk humbly with you.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

What has God done to us - shown mercy! What has God done for us - forgiven us! This is the good news for us.
We will not boast, for it is not our doing. We will give thanks to God for such grace and hope. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Amen.

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

*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.*

NETTLETON

*** 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:

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

OLD HUNDREDTH

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 #376: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRODOL

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

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: ***A Long Short List***

REV. AMANDA ANDERSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

*** CLOSING HYMN #339:** *Be Thou My Vision*

PLANE

*** SENDING**

We have been nourished by God's grace and hope,

and so we will go to those who hunger for justice, as well as to those who thirst for reconciliation.

We are called to follow the One who is weak and powerless,

and so we will bring healing to the broken among us, as well as comfort to those who grieve in every moment.

We learn what is right and good from the Holy Spirit,

and so we will go as fools to be blessings to the wise, as well as to do not what is easy, but what is difficult.

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE**

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).

“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 **Brandon Troxler**. 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)
- *Call to Worship* resources from the PCUSA.

In John’s absence this morning we welcome **Rev. Amanda Anderson** to the pulpit. Amanda grew up a “preacher’s kid” in eastern North Carolina and holds a BA in Sociology from Davidson College and an M.Div from Union Presbyterian Seminary. She was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) in October 2005 and served as the Associate Pastor for Christian Education at Graham Presbyterian until 2012, when she decided to take on the role of stay-at-home Mom. She and her husband Craig live in Burlington with their two children and one cantankerous dachshund. Amanda enjoys guest preaching and teaching opportunities at area churches and is currently serving as co-moderator of the Salem Presbytery Commission on Ministry with Bethany’s own John Johnson.

Leading worship is **Elder Rick Purcell**. In Chris’ absence we welcome our guest musician. John will be back in the office tomorrow.

Today 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	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	Ben Johnson	Shelvia Russell
Katherine Bayliff	Alex Thomas	Family of Foy Bayliff
Randy Thompson	Glenn Thompson	Ritchie Fishburne
Frederica Beatty	Carol Brooks	Janie Holt Clapp
Christopher Bagley		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 February are **Randy Cousins** and **Bill Abplanalp**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Wednesday, the 5th:

- 7:00 - Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 9th:

- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 - Worship

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,

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love learn serve



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Staff

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org
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Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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