



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

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February 5, 2023 – 11:00 am

Scout Sunday



Adapted from "Ukrainian Girl Scout from Plast gives a Scout Salute," Viktor Gurniak

"Therefore, you should treat people in the same way that you want people to treat you; this is the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 7:12 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to our service of worship on this Scout Sunday. Although we are worshipping in a variety of locations, we still affirm that God is present in our worship, whether in-person or virtually. Our prayer is that all who worship with us this day will truly feel the presence of God in this time. Know that you are loved and we are so glad you are here! Parts of our liturgy today are from Iona Abbey Worship Book, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2016); Neil Paynter, We bring you everything, and tip it out in front of you: New prayers from the Iona Community, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2017); and Programs of Religious Activities with Youth (P.R.A.Y.), "Scouting's Anniversary: Scout Jumu'ah, Scout Shabbat, Scout Sunday."

This morning you are invited to participate in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (also known as Communion or the Eucharist). Our table belongs not to us, nor our denomination, but to Christ and Christ alone. We believe that Christ bids all who would like to participate to come forward and partake in this glimpse of the great feast to come, along with all who have followed Jesus throughout time and place. When the time comes, you are welcome to come forward where you will be served a small piece bread (a gluten free option is available) and offered a small cup of grape juice. You may consume the elements there or take them back to your seat – whichever you are more comfortable with. You are welcome, and you are invited!

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Bread of the World in Mercy Broken*

JULIET CALKINS/TUNE: RENDEZ A' DIEU

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #561:** *My County, 'Tis of Thee*

SAMUEL FRANCIS SMITH

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing;
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountainside,
Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills,
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees,
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake;
Let all that breathe partake;
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.

*OPENING SENTENCES

"SCOUT SUNDAY OBSERVANCE," P.R.A.Y.

God calls us together to worship this morning. From our work and play within the world, God gathers us to give thanks for creation's goodness, for the strength to labor, for the wisdom to relax.

From amidst our friends and family, God brings us here to participate in a community of faith, Christ's people, a new family. From everyday conversations, talks, and chatter, God invites us to engage one another in dialogue, to speak in truth from the depths of heart and mind, to pray freely. Let us heed God's call and rejoice in what God enables. Let us pray together.

*GATHERING PRAYER

"PRAYER FOR A YOUTH GROUP," DAVID MCNEISH

In all that baffles and surprises, **God walk with us on the journey of our lives.**
In the injustice and unfairness that surrounds us, **God walk with us on the journey of our lives.**
When no one will listen and nothing seems to change, **God walk with us on the journey of our lives.**

When we long for a better, fairer world, **God walk with us on the journey of our lives.**
Give us the courage we need to be part of the solutions. **God walk with us on the journey of our lives.**
Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,
thanks be to God.

Listen now in the reading of scripture for the word and wisdom of God.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 37:16-18

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 691

MATTHEW 7:1-14, 24-29

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 1176-1178

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

***DOXOLOGY #593:** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

THOMAS KEN

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. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

***BLESSING OUR GIFTS**

***HYMN OF THE DAY #403:** *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

JOSEPH MEDLICOTT SCRIVEN

What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

"FORGIVENESS: LUKE 6:36-38 (NJB)"

Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap; because the standard you use will be the standard used for you.

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Know that you are loved, that you are enough, and that you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: *This Little Light of Mine*

NOLAN WILLIAMS, JR.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!
Ev'rywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine!!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Acclamation*

ROBERT RAY

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Children's Message

JAMES ALLEGRETTO

Homily: *"Golden Rules and Scout Laws"*

REV. PHILLIPS

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper today by inviting everyone who wants to participate up front to receive the bread and cup (we use grape juice). If you are more comfortable remaining seated but would like to

*participate, raise your hand and we will come to your seat to serve you. We believe that Jesus invites everyone forward to his table to "taste and see," and so we proclaim that all are welcome to participate.
You are invited.*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

IONA ABBEY WORSHIP BOOK

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***
Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***
Let us give thanks to God our Maker
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Praise is yours, holy God...
...we join our praise,
singing the song of your eternal greatness.

***Holy, holy, holy Lord
God of power and might;
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.***

***Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.***

Because you, gracious God, have been faithful to us,
we will be faithful to Jesus.

He promised to be with those who met in his name:
this we believe.

He promised to hear the prayers of faithful people
this we believe.

He said that in the communion of bread and wine
he would be present to us
as we remember him:
this we celebrate.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

...We believe that he who lived,
died and rose again for us
will meet us here.

***Graciously nourish us, O Christ,
so that we who try to follow you
may receive food for the journey
and be bound in solidarity
with all who walk in your way. Amen.***

COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Give thanks for all God's goodness:
God's love shall last for ever.

RECOGNITION OF SCOUTS AND SCOUTERS

SCOUT LAW RESPONSIVE READING

A true and worthy person recognizes their obligations and does them without being watched or compelled.
A Scout is trustworthy.

We owe much to many—to home, school, community, nation, and to God.
A Scout is loyal.

The Good Samaritan showed the spirit of doing a Good Turn.
A Scout is helpful.

A real friend is one who remains loyal in victory and in defeat.
A Scout is friendly.

Courtesy is the mark of a true gentleperson. It is shown in thoughtful acts and kindly respect for everyone.
A Scout is courteous.

Kindness is the way people show respect for others.
A Scout is kind.

Life is filled with things that we must do whether we like them or not.
One of the marks of growing up is to willingly accept responsibilities.
A Scout is obedient.

Our moods make our days. If we are grouchy, our day is gloomy. If we are happy, the day is always happier.
A Scout is cheerful.

The world offers many gifts. A wise person uses them with care.
A Scout is thrifty.

To each of us comes danger, difficult tasks, and temptations. When faced with a choice between courage and cowardice, we must be brave.
A Scout is brave.

Cleanliness is next to godliness. To have a clean body, a clean mind, and a clean record is a rewarding achievement.
A Scout is clean.

Character is determined by the things we worship. If we respect ourselves and our fellow people, and see them as gifts of goodness from God, we live on a high plane.
A Scout is reverent.

***CLOSING HYMN #379:** *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

EDWARD MOTE

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. **(Refrain)**

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne. **(Refrain)**

***SENDING**

May the great Scoutmaster of all good Scouts be with us until we meet again.

POSTLUDE: *The Heavens Declare the Glory*

WILLIAM BARNETT

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

Joseph Medlicott Scriven



Joseph M. Scriven (1819-1886), an Irish immigrant to Canada, wrote this text near Port Hope, Ontario, in 1855. Because his life was filled with grief and trials, Scriven often needed the solace of the Lord as described in his famous hymn.

Educated at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland, he enrolled in a military college to prepare for an army career. However, poor health forced him to give up that ambition. Soon after came a second blow—his fiancée died in a drowning accident on the eve of their wedding in 1844. Later that year he moved to Ontario, where he taught school in Woodstock and Brantford. His plans for marriage were dashed again when his new bride-to-be died after a short illness in 1855. Following this calamity Scriven seldom had a regular income, and he was forced to live in the homes of others. He also experienced mistrust from neighbors who did not appreciate his eccentricities or his work with the underprivileged. A member of the Plymouth Brethren, he tried to live according to the Sermon on the Mount as literally as possible, giving and sharing all he had and often doing menial tasks for the poor and physically disabled. Because Scriven suffered from depression, no one knew if his death by drowning in Rice Lake was suicide or an accident.

What a Friend we have in Jesus. [*Jesus our Friend*] was discovered to be his in the following manner: "A neighbor, sitting up with him in his illness, happened upon a manuscript of 'What a Friend we have in Jesus.' Reading it with great delight, and questioning Mr. Scriven about it, he said he had composed it for his mother, to comfort her in a time of special sorrow, not intending anyone else should see it."



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

February 5th - Scout Sunday

Our Scouts from the Pack and Troop will join us in worship.

February 7th – Alamance Co. Mobile Library

The Alamance County Public Libraries mobile library will be in the church parking lot 10:30 – 11:30. Please stop by and “check-out” this wonderful service the library has to share.

Invitation to Snow Ski

You are invited to Snow Ski with the Scouts of Troop 9. Lessons provided, Learn to Ski, and have a Great Time. Contact Jeff Benes for more details and to sign up.

Jeff Benes
Committee Chair Cub Pack 9 & Troops 9
(336) 675-9086 cell
benes.nc@att.net

Scouts Looking for Storage Space

Pack and Troop 9 Scouts are looking for a Donor to provide a 1,000 Sq foot storage type building, or warehouse, to store the following Scout Equipment:
2 camping trailers, 1 sailboat (Sailing Merit Badge), 1 demo car (Automotive Merit Badge).
Space needed for security and protection from the weather.

Feel free to contact:

Jeff Benes - Committee Chair Cub Pack 9 & Troops 9
(336) 675-9086 cell
benes.nc@att.net

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

Sunday, February 5th - Scout Sunday

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, February 8th

6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, February 12th - 6th Sunday after Epiphany

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

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Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

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Class of 2025:

Donna Mitchell-Ayers

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