



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

February 9, 2025 – 11:00 am

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Installation of Elders



1st Century Fishing Boat

"He got into one of the boats..."

Luke 5:3

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to our service of worship. 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!

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *We Will Glorify Thee*

TWILA PARIS (ARR. BY FRED BOCK)

WELCOME

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find the promised rest;
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

Jesus promises that when we gather, God is present.

God is with us here. God is with us today.

Let us praise our Creator, the Alpha and Omega, the Almighty saying,

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The Lord of hosts is here. Let us ground ourselves in worship.

OPENING RESPONSE:

This Little Light of Mine (one verse)

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.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

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

CESAREO GABARAIN

Lord, you have come to the lakeshore,
Looking neither for wise nor 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 there's 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)**

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Worship begins each week with a communal acknowledgement that we have failed the task set before us. God calls us to live our lives in the way of Jesus, who humbly and justly loved God and neighbor. We are called to set ourselves aside, to make the world a better place. Yet, because the salvation of the world is ongoing, we fall short. Let us confess our sins before our just and merciful Creator so that we may be free to live into our purpose again.

Lord of hosts, Jesus of Galilee, Holy Spirit, forgive us for the ways we have fallen short.

You ask us to look to the margins and care for the lost; we center ourselves.

You ask us to give away; we grab for more.

You ask us to love one another; we cannot see beyond our divisions.

The world is full of violence, from the macro to the micro.

Forgive us. Help us. We call on you, our beloved, our help, our God, our hope. Hear our silent confessions now.

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Beloved, God hears us when we cry out. God knows our hearts, despite our failures, and treasures the beings that we are. You are forgiven. We are forgiven. You are loved. We are loved. Let us live in this peace and find the courage to try again to bring God's kingdom into being, knowing that we will fail again but we are transformed by our small acts of trying.

SERVICE OF INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

SENTENCES OF SCRIPTURE

There are varieties of gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them.
There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served.
God works through each person in a unique way, but it is God's purpose that is accomplished.
To each is given a gift of the Spirit to be used for the common good.
Together we are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.

STATEMENT OF ORDINATION

PRESENTATION OF ELDERS-ELECT

*PROFESSION OF FAITH

As God calls some to particular forms of ministry, God calls us all to bear gladly the yoke of Christ given in the covenant of Baptism. Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

I do.

Will you be Christ's faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God's help.

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.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Gracious and eternal God . . . By your Holy Spirit renew us, that we may be empowered to do your will and continue forever in the risen life of Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever.

Amen.

Remember your baptism and be thankful. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church, accept Karen, Kim, and Brandon as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

We do.

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

We do.

PRAYER OF INSTALLATION

DECLARATION OF INSTALLATION

WELCOME AND CHARGE

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, as we prepare to read your living Word, open our hearts, our ears and our eyes that we may encounter your Spirit.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 138

PEW BIBLE, 772

LUKE 5:1-11

PEW BIBLE, 1250

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Come Follow Me*

SALLY K. ALBRECHT/JAY ALTHOUSE

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"People Fishing"*

RICK PURCELL, CRE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.***

AN OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #593**

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.

***BLESSING OUR GIFTS**

***CLOSING HYMN #375:** *Lord of All Good*

ALBERT F. BAYLY

Lord of all good, our gifts we bring You;
Use them Your holy purpose to fulfill:
Tokens of love and pledges brought anew,
That our whole life is offered to Your will.

We give our minds to understand Your ways;
Hands, eyes, and voices, to serve Your great design;
Heart with the flame of Your own love ablaze:
Till for Your glory all our powers combine.

Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:
To You with grateful hearts ourselves we give.

***SENDING**

The Almighty's wisdom, love, justice and beauty are far beyond our understanding. Yet, by God's grace, glimpses of divine abundance surround us.

This week, may you seek God's lavish glory. May it change you.

May you have the courage to talk about it.

As you leave today, carry this ancient blessing.

"The Lord bless you and keep you; The Lord make God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you;

The Lord lift up God's countenance upon you and give you peace."

POSTLUDE: *Soon and Very Soon*

ANDRAE CROUCH (ARR. BY FRED BOCK)

** Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sundays, 9:45am Bible Study: *The Chosen* – Evie C. Marshall Room

We will be discussing what being chosen by Jesus has beautiful and far-reaching implications – although it says even more about the Chooser than the choosees. We are loved because He's love. We are saved because He's merciful. We belong to the family of God because Jesus invites us, making the Bible and all its promises as true for us today as it was for God's chosen nation. Come join us and find out what does it actually mean to be Chosen.

Saturday, February 22nd Men of the Church Brunswick Stew

The Men of the Church are making their Brunswick Stew. Advanced orders are preferred and to place your order, see the sign-up in the Welcome Center or call the church office. It is \$10 a quart and pick-up is after 2pm on Saturday.

Tuesday, February 25th 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

Tuesday, March 4th The Women of Bethany Church Gathering

The Women of Bethany Church will come together on Tuesday, March 4th at 10:30am in the Evie C. Marshall classroom.

S.A.F.E. (Southern Alamance Family Empowerment)

How we can help S.A.F.E. for the month of **February**? They are asking for **Canned and Dried Beans**. S.A.F.E. will be closed the 1st and 5th Saturday of the Month. Consider donating your plastic and paper bags.

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, February 9th – Fifth Sunday after Epiphany, Installation of Elders

9:45 – Bible Study – The Chosen - Evie C. Marshall classroom

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

Wednesday, February 12th

6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, February 16th – Sixth Sunday after Epiphany,

9:45 – Bible Study – The Chosen - Evie C. Marshall classroom

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

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love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rick Purcell, CRE

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2025:

Donna Mitchell-Ayers

Tina Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Class of 2026:

Chip Allen

Jean Payne

Ben Russell

Class of 2027:

Karen Maxwell

Kim Snyder

Brandon Troxler

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