



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypresbyterian.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

February 12, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



"When they reached Jesus, they said, 'John the Baptist sent us to you. He asks, 'Are you the one who is coming, or should we look for someone else?'"

Luke 7:20 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

God of mystery, just as the crowds wondered about Jesus, we too, wonder about you. Who are you to us? Are you the one? Show us that you are God, mysterious, wonderful, mighty. Amen.

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 SONG: *Come, All You People*

UYAI MOSE

*Come all you people, come and praise your Maker; (repeat 2x)
come now and worship the Lord.*

*Come all you people, come and praise the Savior; (repeat 2x)
come now and worship the Lord.*

*Come all you people, come and praise the Spirit; (repeat 2x)
come now and worship the Lord.*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Happy are those who walk in God's ways.

Blessed are those who observe God's commandments.

Faithful are those whose eyes are fixed on righteousness.

Joyful are those whose hearts are filled with praise.

Come, let us love the Lord our God.

We come to worship the One who leads us in the ways of life.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

* HYMN OF PRAISE #485: *To God Be the Glory*

CROSBY / DROANE

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Come, Holy One: teach us your ways, lead us in your paths, guide us on our journey. Speak to us your words of life, for you offer us direction and wholeness when we hear your voice and follow.

You bless us with your love, shower us with your grace, and help us grow in faith. We seek you, O God, with all our hearts. Be near us this day.

Loving God, you call us into community, teach us your ways, and bless us with abundant life.

Yet we turn aside to follow other paths: we take the easy way out, listening to the world's call rather than your call to commitment; we quarrel with one another, letting differences divide us; we cherish our resentments, shutting off our hearts from forgiveness and reconciliation; we cling to petty jealousies, feeling we deserve more than we have.

Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and feed us with the milk of your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God is at work, nurturing our growth and showing us the ways that lead to life.

God is at work, reconciling us to one another and teaching us the paths of love.

God is at work, hearing our confessions, forgiving our disobedience, and blessing us in love.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

* RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE: *Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!*

TRADITIONAL

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

I feel better, so much better, since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" Since I laid my burden down. (Repeat)

* 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.

We believe in God;

Who is older than eternity and younger than our next breath; who is beyond describing yet knows us all by name; who inspires faith yet cannot be contained by religion.

We believe in Jesus Christ, flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;

He came in the body to give worth to every human life. He touched the untouchable, loved the unlovable, forgave the unforgivable and endured slander, persecution and death in order that through suffering love God's kingdom might come on earth. He rose from the grave as living proof that what is laid down in faith will be raised in glory. He ascended to heaven that he might be present at all times to all people.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

Who leads us into truth and freedom, who gives good gifts to all God's children, who inspires research, enables prayer, and wills that human economics and politics should prioritize justice, care of the earth and the healing of the nations.

We celebrate the potential of the Church,
The life in our bodies, the yearning in our souls, the promise of good things in store for those who love the Lord.
Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *This is My Father's World*

ENGLISH MELODY / ARR. BOCK

*** DOXOLOGY:** *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

HYMN OF THE DAY #335: *Though I May Speak*

O WALY WALY

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: *Thy Word*

AMY GRANT

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.
When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

THE SPOKEN WORD

Lord, silence any voice but your own.

That we may hear you speaking to us on this day.

A Reading from Luke 7:18-35

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1255

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.

Thanks be to God!

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

SPANISH MELODY / B. CARR

*Come, Christians, join to sing Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King; Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice before His throne rejoice.
Praise is His gracious choice; Alleluia! Amen!
Come, lift your hearts on high; Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; To us He'll condescend.
His love shall never end; Alleluia! Amen!
Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore His goodness we'll adore,
Singing for evermore; Alleluia! Amen!*

LEAVING TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME

* **CLOSING HYMN #369:** *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *Let's Just Praise the Lord*

W. & G. GAITHER

* *Those who are able may stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and A. J. Campbell)

WELCOME to this service of worship at Bethany Presbyterian Church. 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.bethanypresbyterian.org; on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian; or on Twitter by following [@bpresbyterian](https://twitter.com/bpresbyterian).

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, or at www.buzzsprout.com/9198.

Resources used in this morning's worship:

- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- Narrative Lectionary website (www.workingpreacher.org)

Recently we marked the **Kickoff of our 125th Anniversary Celebration**. Our theme scripture passage for the celebration is Isaiah 40:28-31, **Growing Stronger – Growing Deeper – Reaching Higher**. Mark your calendars for our other celebration events:

- **Sunday, May 28th** – **Rev. Norman Whitney**, preaching / Luncheon following worship
- **Saturday, September 23rd** – Concert by renowned artist, **David LaMotte** (www.davidlamotte.com)
- **Sunday, September 24th** – Culmination of anniversary celebration / **Rev. J. Herbert Nelson**, preaching (Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (USA) / **David LaMotte** providing music / Anniversary luncheon following worship

Please drop by the nursery and say hello to our new nursery worker **Dakota Shell**, who began her work with us last Sunday. Just as a reminder, we have contracted with Preferred ChildCare out of Jamestown to staff our nursery on Sunday mornings and on special occasions.

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.

To the parents of young children: Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel that you must suppress those wiggles in God's house. **Please note that a professionally staffed nursery is available during the worship hour.** Here are some hints to make worship with your children more rewarding:

- Consider sitting towards the front where it is easier for little ones to engage. On the second pew nearest the choir loft, there are activities for children of all ages to keep busy with during the service.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, musicians, and leaders.
- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, “Let the children come to me!”
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.
- **To adult worshippers:** The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our church is growing! Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Jean Payne and Sherrie Moore)

Our ongoing prayer list is below. Please let the church office know if there are any changes.

Bill Faucette
Faye Campbell
Frances Nolan
Joey Leake
Diane Bullis
Tiffany Tauchren

Diane Miller
Jack Cook
Polly & Dick Wilson
Layla Benoklen
Shannon Russell
Mary Moore

John & Ann Sutton
Peter Slater
Family of Dr. Bob James
Teresa Wilborn
Ida Whitney
Rachel Poteat

Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norman Mize

Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Harold Baldwin
Duffy Strigo

Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Mike Sutton
Ron Chilton
Gail Sloane (friend of Joy Saleeby)

Circle #1 will meet **tomorrow, February 5th at 10:00**. **Circle #3** will meet **tomorrow at 7:00**

Mark your calendars and join us **NEXT SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH at 6:00**, for our very first **T.E.A.M. Dinner and Program**. Remember that **T.E.A.M.** stands for **Together Everyone Achieves More**. These congregational covered-dish dinners are designed to highlight one of our ministry teams and give us an opportunity to gather as a church family around the fellowship table. So, prepare your best church covered-dish, and come join your Bethany family. Nursery will be provided!

Each week **Salem Presbytery** lists churches and other ministries that we are to lift up in prayer that week. A complete list can be viewed online at the presbytery website: www.salempresbytery.org. On the prayer list for this week are: **Rumple Memorial, Blowing Rock; Yadkinville; Glenwood, Greensboro**. Please keep these churches and ministries in your prayers this week.

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Brandon Troxler and Karen Maxwell)

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.

Young at Heart Class (Young at Heart Classroom – across from pastor's office)

Using the *Uniform Series*, this class engages in lively discussions pertaining to the biblically based curriculum. The class is taught by a very capable team of teachers.

Seeker's Class (Church Office)

The Seeker's Class is currently using a study guide that correlates with the preaching text and themes that are used in our worship services.

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.

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, February 28th at 5:30 pm** as our youth will serve a delicious **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**. This is the traditional day of "feasting" before the penitence and sacrifice of the season of Lent which begins the next day. Donations for our youth program will be accepted.

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Ron Kimrey, and Glenn Patterson)

Elders of the Month for February are **Jean Payne and Glenn Patterson**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Monday, the 13th:

- 10:00 – Circle #1
- 7:00 – Circle #3

Wednesday, the 15th:

- 7:00 – Choir Practice

Thursday, the 16th:

- Covenant Bible Study: *Living the Covenant – Episode 17*

Friday, the 17th:

- Brunswick Stew Prep

Saturday, the 18th:

- 3:00 – Brunswick Stew Pick-up

Sunday, the 19th:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2017:

Ron Kimrey

Karen Maxwell

Sherrie Moore

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

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love learn serve



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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



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