



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

February 20, 2022 – 11:00 am

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany



"Haw River at 64" - Patrick Mueller

*"All who are thirsty should come to me! All who believe in me should drink! As scriptures said concerning me,
Rivers of living water will flow out from within him."
John 7:37-8 (CEB)*

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.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *I Need Thee Every Hour*

DAVID H. HEGARTY/ TUNE BY ROBERT LOWRY

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

You shall be holy, for the Lord your God is holy.

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

* **OPENING HYMN #376:** *Love Divine, All Love's Excelling*

CHARLES WESLEY

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 that second 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.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, fountain of every blessing, open us to your life-giving word, and fill us with your Holy Spirit so that living water may flow through our hearts – a spring of hope for a thirsty world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 147:1-11

JOHN 7:37-52

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 779

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 1301

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Trusting in Jesus, let us approach the wellspring of living waters, that our thirst may be quenched, and our very selves cleansed. Let us tell the truth about ourselves.

Loving God of Living Waters, you call us to yourself in the wholeness of our being. And yet, we hesitate. We seek to hide from you those things that we have done, or that we have not done, that weigh on us. For sometimes we have done wrong, and not done right. For we live in a world where we have sometimes gone along with what is wrong, and sometimes not done what is right. We need love, and wholeness, and justice, and peace. We are a thirsty people in need of living waters. We pray that you would let those waters flow over us, quenching our thirst and cleaning our very selves. We dare approach you in this moment...

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

As we hear the waters splashing into this font, may we know in our very bones that our deep thirst has already been quenched by the ever flowing stream of living waters, and that even those parts we hide from ourselves have been washed in the rivers pouring from our Lord. Know that you are loved, that you are forgiven, that you are whole, that you are enough.

Amen.

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

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.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

* A Doxology #428: *We Give Thee but Thine Own*

William W. How

We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN OF THE DAY #446: *Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken*

JOHN NEWTON

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
Formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the Giver,
Never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hovering,
See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering,
Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
Light by night and shade by day,

Safe they feed upon the manna
Which God gives them when they pray.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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: *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

Piano Solo

TRADITIONAL SPIRITUAL / ARRANGED BY FRED BOCK

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"The Fo[u]nt"*

REV. PHILLIPS

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

We give you thanks, O God, for the story of your saving love and the grace you pour out upon us through your gift of water – from the water of Eve's womb, bringing life to all the earth, to the water of Mary's womb, offering new life through Jesus Christ; from the tears of Hannah, making her a mother, to the tears of the Hebrew people, crying out for deliverance; from the bold action of a woman, washing Jesus' feet, to Christ's own humble service, washing the feet of his disciples; from the rock of Moses and Miriam, providing water in the wilderness, to the promise of our Savior, quenching our thirst with living water.

From age to age, O God, your waters give us life and show us your love. We praise you for the baptismal waters that bring us new life in Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit unite us as one body, and let the gift of your love flow through us like living water, with blessing and promise, justice and righteousness, grace and peace for all. All glory and honor are yours, O God, now and forever.

Amen.

* **CLOSING HYMN #321:** *Holy Spirit, Truth Divine*

SAMUEL LONGFELLOW

Holy Spirit, truth divine,
Dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God and inward light,
Wake my spirit, clear my sight.

Holy Spirit, love divine,
Glow within this heart of mine;
Kindle every high desire;
Perish self in Thy pure fire.

Holy Spirit, power divine,
Fill and nerve this will of mine;
By Thee may I strongly live,
Bravely bear, and nobly strive.

Holy Spirit, right divine,
Make my conscience wholly Thine;
Be my law, and I shall be
Firmly bound, forever free.

*** CLOSING RESPONSES**

Fount of mercy, Fire of justice, dearest Friend, bind us to you and send us out to seek and serve and sing your praise, until you gather us up in glory and bright, unending song.

Thanks be to God.

*** POSTLUDE:** *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

TOM BIRCHWOOD / TUNE: "CORONATION" BY OLIVER HOLDEN

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

Hymn Story

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

This hymn begins with the words, “Glorious things of Thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.”

Zion was a Jebusite fortress that David conquered and made into the city of Jerusalem (2 Samuel 5:7ff). Zion therefore became another name for Jerusalem—known as the city of David (2 Samuel 5:7), but also as the city of God (Psalm 48:1). The temple was in Jerusalem, and the Israelites equated the temple with God’s presence.

The author of the book of Revelation saw a vision in which there was no temple in the heavenly city, “for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb” (Revelation 21:22). In other words, no temple is required when God is already present.

Paul said that Christians are the temple of God (1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 2 Corinthians 6:16; see also Ephesians 2:19-22). God is present in the hearts of all who make Christ Lord of their lives.

So this hymn equates Zion with the church—formed for God’s own abode and founded on the Rock of Ages (v. 1). The second verse talks about “streams of living waters, springing from eternal love.” Water, of course, is essential for any city—and for life of every sort. Jerusalem was served by Spring Gihon, whose water was transported into the city via aqueducts and collected in pools.

But Jesus, speaking to the Samaritan woman at the well, said, “If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water” (John 4:10). He went on to say, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never thirst again; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life” (John 4:13-14).

So when this hymn refers to “streams of living waters,” it is talking about Christ’s gift of the stuff of life to those who believe in him. In verse three, this hymn speaks of “the cloud and fire” that appear “round each habitation.” This is an allusion to the pillar of cloud that led Israel through the wilderness by day—and the pillar of fire that led them by night (Exodus 13:21ff). In other words, the hymn is celebrating God’s presence with us—a presence that is with us always, day and night, through good times and bad.

The third verse also says, “Safe they feed upon the manna which He gives them when they pray.” The manna, of course, was the bread from heaven that God gave the Israelites to sustain them through their wilderness journey. Our manna today is the bread of the Lord’s Supper—the body of the Lord Jesus Christ, broken for us that we might receive the forgiveness of sins and God’s salvation power.

The man who wrote this hymn was John Newton (1725-1807), who also wrote “Amazing Grace.” Newton had been the captain of a slave ship—known for his profanity and cruelty. But he experienced a genuine conversion to the Christian faith. Convinced that the slave trade was wrong, he left his ship and took a job onshore.

He then felt a call to the ministry, and was ordained at age forty and assigned to a church at Olney, England. He continued in ministry through the rest of his long life, even after failing eyesight made it impossible for him to read.

In Olney, Newton worked closely with his friend, William Cowper (1731-1800), a popular poet. Newton invited Cowper to collaborate on a book of hymns that was eventually published as *Olney Hymns*. This collection included a number of hymns that are still sung today, such as “There is a fountain filled with blood” and “God moves in a mysterious way.”

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Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Helen Brown and Karen Maxwell)

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.**

A Note About the Offering: As we are temporarily worshipping online only during this time, you are invited to make your contribution in one of two ways: mail it in to the church, or use our quick and secure online giving platform. This can be accessed through our website, or by scanning the QR code on the last page of this bulletin. Thanks for your generosity and cooperation.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Tina Patterson and Kim Snyder)

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

Bethany Members

Linda Abplanalp
Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Shelvia Russell

Christopher Bagley
Sylvia Donley
Ruby Martin
Mike Sutton
Ida Whitney

Katherine Bayliff
Henry Flythe
Joyce & Norman Mize
Nancy Sutton

Friends of Bethany

Carol Brooks
Bill Faucette
Christy Lutterloh
Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Tiffany Tauchren
Teresa Wilborn
Frank Wrenn

Janie Holt Clapp
Ben Johnson
Gaynell McCollum
Norma Proctor
The Family of John Sutton
Alex Thomas
Deborah & Larry

Jack Cook
Grace Johnson
Anne McDaniels
Shannon Russell
Ann Sutton
Randy Thompson
Cindy Uzzo
Don Burenhiede

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Tracey Troxler and Shelby Smith)

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) - NOT CURRENTLY MEETING DUE TO COVID

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, Randy Cousins, and Bill Abplanalp)

Elders of the Month for February are **Karen Maxwell** and **Shelby Smith**.

Anniversaries & Birthdays

- Helen & Glenn Byrd – February 28th

- Bobby Peele – February 7th
- Kayla Donley – February 8th
- Laura Mitchell-Ayers – February 16th
- Joyce Peele – February 18th
- Rick Purcell – February 21st

Liturgist

February 6 th	Chip Allen
February 13 th	Karen Maxwell
February 20 th	Helen Brown
February 27 th	Linda Abplanalp

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (will return soon)
- 11:00 – Worship (Live Stream)

Wednesday, February 23rd :

- 6:30 – No Choir Practice

Sunday, February 27th :

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (will return soon)
- 11:00 – Worship (Live Stream)

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

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Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp
Helen Brown
Tina Patterson

Class of 2023:

Chip Allen
Randy Cousins
Shelby Smith

Class of 2024:

Karen Maxwell
Kim Snyder
Tracey Troxler

Staff

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Jon Phillips – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org

Chaplain: Rick Purcell – chaplain@bethanypreschurch.org

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – music@bethanypreschurch.org

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – admin@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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