



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

March 3, 2019 – 11:00 am

Transfiguration of the Lord



“Then a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, my chosen one. Listen to him!” Even as the voice spoke, Jesus was found alone. They were speechless and at the time told no one what they had seen.”

Luke 9:35-36 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy proposed that the United States put a man on the moon by the end of the decade. Humans landed on the moon on July 20, 1969, and since then, people often refer to a “moonshot” as an impossible goal with only an outside chance at succeeding. On a mountain in Galilee, Jesus gave his disciples a similar glimpse of the moonshot goal of his mission. It was a mission to redeem the world — a mission on which his church is still working.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *He Reigns in Light Above*

G. BLAKE

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:** *Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining (Shine, Jesus Shine)*

GRAHAM KENDRICK

* CALL TO WORSHIP

From a cloud, and in a crowd, God speaks to us.

Calling us to be lovers of justice, to share hope with the broken.

On mountaintops, and in neighborhoods, Christ calls to us.

With a word, and with wonder, molding us into who we are.

On the playground, and at the workstation, the Spirit whispers in our hearts.

Gathering up our fears, as well as our dreams, and offering them to God.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN INVITATION TO THE WORD

As God has spoken in ages gone by.

God speaks now to us.

Hear the word of the Lord.

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE:

LUKE 9:28-36

Holy wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1260

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Lord, it seems so long ago that we heard your words at Jesus' baptism. You reminded us that he is your beloved Son with whom you are well pleased. Again today we hear your words that we are to listen to him, to pay attention. Open our hearts this day, Lord, to hear the words of Jesus, to follow in his footsteps, and to serve You.

We want to celebrate. We don't want to listen. We want to stay on the mountaintop with Jesus and set up a festival where everyone can come and play and have a good time. We want our faith to be one of entertainment. But you have called us to "Listen to Him!"

You have asked us to be ready for the journey. We cannot stay where we are, comfortable and snuggled down in the familiar. There is much to be done. Forgive us, Lord, when we are stubborn and willful. Remind us that you are with us, wherever we are.

You call us from the mountaintop to go to the valley where this is struggle and strife; where healing is needed. Prepare us, Lord, for the journey. Help us to listen to you. Heal us, Lord.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

On mountaintops and in valleys, in our hopes and in our hearts, God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God forgives us when we cannot forgive ourselves!

By God's mercy, we are forgiven; by God's mercy, we are made whole; by God's mercy, we are equipped to serve others. Thanks be to God! Amen.

* RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE #579: *Glory Be to the Father*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

* 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.

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: *The Lily of the Valley*

M. BARTLETT

OLD HUNDREDDTH

* **THE DOXOLOGY:** *Praise God, from Thom All Blessings Flow*

*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.*

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

* **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd* (see next page)

PICARDY

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: *Jesus Loves Me*

P. MCINTYRE

*I am so glad that Jesus loves me.
And for my pardon, He died on the tree.
He paid the cost for a poor sinner lost.
I am so glad that Jesus loves me.
Yes, Jesus loves me.
The bible tells me so.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *THE MOONSHOT EFFECT*

REV. JOHN W. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* **CLOSING HYMN #376:** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

HYFRYDOL

* **SENDING**

Go forth now, as lovers of the justice of our God.

In cyber clouds, and in crowds of those searching for grace, we will offer the hope of the One who cares for all.

Go now, as those who have been with Jesus on the mountaintop of wonder, to serve others in the broken valleys of life.

With words of life on our lips, with the wonder of laughter in our hearts, we will follow Jesus to all who seek healing and love.

Go now, as those who would offer the Spirit's peace to those around us.

Teaching games of cooperation and not competition to kids, listening to the lonely whispers of those with whom we work, we will bring reconciliation to those who are strangers to hope.

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *O Brightly Streaming Star*

J. DENTON

* *Please stand in body or spirit.*

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd 274

Capo 5: (Am) (F) (C) (Em) (Am) (A7)
 Dm B^b F Am Dm D7

1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep-herd. You, Lord, are both
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun-tain, stripped of might up -
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us, sit in pow - er
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus! Wor - thy is our

(Dm) (G) (C) (F) (Em) (Dm) (Am)
 Gm C F B^b Am Gm Dm

prince and slave. You, peace-mak - er and sword-bring - er
 on the cross, shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 at God's side. You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 cos - mic Christ! Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - tory;

(B^b) (F) (E) (A/C#) (Dm)
 E^b B^b A D/F# Gm

of the way you took and gave. You, the ev - er - last - ing
 beg-gared by a sol - dier's toss, you, the ev - er - last - ing
 have a love that reach - es wide. You, the ev - er - last - ing
 wor - thy still your peace and strife. You, the ev - er - last - ing

(Am) (G) (Am) (Dm) (Em) (Am)
 Dm C Dm Gm Am Dm

in - stant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 in - stant; you who are both gift and cost.
 in - stant; you, who are our pil - grim guide.
 in - stant; you, who are our death and life.



Our Faith Community @ Work

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

WELCOME to this service of worship at Bethany Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). Whether you are a member or a guest 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 **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, on our Facebook page, or at www.buzzsprout.com/9198.

Resources used in this morning’s worship:

- *Homiletics Online* website (www.homileticonline.com)
- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- *The Text This Week* website (www.textweek.com)

This week marks the beginning of Lent. Please note the following events:

- **Wednesday, March 6th - 12:00 noon:** Lenten Lunch & Learn Series I / *“Final Words From the Cross: Father Forgive Them”*
- **Wednesday, March 6th - 6:00 pm:** Lenten Pancake Supper / prepared and served by our youth
- **Wednesday, March 6th - 7:00 pm:** Ash Wednesday Service

A reminder that **Daylight Saving Time begins this coming weekend**. Be sure and **“spring forward”** before going to bed on Saturday evening.

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: Jean Payne and Randy Cousins)

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

Bill Faucette
Family of Faye Campbell
Ruby Martin
Shirley Lane
Ida Whitney
Katherine Turner
Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Mike Sutton
Steward Dillard
Shelvia Russell
Katherine Bayliff
Randy Thompson

Diane Miller
Jack Cook
Joan Richardson
Teresa Wilborn
Tiffany Tauchren
Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norma Proctor
Levi Byrd
Alex Thomas
Bill Abplanalp
Robert Sykes

John & Ann Sutton
Peter Slater
Joey Leake
Shannon Russell
Mary Moore
Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Pete Campbell
Ben Johnson
Family of Ruth Younts
Foy Bayliff
Dusty Kimrey

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.

Our weekly Bible study, ***Disciple Bible Study: Into the Word, Into the World***, meets each Tuesday (except for the second Tuesday of the month) at 7:00 here at the church. The second part of the study focuses on Luke and Acts.

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Chip Allen, and Ben Russell)

It's **Scholarship Season!!** All post-high school students are invited to apply for a scholarship from our Scholarship Fund. **The deadline is March 31st.** Scholarship applications are available in the mailboxes across from the office. Please see Ron Osborne if you have any questions.

As per his Terms of Call that the congregation approved upon his coming to Bethany, John is scheduled for a **Sabbatical** in 2020. Articles in the past few newsletters have outlined some of the details. Each week, there will be more information shared in this space. If you have questions, please feel free to ask John, or the Sabbatical Support Group (Helen Brown, Ron Kimrey, Sandy Russell, and Tracey Troxler). Here's this week's tidbit:

- John will spend a week in Durham, England, studying at the University of Durham through their Department of Digital Theology. This part of the sabbatical will include a visit with John and Debbie's niece Erin, her husband Ed, and great-nephew, Owen - and another great-nephew on the way!) Erin teaches music at the University of Durham

Elders of the Month for March are **A. J. Campbell** and **Randy Cousins**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Monday, the 4th:

- 10:00 - Circle #1
- 7:00 - Circle #4

Tuesday, the 5th:

- 7:00 - Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, the 6th:

- 12:00 - Lenten Lunch & Learn Series I
- 6:00 - Lenten Pancake Supper
- 7:00 – Ash Wednesday Service

Sunday, the 10th:

- **First Sunday in Lent**
- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship / including Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell
Ron Osborne
Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen
Randy Cousins
Karen Maxwell

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell
Ben Russell
Tracey Troxler

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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