



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

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March 16, 2025 – 11:00 am

Second Sunday in Lent



Jerusalem

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: *Here Faith Abides*

GERALD PETERSON

WELCOME

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #85:** *What Wondrous Love Is This*

AMERICAN FOLK HYMN

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
To God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
While millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
And through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
And through eternity I'll sing on.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

(BASED ON PSALM 27:1)

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?
Come, seek God in this time of worship.

GATHERING PRAYER

(GENESIS 15, PSALM 27, PHILIPPIANS 3 & 4)

Mighty God, we come into your presence from many different places and situations.
Light our way in this time of worship.
Calm our hearts, focus our thoughts, and strengthen our faith,
as we pray and praise this day. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** *Jesus Paid It All*

ELVINA M. HALL

I hear the Savior say,
"Thy strength indeed is small,
Child of weakness, watch and pray,
Find in Me thine all in all."

Refrain

Jesus paid it all,
All to Him I owe;
Sin had left a crimson stain,
He washed it white as snow.

Lord, now indeed I find
Thy pow'r and Thine alone,
Can change the leper's spots
And melt the heart of stone. **[Refrain]**

For nothing good have I
Where-by Thy grace to claim;
I'll wash my garments white
In the blood of Calv'ry's Lamb. **[Refrain]**

And when, before the throne,
I stand in Him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save,"
My lips shall still repeat. **[Refrain]**

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

When we cry to God in prayer and confession, God hears.
Let us approach God's throne of grace with confidence and faith.

*Eternal God, as enemies circle and fear grows large, the distance between us feels like absence and we come to believe you are hidden and concealed.
Forgive our doubt. Forgive our lack of spiritual seeking.
Forgive us when we make our faith all about what you might do for us rather than how we might serve you and work at right relationship with you. Amen.*

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God does not forsake us in times of trial. Our God is a gracious God, abounding in steadfast love. Know that in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Merciful God, open us to your Word and your way.
Help us to seek you, your truth, and the message you intend for us today. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 27:1-6

PEW BIBLE, 682

LUKE 13:31-35

PEW BIBLE, 1270

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Instead of Me*

PHIL & LYNN BROWER/ARR. BY DON WYRTZEN

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Jerusalem, Jerusalem"*

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** *A Lenten Doxology*

G.W. DUB SHEPHERD

Praise God throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts God's love in Christ into our hearts.
Amen.

***BLESSING OUR GIFTS**

***CLOSING HYMN #307:** *Fight the Good Fight*

JOHN SAMUEL BEWLEY MONSELL

Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace,
Lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face;
Life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on thy guide;
God's boundless mercy will provide;
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not nor fear, God's arms are near;
God changeth not, and thou art dear;
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee.

***SENDING**

(PSALM 27:14)

Wait for the Lord.
Be strong.
Let your heart take courage.
May the grace, hope, peace and love of God our Creator, Redeemer and
Sustainer be with you now and always. Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Look, Ye Saints!*

THOMAS CHESTERTON/TUNE:"BRYN CALFARIA" BY WILLIAM OWEN

** Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Sundays, 9:45am Lenten Bible Study – Evie C. Marshall Room

Tuesday, March 18th 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, April 1st 10:30am 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.

Tuesday, April 8th Easter Jubilee at the Rudy Theater in Selma, NC

Everyone is invited to travel together on Tuesday, April 8th to celebrate the season with the sounds of Easter at the Rudy Theater in Selma, NC. The Easter Jubilee is contemporary and traditional gospel music and their comedian that will keep you on your toes. More details to follow.

Saturday, April 12th Community Easter Egg Hunt –in the Fellowship Hall

We're having an old favorite of ours – our Easter Egg hunt! Kids of all ages are welcome to participate in this fun family More details to follow.

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

How we can help S.A.F.E. for the month of **March**? They are asking for **Mac and Cheese and Pasta**. 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, March 16th – Second Sunday in Lent,
9:45 – Lenten Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, March 19th
6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, March 23rd – Third Sunday in Lent,
9:45 – Lenten Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

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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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Staff

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