



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

March 17, 2019 – 11:00 am

Second Sunday in Lent



*“Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’
Jesus replied, ‘I assure you that today you will be with me in paradise.’”
Luke 23:42-43 (CEB)*

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Dear God, we have come together today in search of knowledge about you and your son Jesus. Clear from our thoughts all hindrances, and allow us to focus on you and your Word. Help us to become better at associating with all people who you put along our paths. Give us courage to dine with sinners even when our friends do not understand. Amen.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *I Will Arise and Go to Jesus*

R. SAWYER

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 #80:** *Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley*

LONESOME VALLEY

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We are on a journey of faith. Jesus is our leader and our guide.

We place our trust in him.

As the daylight hours grow longer, our journey takes on a urgency.

We must prepare our hearts for Jerusalem.

Do not fear! God goes before us, into Jerusalem, into the world.

Let us worship God!

* **OPENING HYMN #488:** *The God of Abraham Praise*

LEONI

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 23:32, 39-43

Holy wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1286

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Lord, we come to you this morning with so many concerns and issues that demand our attention. Our lives are burdened; our spirits are tired. Guide our lives and our steps as we walk this Lenten journey, inward and outward. Help us to discern what you would have us do, that others may be healed.

There is a certain winter in our spirits today, O Lord. We feel that the journey on which we have embarked will demand too much of us. There are so many other things in our lives which claim our spirits, our energy, our hopes and fears. It is easy to be like Jerusalem, turning our backs on those whom you send.

The world shouts its solutions to us and then deserts us when we are in need. Forgive us for the many times in which we have strayed from your pathway of life; when we have chosen not to hear the cries of those in need; when we have belittled the gifts and skills you have given us in order to avoid serving others.

Heal us, O Lord. Place us back on your path to Jerusalem, to live, for we ask this in Jesus' name.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

When God called our name, God called us to a journey of faith. Do not be afraid to look inside to see those things which are holding us back from being who God created us to be.

We place our trust in God who is always with us, loving us into wholeness. Amen.

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

GLORIA PATRI

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.

* 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: *What Wondrous Love is This*

L. SMITH

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

OLD HUNDRETH

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

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: *On Eagle's Wings*

M. JONCAS / M. HAYES

Refrain:

*And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.*

*You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My Refuge,
My Rock in Whom I trust."*

Refrain

*The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His Wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield.*

Refrain

*You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day,
Though thousands fall about you,
Near you it shall not come.*

Refrain

*For to His angels He's given a command,
To guard you in all of your ways,
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

Refrain

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: TODAY YOU WILL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* **CLOSING HYMN #263:** *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

ST. DENIO

* **LENTEN CANDLE LITURGY: LETTING GO OF CERTAINTY**

We want control and certainty in our life. We want to know that we are on the right paths, that we have the right answers, and that our waiting will bear fruit. We want to trust in our certainty.

Lent is an invitation to acknowledge our illusions of certainty and to open ourselves to God's impossible grace, mercy, and love.

As we extinguish this light, we let go of our certainty: the need for answers, for faith without doubt, and the desire to be self-reliant.

[A candle is extinguished.]

Gracious God, forgive us for pretending that we have life figured out, that we don't need you, and that we could ever possess ultimate knowledge. Open our hearts to your gift of grace which enables us, in faith, to trust. Amen.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE: *The Royal Banners Forward Go*

J. MANSFIELD

* *Please stand in body or spirit.*

Jesus, Remember Me

227

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. The bottom staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is a simple, chant-like line with lyrics: "Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom."

Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom.

The second system of musical notation is identical to the first, consisting of two staves in treble and bass clefs with a key signature of two flats and a 3/4 time signature. The melody and lyrics are the same: "Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your king - dom."

This chant-like setting, intended for repeated singing, comes from the ecumenical monastic community in Taizé, France. Based on the prayer of the penitent thief crucified with Jesus (Luke 23:42), this text is a poignant expression of the desire to be present with Christ in glory.

TEXT: Taizé Community, 1981
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1981
Text and Music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

REMEMBER ME
Irregular



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:

- *Final Words From the Cross* resource, by Adam Hamilton
- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)

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)

Be sure that you have on your calendar our big **Fish Fry**, that will take place **this Saturday, March 23rd at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall**. This event will benefit our youth who will be attending the Montreat and Massanetta Youth Conferences this summer. Your generous donation will be greatly appreciated!

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

Bill Faucette
Jack Cook
Joan Richardson
Teresa Wilborn
Tiffany Tauchren

Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Joey Leake
Shannon Russell
Mary Moore

John & Ann Sutton
Ruby Martin
Shirley Lane
Ida Whitney
Katherine Turner

Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norma Proctor
Levi Byrd
Foy Bayliff
Dusty Kimrey

Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Pete Campbell
Ben Johnson
Katherine Bayliff
Randy Thompson

Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Mike Sutton
Steward Dillard
Shelvia Russell
Alex Thomas
Bill Abplanalp
Robert Sykes

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:

- The Lily Grant Application is completed and hopefully will be submitted this week. It will be presented to the Session on Tuesday for their endorsement.
- Please see the March newsletter for an extended article about the grant application process.

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

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- **Second Sunday in Lent**
- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Tuesday, the 19th:

- 7:00 - Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, the 20th:

- 12:00 - Lenten Lunch & Learn Series
- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, the 23rd:

- 6:00 - Fish Fry

Sunday, the 24th:

- **Third Sunday in Lent**
- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

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

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love learn serve



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Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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