



Bethany Presbyterian Church

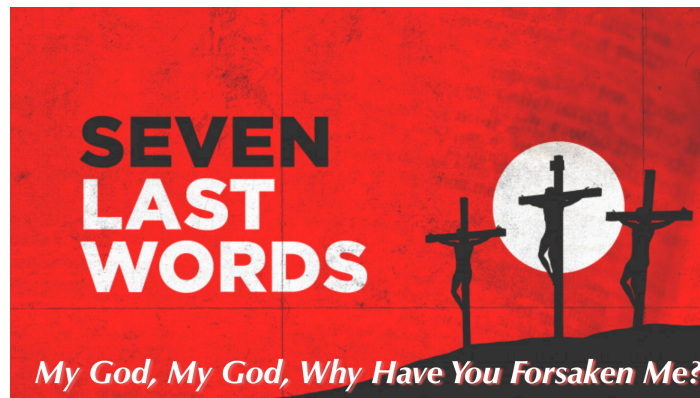
Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

March 31, 2019 – 11:00 am

Fourth Sunday in Lent



“When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o’clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, ‘Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?’ which means, ‘My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?’”
Mark 15:33-34 (NRSV)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Heavenly Father, we praise your name. Let your light shine bright for us as we consider the final words of your son. Make us aware of the effects of bullying, taunting, and violence. Guide us away from these hurtful actions and toward those who are hurting. Give us the confidence to stand up, reach out, and defend those who are the subjects of mob mentality. Amen.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Hear Me, O Lord*

T. DUBOIS

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:** *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

PAUL BALOCHE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Do you feel it? God’s kingdom is beneath our feet.

We live in the new creation shaped by God out of our brokenness.

Do you know it? God’s reconciling love in Christ has shattered our ways of viewing people.

No longer do we label our sisters and brothers, we welcome them with open arms.

Do you believe it? God has made everything, including us, new,

and sends us forth to share this good news with everyone!

* **OPENING HYMN #293:** *This Is My Father’s World*

TERRA BEATA

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:

MARK 15:33-36A

Holy wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1240

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

God of steadfast love and mercy, remind us once again that in Jesus Christ everything has become new. For far too often, things seem as they have always been: old habits die hard, difficult situations linger, failures from our past linger.

We look for your promised newness but cannot see it. Speak to us again of your new creation. Open our eyes to its presence in our lives. Call us forth to claim this newness, that we may be healed and made whole.

O God, when we keep silence about our sin, we waste away with regret and guilt; we feel your hand upon us, and our strength dries up.

And so we acknowledge our sin to you, holding nothing back, for you are a hiding place for us; we trust in you to preserve us. Forgive us and reclaim us.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God rolls away everything that stands in our way - our past, our sin, our pain, our hesitation, and reshapes us into new people living in the new creation. What wonderful grace. We are forgiven!

Broken, we are made whole; lost, we are brought home; empty, we are filled with songs of gladness. We rejoice and give thanks to God who has graced us with mercy. 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: *Grace Greater Than Our Sin*

D. TOWNER

* **THE DOXOLOGY:** *Praise God, from Whom 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.

OLD HUNDREDETH

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

* **HYMN OF THE DAY #272:** *God of the Sparrow*

ROEDER

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: *Ride the Chariot*

SPIRITUAL / ARR. WILLIAM HENRY SMITH

*I'm gonna ride in the chariot in the morning, Lord,
I'm gonna ride in the chariot in the morning, Lord,
I'm getting ready for the judgement day,
My Lord, my Lord.*

*Are you ready my brother? Oh yes.
Are you ready for the journey? Oh yes.
Do you want to see your Jesus? Oh yes.
I'm waitin' for the chariot cause I'm ready to go.*

*Are you ready my sister? Oh yes.
Are you ready for the journey? Oh yes.
Do you want to see your Jesus? Oh yes.
I'm waitin' for the chariot cause I'm ready to go.*

*I never can forget that day, ride,
When all my sins were taken away, ride!
My feet were snatched from the miry clay, ride,
I'll serve my Lord till judgement day, ride!
I'm gonna ride in the chariot to see my Lord!*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: MY GOD, MY GOD WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* **CLOSING HYMN #442:** *The Church's One Foundation*

AURELIA

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

We have been born into a world of sin. We hurt our neighbors, intentionally and unintentionally. We turn away from God. Sin is inescapable.

But so is grace. God calls us to repent and Jesus speaks to us, "Your sins are forgiven." We can let go of our sins and turn back to God, trusting in God's mercy and forgiveness.

As we extinguish this candle, we let go of our sins. We repent for all that we have done or left undone, and allow ourselves to be forgiven, so that we might respond by offering forgiveness to others and gratitude to God.

[A candle is extinguished.]

Faithful God, forgive us for turning away from you and others. As we journey toward the cross this Lenten season, help us to repent of our sin and to forgive others in the same way you have forgiven us. Amen.

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *Look, Ye Saints*

T. CHESTERTON

* *Please 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 (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)
- *The Text This Week* website (www.textweek.com)

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming events as we continue our journey towards Easter:

- **Sunday, April 14th - Passion/Palm Sunday:** Special presentation by our choir, **“Seven Last Words of Christ”** by Theodore Dubois, under the direction of Christopher Bagley
- **Thursday, April 18th - 7:00 pm: Maundy Thursday Communion Service**
- **Sunday, April 25th - EASTER SUNDAY / CELEBRATION OF THE RESURRECTION**

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
Jack Cook

Diane Miller
Peter Slater

John & Ann Sutton
Ruby Martin

Joan Richardson
Teresa Willborn
Tiffany Tauchren
Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norma Proctor
Levi Byrd
Foy Bayliff
Dusty Kimrey

Joey Leake
Shannon Russell
Mary Moore
Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Pete Campbell
Ben Johnson
Katherine Bayliff
Randy Thompson

Shirley Lane
Ida Whitney
Katherine Turner
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 today, March 31st.** Scholarship applications are available in the mailboxes across from the office. Please see Ron Osborne if you have any questions.

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

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Monday, April 1st:

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

Tuesday, the 2nd:

- 7:00 - Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, the 3rd:

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

Sunday, the 7th:

- **Fifth 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

bethany presbyterian

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

Scan this QR code for fast, safe, and reliable online giving:



Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

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