



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

April 7, 2019 – 11:00 am

Fifth Sunday in Lent



"After this, knowing that everything was already completed, in order to fulfill the scripture, Jesus said, 'I am thirsty.'" John 19:28 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Heavenly Father, we sing praise to your name. You have made us rejoice, Lord, by what you have done. We gather in your name, seeking to learn more about you and your precious son, Jesus. Guide us as we consider his final words. Clear our minds and help us to focus on you. Amen.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Via Dolorosa*

G. SEWELL

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 #306:** *Fairest Lord Jesus*

CRUSADER'S HYMN

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Whatever God did in the past, the future is that much better! (even in Jerusalem)

We will not stop looking for the newness God has for us!

Whatever we have achieved to this point, we have not completed our journey. (even into the unknown)

We will quicken our pace to follow Jesus wherever he leads.

Whatever obstacles we put in the path, God will make a way to our hearts. (even in the desert of death)

We will move onward, through our doubts and fears.

* **OPENING HYMN #339:** *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

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:

JOHN 19:28-29

Holy wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1320

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Holy God, you humble our pride, so we might open our hearts to your healing; you restrain our fears, so we might reach for your joy.

Jesus Christ, you gather up our tears and wash away the dust of our despair; you sit at our feet and anoint us with your costly love; you wipe away our sin and make us new.

Holy Spirit, you grace us with gifts so abundant they become a river bursting its banks in our lives.

God in Community, Holy in One, we lift our prayers and our joy. Even now, God makes a way for us to be made whole. God wants to bring us out of despair and to fill our hearts with laughter.

God, whose name is Grace: we confess that all too often we assume we have it made and there is no need to advance in our faith. Because the poor are always with us, we believe we can ignore them. We want Jesus to be with us, but not if it means a lot of struggle and pain.

Forgive us, God of Mercy, and repair our broken lives. You have rearranged the price tags on everything we value, so we might set down all that holds us back, to push ahead in following Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God comes to us to give living water to thirsty people; God comes to us to anoint us with the grace that wipes away our sin; God comes to fill us with joy.

Our tears are turned into rivers of grace; our weeping becomes glad cries of praise. Thanks be to God. 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: *Are Ye Able?*

L. PUGH / H. MASON

OLD HUNDREDETH

* **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.

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*** HYMN OF THE DAY #92:** *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*

ST. CHRISTOPHER

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: TINA PATTERSON

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

ISAAC WATTS / LOWELL MASON / GILBERT MARTIN

*When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God!
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.*

*See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: I AM THIRSTY

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

*** CLOSING HYMN #84:** *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

RATHBUN

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

We live in a world that tells us we never have enough. We are constantly seeking more: more money, bigger houses, newer cars, and the latest technology. Fearing scarcity, we hoard our possessions and store up our own treasures.

We worship money instead of God. When we let go of our wealth and acknowledge that it all belongs to God, we learn to trust and rely on God, who desires that all have enough.

As we extinguish this light, we let go of our wealth. We let go of our constant need for more, the illusion that possessions make us self-sufficient, and admit our need for God.

[A candle is extinguished.]

Creator God, remind us again that the world and all that is in it is yours. Teach us to relax our hold on possessions and to cling to you instead. Help us to use the gifts you've given us wisely, to share them generously, joyfully trusting in your abundance. Amen.

*** CHARGE AND BLESSING**

*** POSTLUDE:** *How Firm a Foundation*

P. L. HARRIS

** 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
- *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
Joan Richardson

Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Joey Leake

John & Ann Sutton
Ruby Martin
Shirley Lane

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

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

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)

The **Session** is reminded of its regular monthly stated meeting on **this Tuesday, April 9th at 7:00 pm**

Elders of the Month for April are **Nancy Purcell** and **Ben Russell**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Monday, April 8th:

- 7:00 - Circle #3

Tuesday, the 9th:

- 7:00 - Session Meeting

Wednesday, the 10th:

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

Sunday, the 14th:

- **Palm/Passion Sunday**
- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship / Choir presentation *Seven Last Words of Christ* by Theodore Dubois

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

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Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

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