



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

April 12, 2026 – 11:00 am

Second Sunday of Easter



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: *Morning Has Broken*

RICHARD BLAKE

WELCOME

***OPENING HYMN #485:** *To God Be the Glory*

FANNY JANE CROSBY

To God be the glory, great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory: great things He hath done.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. **[Refrain]**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

Great is the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

***The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks
be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.***

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

GATHERING PRAYER

(JOHN 20)

Jesus of the Cross, Jesus of the Resurrection, we rejoice in you.

For long before the experience of the cross, you defeated the powers of sin, pain, and death in the hurting people around you. And then *you* were struck down.

But you defeated the cross and stood before your beloved disciples, as you are present today-alive again.

We rejoice in you, Risen Savior, for you open before us your life-giving peace and power.

You are our Lord and our God.

Alleluia! Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11)

***Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.***

***And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death —
even death on a cross.***

***Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.***

*HYMN OF THE DAY #371: *Lift High the Cross*

GEORGE W. KITCHIN

Refrain:

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod,
The Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God. **(Refrain)**

Each newborn servant of the Crucified
Bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died. **(Refrain)**

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
Your death has brought us life eternally. **(Refrain)**

So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory. **(Refrain)**

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Eternal God, your Word teaches us that whether we live or whether we die, we are yours. Forgive us for forgetting your gracious promise of life. We live in fear, thinking death has the final say. We follow our own ways rather than your life-giving path in Jesus Christ. Help us put our trust in you, our God who has the power of life over death. We believe, Lord; help our unbelief. In the name of Jesus Christ, risen from the dead never to die again, we pray. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

The scriptures teach: "If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."

We confess that Jesus is Lord and we believe and celebrate the good news that God raised him from the dead. Trust in this promise: In Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Alleluia!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, we know that all Scripture is inspired by you and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to you may be proficient, equipped for every good work. As we hear the good news this Easter season, may we come to believe more and more that Jesus is the Messiah, your Son and that through believing we may have life in his name. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 16

PEW BIBLE, 673

JOHN 20:19-31

PEW BIBLE, 1321

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Empty Now*

JOSEPH MARTIN

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Believing is Seeing"*

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: *Christ Arose*

LARRY SHAKLEY

***DOXOLOGY #592:** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

THOMAS KEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***BLESSING OUR GIFTS**

***CLOSING HYMN # 121:** *That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright*

LATIN HYMN

That Easter day with joy was bright,
The sun shone out with fairer light,
When, to their longing eyes restored,
The apostles saw their risen Lord.

O Jesus, King of gentleness,
Do all our inmost hearts possess
And we to You will ever raise
The tribute of our grateful praise.

From every weapon death can wield,
Your own redeemed forever shield.
O Lord of all, with us abide
In this our joyful Eastertide.

***SENDING**

Christ is risen!

He is risen, indeed!

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord,
because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with all of you. Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Prelude in Classic Style*

GORDON YOUNG

** Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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

Wednesdays, 10:00am Bethany Exercise Class - Evie C. Marshall Room

Exercise classes will start back after the first of the year on Wednesdays at 10:00am in the Evie C. Marshall classroom. Come join us for fun and fellowship.

Tuesday, May 5th 10:30am The Women of Bethany Church Gathering

The Women of Bethany Church will come together on Tuesday, April 7th at 10:30am. in the Evie C. Marshall classroom.

Tuesday, May 5th Alamance Co. Mobile Library

The Alamance County Public Libraries mobile library will be at Bethany on the first Tuesday of each month. The 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.

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

How can we help S.A.F.E. for during the **month of April**? They are asking for **Soup, and Peanut Butter and Jelly**

S.A.F.E. will be closed the 1st and 5th Saturday of the Month.

Consider donating your paper bags.

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, April 12th - 2nd Sunday of Easter
9:45 – Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream).

Tuesday, April 14th
7:00pm – Session Meeting

Wednesday, April 15th
10:00 – Exercise class
7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Sunday, April 19th - 3rd Sunday of Easter
9:45 – Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream).

Session

Moderator: Rick Purcell, CRE

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2026:

Chip Allen
Jean Payne
Ben Russell

Class of 2027:

Karen Maxwell
Kim Snyder
Brandon Troxler

Class of 2028:

Helen Brown
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Nancy Purcell

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worship serve teach support



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Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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