



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

April 23, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of Easter



*"Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ:
And He shall reign for ever and ever. King of Kings and Lord of Lords."
Revelation 19:6*

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

During the time of Handel, operas and oratorios were the most popular entertainment. Like today's movies and television shows, they charmed audiences with exciting stories of epic heroes who battled overwhelming odds to either their triumph or tragic failure. (The only differences between the two musical forms were that oratorios were usually performed in concert, rather than with acting and scenery, and their stories were usually drawn from the Bible.) Handel's Messiah is unique in that its entire text is taken word-for-word from the Bible. From the very first notes of its Overture, Messiah traces the story of Jesus Christ from the need for a Savior from the fall of man to His triumphant return at the end of days. As one of the most popular musical works ever composed, it is a testament to the conviction of centuries of Christians who have kept this stirring declaration of their faith alive.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *The Risen Savior's Diadem*

W. MOZART

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:** *Christ Is Risen*

W ZLOBIE LEZY

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rejoice, friends, for the Lord has called us here.

We come joyfully, for we have heard the good news of Jesus' resurrection.

Open your spirits to receive all God's blessings.

May God shower blessings upon us so that we may in turn bless God by our service.

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

*** HYMN OF PRAISE #113: *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!***

LLANFAIR

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Generous God, we thank you for your presence with us in all our lives. As we gather this morning we are reminded of the many times we have doubted and feared. Today banish our fears with the memory of the resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. Remind us again that through all our troubles, doubts, and fears, your power, mercy and love are with us.

Even though we have come through the joy of Easter and the triumphant Easter songs, yet we doubt, Lord. Like Thomas who walked the Judean countryside with Jesus, we still have trouble believing in the resurrection of Jesus.

We easily slip back into the darkness of doubts. We move the joy of Easter into the past and continue in a downward path to confusion.

Shine your bright light of joy upon us. Lighten our dark path. Help us to believe, even though we have not seen you, touched your hands and side. Help us to proclaim Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Do not fear, dear friends. Jesus is among us, offering us new life and hope. Nothing can prevent God's love for us. Rejoice, for we have been made new in Christ.

Amen.

*** RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE: *Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!***

TRADITIONAL

Glory, glory, hallelujah! since I laid my burdens down. (Repeat)

I feel better, so much better, since I laid my burdens down. (Repeat)

Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" since I laid my burdens down. (Repeat)

*** SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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 confess our faith. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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 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: *Because He Lives*

*** THE DOXOLOGY (WITH ALLELUIAS)**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

G. & W. GAITHER
LASST UNS ERFREUEN

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE IN MUSIC

HANDEL'S MESSIAH GEORGE FREDERIC HANDEL (1695-1759)

PART II

Behold the lamb of God (John 1:29)

Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sins of the world.

He was despised (Isaiah 53:3)

*He was despised and rejected of men: a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.
[He] gave [His] back to the smiters, and [His] cheeks to them that plucked off the hair:
[He] hid not [His] face from shame and spitting.*

Surely He hath borne our griefs (Isaiah 53:4,5)

*Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows.
He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities:
the chastisement of our peace was upon him.*

And with His stripes we are healed (Isaiah 53:5b)

And with His stripes we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray (Isaiah 53:6)

*All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way;
And the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*

All they that see him laugh him to scorn (Psalm 22:7)

*All they that see [him] laugh [him] to scorn: they shoot out their lips,
they shake their heads, saying:*

He trusted in God (Psalm 22:8, Matthew 27:43)

He trusted [in God] that he would deliver him:
let him deliver him, if he delight in him.

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart (Psalm 69:20)

[Thy] rebuke hath broken [his] heart; [He is] full of heaviness.
[He] looked for some to have pity [on Him], but there was none;
neither found [He] any to comfort [Him].

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow (Lamentations 1:12)

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto [His] sorrow . . .

He was cut off out of the land of the living (Isaiah 53:8b)

He was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of [Thy] people was He stricken.

But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell (Psalm 16:10, Acts 2:27)

[But] thou [didst] not leave [his] soul in hell;
neither [didst] thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates (Psalm 24:7-10)

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors;
and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory?
The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle.
Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lifted up, ye everlasting doors;
and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is the King of Glory?
The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

How beautiful are the feet (Romans 10:15, Isaiah 52:7)

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace,
and bring glad tidings of good things!

Why do the nations so furiously rage together? (Psalm 2:1,2; Acts 4:25-26)

Why do the heathen rage, and why do the people imagine a vain thing?
The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together
against the Lord, and against His Anointed.

Let us break their bonds asunder (Psalm 2:3)

Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us.

Hallelujah (Revelation 19:6)

Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.
The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ:
And He shall reign for ever and ever.
KING OF KINGS, LORD OF LORDS

LEAVING TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME

A PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

* **CLOSING HYMN #118:** *The Day of Resurrection!*

LANCASHIRE

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *Day of Victory*

G. DAVIDSON

* *Those who are able may 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. Whether you are a member or a visitor 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).

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, or at www.buzzsprout.com/9198.

Our Easter observance continues on **this morning**, as our choir and musicians will present Part II of **Handel's Messiah**. Please express your gratitude to all our musicians for this gift to our church and community.

On the last Sunday in January we marked the **Kickoff of our 125th Anniversary Celebration**. Our theme scripture passage for the celebration is Isaiah 40:28-31, **Growing Stronger – Growing Deeper – Reaching Higher**. Mark your calendars for our other celebration events:

- **Sunday, May 28th** – **Rev. Norman Whitney**, preaching / Luncheon following worship
- **Saturday, September 23rd** – Concert by renowned artist, **David LaMotte** (www.davidlamotte.com)
- **Sunday, September 24th** – Culmination of anniversary celebration / **Rev. J. Herbert Nelson**, preaching (Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (USA) / **David LaMotte** providing music / Anniversary luncheon following worship

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.

To the parents of young children: Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel that you must suppress those wiggles in God's house. **Please note that a professionally staffed nursery is available during the worship hour.** Here are some hints to make worship with your children more rewarding:

- Consider sitting towards the front where it is easier for little ones to engage. On the second pew nearest the choir loft, there are activities for children of all ages to keep busy with during the service.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, musicians, and leaders.

- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me!"
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.
- **To adult worshippers:** The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our church is growing! Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Jean Payne and Sherrie Moore)

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

Bill Faucette	Diane Miller	John & Ann Sutton
Faye Campbell	Jack Cook	Peter Slater
Frances Nolan	Polly & Dick Wilson	Joey Leake
Layla Benoklen	Teresa Wilborn	Shannon Russell
Ida Whitney	Tiffany Tauchren	Mary Moore
Rachel Poteat	Jean Berry	Barbara Cousins
Jeremy Harden	Christy Lutterloh	Pat Kennedy
Anne McDaniels	Eleanor Thompson	Harold Baldwin
Mike Sutton	Nancy Sutton	Duffy Strigo
Steward Dillard	Infant Sadie Ruth Majors	Norma Proctor
Donna Mitchell-Ayers	Ben Johnson	Gloria Carden Woods
	Family of Sandy Cook	

Each week **Salem Presbytery** lists churches and other ministries that we are to lift up in prayer that week. A complete list can be viewed online at the presbytery website: www.salempresbytery.org. On the prayer list for this week are: **Flat Rock Presbyterian, Mt. Airy; UKirk Campus Ministry, Greensboro; Trinity, Elon**. Please keep these churches and ministries in your prayers this week.

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Brandon Troxler and Karen Maxwell)

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.

Young at Heart Class (Young at Heart Classroom – across from pastor's office)

Using the *Uniform Series*, this class engages in lively discussions pertaining to the biblically based curriculum. The class is taught by a very capable team of teachers.

Seeker's Class (Church Office)

The Seeker's Class is currently looking at the *Nooma* video series, created by author Rob Bell.

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.

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Ron Kimrey, and Glenn Patterson)

Elders of the Month for April are **Sherrie Moore and Ron Osborne.**

The congregation has been mailed a letter soliciting donations for replacement of our 40-some-year-old boiler! We are hoping that it will make it through the winter, so this work can be completed in the spring. Please see Ron Kimrey if you have any questions. And thanks in advance for your generosity.

The **Scholarship Committee** reminds those interested that now is the time for applications to receive scholarships for college/graduate school. Applications can be obtained from the church office, and **the deadline for applying is next Sunday, April 30th.** Please see Ron Osborne if you have any questions.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship / choir presentation of Part II of Handel's *Messiah*

Wednesday, the 26th:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 30th:

- **5th Sundays @ Bethany**
- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship /

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2017:

Ron Kimrey
Karen Maxwell
Sherrie Moore

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson
Nancy Purcell
Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell
Ron Osborne
Jean Payne

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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