



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian)

April 26, 2020 – 11:00 am

*Third Sunday of Easter*



*“So he went in to stay with them. After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight.”*

Luke 24:29b-31 (CEB)

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Lord Jesus, your rising from the tomb heralds the dawning of life eternal as the dawning of this day holds the possibilities of life anew. Open our eyes to the signs of your resurrection and confirm in our heart the power of your amazing love, that we may with confidence sing “Alleluia.” Amen. - Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1: Advent through Pentecost (p. 147). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition (adapted)*

### PRELUDE:

### 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.)*

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

As you walk *with* us, as we journey together,

***Lord, your word fills our hearts!***

As you speak with us, as your love is revealed,

***Lord, your fire burns in our hearts!***

As we proclaim what we have seen and heard,

***May all people be drawn to you, the risen Lord!***

\* **OPENING HYMN: Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters**

BEACH SPRING

*Wash, O God, your sons and daughters, newborn creatures of your womb.  
Number them among your people, raised like Christ from death and tomb.  
Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.  
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.  
Every day we need your nurture; by your milk may we be fed.  
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.  
God, renew us; guide our footsteps, free from sin and all its snares,  
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.  
O how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!  
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!  
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.  
By your grace, our lives we offer. Re-create us; God, transform!*

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

**LUKE 24:13-35**

Holy wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1287

#### AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Loving God, come and speak to our hearts today. May we, like those on the Emmaus Road, find your words burning with hope in our lives. Strengthen us and give us courage for the journey ahead.

***Lord, you are so patient with us. You brought us through Easter when we rejoiced at the news of the resurrection of your Son our Savior. You were with us in the upper room when we remained hidden out of our fears, sharing with Thomas our doubts and anxieties.***

Now you come to us on the road. You come to us in our everyday lives, moving out of this pristine setting of worship into the work world. But we aren't always ready for you and don't always see you or feel your presence.

***We let so many things crowd in on our lives and these intrusions blot out our awareness of your presence. Forgive our blindness and our stubbornness. Help us keep our hearts open to you, to see and tell the good things you have done in our lives.***

#### AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

#### AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Even though we have not seen Jesus, we have assurance of his presence and his love for us.

***The promises of God are always true. God is with us, in the resurrection of Jesus, in our journeys, in our lives. Praise be to God. Amen.***

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

EXCERPTED FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH

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. To whom do we belong?

***In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.***

In whom do we trust?

***We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for***

*the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.*

In what do we rejoice?

*With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.*

#### **AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES**

##### **\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\* HYMN OF THE DAY #460:** *Holy God, We Praise Your Name*

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

#### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.*

## **LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE**

#### **THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

Sermon: *The Unexpected Host*

REV. JOHNSON

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE**

**\* CLOSING HYMN #341:** *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!*

ASSURANCE

#### **\* SENDING**

Go forth in the love of God.

***Lord, your word fills our hearts!***

Go forth in the grace of Jesus Christ.

***Lord, your fire burns in our hearts!***

Go forth in the peace of the Spirit.

***May all people be drawn to you, the risen Lord!***

#### **\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

---

*\* 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 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](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org); on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian); or on Twitter by following [@bpresbyterian](https://twitter.com/bpresbyterian).

Obviously, due to the ongoing health crisis surrounding the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, we are not worshipping in person at this point in time, but rather gathering virtually using the Zoom meeting platform. Each week the congregation will be emailed a link by which everyone can join the meeting using their computer, laptop, smartphone, or tablet. John will lead worship in this manner, and congregants are invited to participate as they are able. For those who are unable to connect via Zoom, we are also hoping to be on Facebook Live as well. We are still trying to work out some glitches in that.

For those unable to get the link via email, it will also be on our Facebook page, and on our website.

**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](http://www.buzzsprout.com/9198). A **Video Recording** of our Zoom worship will be available on our Facebook page and on our website.

Resources used in today's worship:

- *Feasting on the Word* worship resources
- *Ministry Matters* website ([www.ministrymatters.com](http://www.ministrymatters.com))

**SERVE Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Randy Cousins and Tina Patterson)

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  
Jean Berry  
Christy Lutterloh  
Eleanor Thompson  
Nancy Sutton  
Norma Proctor  
Katherine Bayliff  
Randy Thompson  
Frederica Beatty  
Christopher Bagley

Diane Miller  
Peter Slater  
Joey Leake  
Shannon Russell  
Mary Moore  
Barbara Cousins  
Pat Kennedy  
Donna Mitchell-Ayers  
Pete Campbell  
Ben Johnson  
Alex Thomas  
Glenn Thompson  
Carol Brooks  
Lou Crutchfield  
Jean Payne

John & Ann Sutton  
Ruby Martin  
Shirley Lane  
Ida Whitney  
Katherine Turner  
Jeremy Harden  
Anne McDaniels  
Mike Sutton  
Steward Dillard  
Shelvia Russell  
Family of Foy Bayliff  
Ritchie Fishburne  
Janie Holt Clapp  
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. (Classes will resume when we return to having church in person!)

**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.

**SUPPORT Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Chip Allen, Ben Russell, and Bill Abplanalp)

Elders of the Month for April are **Ben Russell** and **Tracey Troxler**.

**This Week's Calendar:**

Today:

- 11:00 – Worship Online

Wednesday, the 29th:

- 7:00 – Choir Practice (not meeting)

Sunday, the 3<sup>rd</sup>:

- 11:00 – Worship Online

**Session**

**Moderator:** Rev. John W. Johnson

**Clerk:** Karen Maxwell

**Treasurer:** Glenn Patterson

**Class of 2020:**

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Karen Maxwell

**Class of 2021:**

Nancy Purcell

Ben Russell

Tracey Troxler

**Class of 2022:**

Bill Abplanalp

Helen Brown

Tina Patterson

**bethany presbyterian**

love learn serve



**1500 S. Main Street**

**Graham, NC 27215**

**[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)**

**336.227.4041**

**Staff**

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – [pastor@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:pastor@bethanypreschurch.org)

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – [music@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:music@bethanypreschurch.org)

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – [office@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:office@bethanypreschurch.org)

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – [finance@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:finance@bethanypreschurch.org)

*Elder Emeritus:* Bobby Peele

*Elder Emeritus:* Don Boggs

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



*Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*

**PLEASE RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN IN THE BASKETS PROVIDED AT THE DOORS.**