



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

May 10, 2026 – 11:00 am

Sixth 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: *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

ARR. DAN MILLER

WELCOME

***OPENING HYMN #457:** *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art*

JOHN CALVIN

I greet Thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
My only trust and Savior of my heart,
Who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray Thee from our hearts all cares to take.

Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
Reigning omnipotent in every place:
So come, O King, and our whole being sway;
Shine on us with the light of Thy pure day.

Thou art the life, by which alone we live,
And all our substance and our strength receive;

Sustain us by Thy faith and by Thy power,
And give us strength in every trying hour.

Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness,
No harshness hast Thou and no bitterness;
O grant to us the grace we find in Thee,
That we may dwell in perfect unity.

Our hope is in no other save in Thee;
Our faith is built upon Thy promise free;
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,
That in Thy strength we evermore endure.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

We gather to celebrate the God of wonder and majesty!

Awesome God, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth.

We gather to celebrate Jesus Christ, who was dead and buried, and now risen indeed!

Jesus, renew our hope in your great power and love.

We gather to celebrate the Holy Spirit, our promised comforter and guide!

Come Holy Spirit! Fill us with your presence and peace.

We gather to celebrate the ancient hope of Christians:

God is with us and will never let us go.

GATHERING PRAYER

(PSALM 66, PETER 3, JOHN 14)

Holy flame, burn away our fears and regrets, that our spirits may shine like burnished gold.
Refiner's Fire, purify our lives like precious silver, that our hearts may glow with holy love.
Forge of truth, mold us into vessels of compassion, that our lives may reveal your glory. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(APOSTLE CREED)

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*HYMN OF THE DAY #376: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

CHARLES WESLEY

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!

Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find the promised rest;
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

(ROMANS 5:8; HEBREWS 4:16)

Ever-present God, we come before you knowing we have ignored your promised Holy Spirit living within us. Therefore, we forfeit peace and bear needless worry. We become confused and deaf to your voice of truth. We struggle with obedience to your Word and fight an overwhelming sense of loneliness. Forgive us! Help us to remember that we are never alone, that you are with us and for us, by the power of your Spirit abiding in us, the Spirit of Jesus the Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

(ROMANS 8:31-32)

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Believe the good news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come Holy Spirit! As the Scriptures are read and the Word proclaimed, bear witness to the truth in our hearts and minds, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 66:8-20

PEW BIBLE, 713

JOHN 14:15-21

PEW BIBLE, 1313

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *The Gift of Love*

HAL HOPSON

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"The Paraclete"*

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: *Holy Spirit Divine*

ARR. PEDERSON

***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 # 322:** *Spirit of the Living God*

DANIEL IVERSON

Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me.
Spirit of the Living God,
Fall afresh on me.

***SENDING**

POSTLUDE: *Festive Trumpet Tune*

DAVID GERMAN

** 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 12th 10:30am The Women of Bethany Church Gathering

The Women of Bethany Church will come together on Tuesday, May 12th at 10:30am. in the Evie C. Marshall classroom.

Tuesday, June 2nd 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 May**? 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, May 10th - 6th Sunday of Easter
9:45 – Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream).

Tuesday, May 12th 7:00pm Session Meeting

Wednesday, May 13th
10:00 – Exercise class
7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Sunday, May 17th - 7th 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

bethany presbyterian 
worship serve teach support

1500 S. Main Street
Graham, NC 27253
www.bethanypreschurch.org
336.227.4041

Staff

Pastor/CRE: Rick Purcell – pastor4bethany@gmail.com

Director of Music: – bethanypresmusic@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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