



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

May 22 2022 – 11:00 am

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Presbyterian Heritage Sunday



I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers. I'm thankful for all of you every time I pray, and it's always a prayer full of joy. I'm glad because of the way you have been my partners in the ministry of the gospel from the time you first believed it until now.

Philippians 1:3-5 (CEB)

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! This morning we commemorate our Presbyterian Heritage, thus some of our liturgy is from the 1906 Book of Common Worship. Please note that you will hear some of the gender exclusive and anachronistic language used in worship by our ancestors in faith that we no longer ordinarily use in worship.

PRELUDE: *Highland Cathedral*

DAVID THOMAS - BAGPIPES

ULRICH ROEVER / MICHAEL KORB

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING SENTENCES

Blessed is God, who hears our prayers,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

Ps. 66:20

***+PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, who of Thy great mercy hast gathered us into Thy visible Church; Grant that we may not swerve from the purity of Thy worship; but so honour Thee, both in spirit and in outward form, that Thy Name may be glorified in us, and we may be true members of Thine only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN #263: *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

WALTER C. SMITH

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above
Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish; but naught changeth Thee.

Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest in light,
Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;
All praise we would render; O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

LITANY FOR EASTER

Our Eastertide litany will be spoken with a sung congregational response:

HYMN 591 *"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!" (Glory to God)*

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SUNG RESPONSE: *Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

This is the good news which we have received,
in which we stand, and by which we are saved:

SUNG RESPONSE: *Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

That Christ died for our sins, and was buried,
and rose again on the third day.

SUNG RESPONSE: *Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

He appeared to Mary, and to Peter, and to the twelve,
and to many faithful witnesses.

SUNG RESPONSE: *Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

At last he came to us, that we might believe
and proclaim this good news to the world.

SUNG RESPONSE: *Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*

pause

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Grant us so to die daily to sin, that we may live with him in the joy of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

HYMN 591 *"Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!" (Glory to God)*

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God Most High, reigning in glory,
send down your Spirit of wisdom
to shine in your heavenly Word,
so that we may worship you with joy,
continually blessing your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

+Hear the Holy Scripture as it is written in such a chapter of such a book.

LUKE 9:46-48

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1261

PHILIPPIANS 1:1-18A

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 1429

+The Lord bless to us the reading of His Holy Word.

+TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves, confessing our societal sins using the words of our ancestors in faith:

Lord God Almighty, defend our land, we beseech Thee, from the secret power and the open shame of great national sins. From all dishonesty and civic corruption; from all vainglory and selfish luxury; from all cruelty and the spirit of violence; from covetousness which is idolatry; from impurity which defiles the temple of the Holy Spirit; and from intemperance which is the mother of many crimes and sorrows; good Lord, deliver and save us, and our children, and our children's children, in the land which Thou hast blessed with the light of pure religion; through Jesus Christ, our only Saviour and King. Amen.

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

+AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. Hear the gracious words of our Lord Jesus Christ unto all that truly repent and turn to Him: Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. *Amen.*

*RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: *He is Lord*

STEVE VEST

He is Lord, He is Lord!
He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!
Ev'ry knee shall bow, ev'ry tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

+BLESSING OUR GIFTS

O God, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have all received; We beseech Thee to accept this Offering of Thy people. Remember in Thy love those who have brought it, and those for whom it is given; and so follow it with Thy blessing that it may promote peace and good-will among men, and advance the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*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.

*HYMN OF THE DAY #298: *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

FREDERICK W. FABER

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice,
Which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
Are more felt than up in heaven;
There is no place where earth's failings
Have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measures of the mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
We would gladly trust God's word;
And our lives reflect thanksgiving
For the goodness of our Lord.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Amazing Grace*

DAVID THOMAS - BAGPIPES

JOHN NEWTON

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Proclaiming in Every Possible Way"*

REV. PHILLIPS

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

+THE 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.

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Does its successive journeys run,
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And praises throng to crown His head;
His name, like sweet perfume shall rise
With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song,
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns;
The prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blessed.

Let every creature rise and bring
Peculiar honors to our King;
Angels descend with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen!

***+SENDING**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE: *How Great Thou Art*

DAVID THOMAS - BAGPIPES

STUART K. HINE

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

+ Denotes language from the 1906 Book of Common Worship

Hymn Story

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

The author of this hymn, Frederick William Faber, was raised as a Huguenot, but went to Oxford and was ordained as an Anglican priest in 1837. He then came to know John Henry Newman, the famous Catholic priest (and later Cardinal). Under Newman's influence, Faber was re-baptized and re-ordained as a Catholic priest.

Faber was an admirer of good poetry, and became good friends with the poet, William Wordsworth. The two of them would often take long walks together in the mountains.

Knowing the power of hymns in the Protestant tradition, Faber wanted to make hymn-singing more important in the Catholic tradition. He wrote a number of hymns, of which this and "Faith of Our Fathers" are the best known today.

"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" celebrates the wideness of God's mercy—"like the wideness of the sea." It celebrates God's welcome for the sinner and the "good" person alike. It reminds us that "the love of God is broader than the measure of our mind"—and therefore encourages us to broaden the measure of our own love so that it might be more like God's love. And, finally, it calls us to "rest upon God's word" so that "our lives (might be) illumined by the presence of our Lord."



Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Helen Brown and Karen Maxwell)

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; 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.**

A Note About the Offering: As we have returned to worship as the pandemic has been becoming less and less a threat, we have continued the practice of not passing the offering plates at the time of the offering during our service, thus decreasing the threat of spreading germs. Instead, you are invited to make your contribution in one of four ways: drop it in the offering plate that is located at the narthex door (before worship) and in the narthex (following worship); mail it in to the church; drop it off at the church in person; or, use our quick and secure online giving platform. This can be accessed through our website, or by scanning the QR code on the last page of this bulletin. Thanks for your generosity and cooperation.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Tina Patterson and Kim Snyder)

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

Bethany Members

Christopher Bagley
Sylvia Donley
Pat Kennedy
Joyce & Norman Mize
Nancy Sutton

Katherine Bayliff
Henry Flythe
Ruby Martin
Shelvia Russell
Robert Sykes

Family of Barbara Cousins
Judy & Darrell Holmes
Laura Mitchell-Ayers
Mike Sutton
Ida Whitney

Friends of Bethany

Carol Brooks
Bill Faucette
Grace Johnson
Anne McDaniels
Shannon Russell
Tiffany Tauchren
Teresa Wilborn
Frank Wrenn

Janie Holt Clapp
Family of Gwyn Ingle
Christy Lutterloh
Diane Miller
Peter Slater
Alex Thomas
Deborah & Larry
Barbara Smith

Jack Cook
Ben Johnson
Gaynell McCollum
Norma Proctor
Ann Sutton
Randy Thompson
Cindy Uzzo
Don Burenhiede

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Tracey Troxler and Shelby Smith)

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.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

Sunday, May 22nd :- Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (will return soon)
- 11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, May 25th

- 6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, May 29th – Ascension Sunday

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (will return soon)
- 11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

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Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

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Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp
Helen Brown
Tina Patterson

Class of 2023:

Chip Allen
Randy Cousins
Shelby Smith

Class of 2024:

Karen Maxwell
Kim Snyder
Tracey Troxler

Staff

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Jon Phillips – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org

Chaplain: Rick Purcell – chaplain@bethanypreschurch.org

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – music@bethanypreschurch.org

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – admin@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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