



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

May 24, 2026 – 11:00 am

Pentecost



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: *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

SPIRITUAL; ARR BY JOHN INNES

WELCOME

***OPENING HYMN #326:** *Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

GEORGE CROLY

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
Wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art,
And make me love Thee as I ought to love.

Hast Thou not bid us love Thee, God and King;
All, all Thine own: soul, heart, and strength and mind?
I see Thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek Thee, and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that Thou art always nigh;
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,

To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love Thee as Thine angels love,
One holy passion filling all my frame;
The baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
My heart an altar, and Thy love the flame.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

(BASED ON ACTS 2:1-4)

All together in one place;
they heard the rush of a violent wind;
it filled the entire house.
Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared and rested on each of them;
they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

GATHERING PRAYER

(ACTS 1, 1 CORINTHIANS 12)

Holy Spirit, power of God, come and fill us with your strength.
May your Spirit touch each of us.
Gather us with our different gifts into one community.
Give us eyes to see your work.
May the winds of the Spirit blow away our fears, and fill us with power.
Open our hearts, that we may welcome everyone. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(FROM A BRIEF STATEMENT OF FAITH)

***In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"
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 be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

*HYMN OF THE DAY #315: *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

Refrain

Every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit moving in my heart I will pray.

Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke,
Out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.
Looked all around me, it looked so fine,
Till I asked my Lord if all was mine. **(Refrain)**

Jordan river, chilly and cold,
It chills the body but not the soul.
There is but one train upon this track;
It runs to heaven and then right back. **(Refrain)**

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Spirit of the Living God, we hesitate and doubt. You call us to act boldly, but fear keeps us quiet and circling. We confess our lack of courage, splintered by uncertainty and second-guessing. Forgive us for all the times we shrink from your call. Embolden us to dream beyond what we know and imagine the world as beloved community. Let your Spirit fill us, prodding us beyond inertia. Grant that we might be Christ's body, not in fits and starts but with steady conviction. Guided by your Holy Spirit, help us be active participants in ushering in your peaceable kin-dom. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

(ACTS 2:21)

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open our hearts and minds by the power of your Spirit, Holy God, that we might hear and receive the message you intend for us today. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 104:24-34, 35B

PEW BIBLE, 746

JOHN 20:19-23

PEW BIBLE, 1321

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Jesus, Teach Me*

VICKI TUCKER COURTNEY

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Action"*

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: *Ascending With Angels*

DAVIS NEVUE

***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 # 316:** *Breathe on Me Breath of God*

EDWIN HATCH

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Fill me with life anew,
That I may love what Thou dost love,
And do what Thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Until my heart is pure,
Until with Thee I will one will,
To do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
Till I am wholly Thine,
Until this earthly part of me
Glow with Thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
So shall I never die,
But live with Thee the perfect life
Of Thine eternity.

***CHORAL RESPONSE:** *God's Gonna Set This World on Fire*

MOSES HOGAN

***SENDING**

POSTLUDE: *Prelude in F*

J.S. BACH

** 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, June 2nd 10:30am The Women of Bethany Church Gathering

The Women of Bethany Church will come together on Tuesday, June 2nd 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 in most need of:

Canned Meats

Rice

Pasta

Soup

Spaghetti sauce

Spaghetti noodles

Peanut Butter and Jelly

Pet Food

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 24th - Pentecost
9:45 – Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream).

Monday, May 25th Memorial Day - Church Office closed

Wednesday, May 27th
10:00 – Exercise class
7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Sunday, May 31st - Trinity Sunday
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

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.