



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

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May 26, 2024 – 11:00 am

Trinity Sunday



"Detail of the Dogmatic Sarcophagus,"
c. 320-350 CE, Vatican Museum.
The earliest known depiction of the Trinity creating Eve.

Jesus told them, "When you pray, say:

'Father, uphold the holiness of your name.

Bring in your kingdom.

Give us the bread we need for today.

Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who has wronged us.

And don't lead us into temptation.'"

Luke 11:2-4 (COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE)

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! Parts of today's liturgy are from Ruth Burgess, Fire and Bread: Resources for Easter Day to Trinity Sunday, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2006), and LiturgyLink, <https://www.liturgylink.net>.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Lord of Hope*

HUGH S. LIVINGSTON, JR.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN #138:** *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

REGINALD HEBER

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore Thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinfulness Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy Name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

***OPENING SENTENCES**

"THREE IN ONE," JUDY DINNEN

God of the Trinity, bless us.

God of space, sea and sky,
of cloud, sun and rainbow,
of oak, leaf and acorn,
of candle, flame and wax,
of handshake, smile, embrace,
of storm, flood and rainbow,
of journey, pause and destination,
of spring, river and ocean,
of pebble, rock and cliff face,
of mirror, reflection and mystery,
of flower, petal and stamen,
of dance, song and merriment,

of country, continent and borders,
of gold, diamond and cobalt,
of industry, office and school,
of sleep, dream and rest,
of butterscotch, honey and meringue,
of word, sentence and praise,
of yarn, stitch and tapestry,
of pollen, honey and mead,
of head, arm and heart,
of computer, spreadsheet and Twitter,
of moment, days and eternity.

God of the Trinity, bless us.

GATHERING PRAYER

"PRAYER OF APPROACH FOR TRINITY SUNDAY," JAN BERRY

***God, who has made our world with its beauty and wonder,
full of delights for us to explore,
grant us wisdom to live gently on the earth,
holding sacred the air and water, soil and sun.***

***God, who has called human beings your children,
made to share in the work of creation,
grant us wisdom to live in harmony with one another,
holding sacred your image in everyone.***

***God, whose Spirit dwells within us,
giving us power to live in your name,
grant us wisdom to discern your presence,
holding sacred the glory of love in the everyday. Amen.***

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

PASS THE PEACE

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"A GLIMPSE OF JOYOUS LIFE," ANDY JAMES

Most Holy Mystery,
open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts
as your scripture is read and your Word proclaimed,
that we might gain a glimpse of your joyous life
and join the dance of Father, Spirit, and Son
now and always. *Amen.*

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

HOSEA 11:1-4

PEW BIBLE, 1100

LUKE 11:2-4

PEW BIBLE, 1263

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF OUR PLEDGES

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #428:** *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

WILLIAM WALSHAM HOW

We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

*BLESSING OUR GIFTS

***HYMN OF THE DAY #140** *Holy, Holy*

JIMMY OWENS

Holy, holy, holy, holy, Holy, holy,
Lord God Almighty;
And we lift our hearts before You as a token of our love,
Holy, holy, holy, holy.

Gracious Father, gracious Father,
We're so blest to be Your children, gracious Father;
And we lift our heads before You as a token of our love,
Gracious Father, gracious Father.

Precious Jesus, precious Jesus,
We're so glad that You've redeemed us, precious Jesus;
And we lift our hands before You as a token of our love,
Precious Jesus, precious Jesus.

Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit,
Come and fill our hearts anew, Holy Spirit;
And we lift our voice before You as a token of our love,
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit.

Let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves.

O God, you call us to sing your song anew, yet we confess that sometimes we don't feel much like singing. Sometimes we just want to sing of the past. Other times we ignore the witness of your people singing out through the ages. Forgive us when we trap your good news in our preferred language, when we insist that your grace must be known through our approved tunes, when we limit your story to the good old days. Forgive us when our lips are sealed in protest or in fear. Forgive us when we keep our voices low and our feet firmly planted, refusing to join you in the song and dance of holy life. Open our lips, O God, that we may proclaim your praise.

Silence

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

"TRINITY OF GRACE," SIMON TAYLOR

Gracious God,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you created us in love
and hold this world forever within your care.

Trinity of grace:
we put our trust in you.

Parent God,
you speak to us with words of mercy and kindness,
words that we can build our lives upon.
you.

Your power would make us tremble
if we did not know that you are love.

Trinity of grace:
we put our trust in you.

You have drawn near to us in Jesus, Son of God;
he has come to be our light and our hope.
in Jesus, we know forgiveness of our sin
and a peace that no other can give.

Trinity of grace:
we put our trust in you.

And by the Holy Spirit you still come to us today,
giving life, inspiring justice, bringing reconciliation;
the breath of creation here with us now,
the nearness of God to give us courage and comfort.

Trinity of grace:
we put our trust in you.

Gracious God,
you promise that you will never leave us or forsake us
And that in all times and in all places we can look to

Nothing in life or death, on earth or in heaven
can take away the love that you have shown us
in Christ Jesus.

Trinity of Grace:
we put our trust in you.

Know that you are enough,
you are forgiven,
And you are loved.

Thanks be to God!
Amen.

***RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE #372:** *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.
In-a my heart, in-a my heart,
Lord, I want to be a Christian in-a my heart.
responding to god's word

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Changed*

LINDA L. JOHNSON/TOM FETKE

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"The Father"*

REV. PHILLIPS

LITANY FOR TRINITY SUNDAY

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
Glory to you forever!

Speaker, Word, and Breath of Life:
Glory to you forever!

Font of Blessing, Living Water, Flowing River:
Glory to you forever!

Compassionate Mother, Beloved Child, Life-Giving Womb:
Glory to you forever!

Sun, Light, and Burning Ray:
Glory to you forever!

Giver, Gift, and Giving:
Glory to you forever!

Lover, Beloved, and Love itself:
Glory to you forever!

Rock, Cornerstone, and Temple:
Glory to you forever!

Consuming Fire, Dividing Sword,
Overpowering Storm:
Glory to you forever!

Rainbow of Promise, Ark of Salvation,
Dove of Peace:
Glory to you forever!

God who was, God who is, God who is to come:
Glory to you forever!

Almighty and ever-living God,
you have given us grace, by our confession of faith,
to acknowledge and worship your triune name
in the majesty of your unity.
Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship,
and bring us at last to see you in your eternal glory,
one God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

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.***

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES

LITANY FOR OUR GRADUATES

"LITANY AND PRAYER FOR OUR GRADUATES," JOHN BALLENGER

You have grown up here on the stories of God.
We have told them to you, sung them to you,
acted them out – hoping to teach them to you,
and, in turn, with gratitude, listened to you tell
them to us, singing them, acting them out –
teaching us in the process.

*We have tried to live them – as best we could –
confessing our failures – confessing too, our
encourage
assurance that it is far better to have tried to live
you
these stories and fallen short of their fullness,
than to have given up on the possibilities within
them and never tried to live them at all.*

*We have prayed for you more than you know –
both in frequency and in urgency. Amidst our
love,
prayers, we give thanks for you continually.
And today, we celebrate your achievement
with pride in what you've done...
and in who we see you becoming.*

These are the stories we pray you remember, reread, rethink, and choose –
Choose to live toward – choose to live into.

We have no more important gift to offer you.

These are the stories we pray you come to deem worth your own selves.

This we pray today, and through the years to come, Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GRADUATES

CHARGE FOR OUR GRADUATES

"PRAYER FOR SCHOOL LEAVERS," SALLY FOSTER-FULTON

Today, as you take yet another step on your
journey, we want you to know that our love
and admiration and prayers surround you.

*We offer our hands to hold yours, our hearts
to cheer yours, and our feet to join you when
you need us to walk with you.*

*We send prayers aloft that your lives will not
offer what you expect exactly,
but that life will continually surprise you.*

*We pray that you will be used by the God who
created you, led by the Christ who teaches you,
and challenged by the Spirit who leads you on.*

PRAYER FOR OUR GRADUATES

Eternal God,
in your will our lives are lived,
and by your wisdom truth is found.
We pray for graduates who finish a course of study,
and move on to something new.
Take away anxiety or confusion of purpose,
and give them confidence in the future you plan,

where energies may be gathered up
and given to neighbors in love;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN #379:** *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

EDWARD MOTE

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid Rock I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. **(Refrain)**

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne. **(Refrain)**

***SENDING**

"A BLESSING FOR TRINITY SUNDAY," SIMON TAYLOR

May the eyes of the seeing Father watch over us
and keep us and ours ever in his gaze.

May the arms of the loving Savior hold us close
and surround each moment of our lives with his care.

May the wings of the living Spirit shelter each of us
and enfold all of our days and our nights with God's peace.
Amen.

POSTLUDE: *To God Be the Glory*

EDWARD BROUGHTON/TUNE: BY WILLIAM H. DOANE

** Please stand in body or spirit.*



2024 Graduation List

April Troxler

Graduated May 24, 2024 from Elon University with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Design and a Minor in Art. She was inducted (now a member) of the National Residence Hall Honorary.



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Tuesday, May 28th Alamance Co. Mobile Library

The Alamance County Public Libraries 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

Saturday, June 8th Women of the Church Yard Sale

The Women of the Church Yard Sale will be in the church Fellowship Hall from 7:00am-1:00pm. Donation of items for the yard sale may be brought to the church from 9:00am-12:00 noon Monday - Friday or by calling the office to make arrangements for other drop-off times. Please leave items on the front two tables.

The Men of the Church will be serving Hot Dogs 9:00am-1:00pm.

S.A.F.E. (Southern Alamance Family Empowerment)

S.A.F.E.'s donation request for May is Peanut and Jelly. If you have extra plastic and paper bags, please consider donating them.

Save the Date

Saturday, July 13th Vacation Bible School
Saturday, October 26th Fall Festival

Invitation To Scout Summer Program

All youth ages 5-11 years old are invited to attend our Scout Summer Program.

- June 15th Hike at Lake Michael
- June 26th Science STEM Slam
- July 20th Hike at Jaycee Trail Reidsville
- Aug 17th Hike at Bur-Mil Park Greensboro
- August End of Summer Pool Party

For more information contact:

Jeff Benes

Committee Chair Cub Pack 9

(336) 675-9086 cell

benes.nc@att.net

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, May 26th Trinity Sunday & Celebration of Graduates

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Monday, May 27th - Memorial Day - Church Office Closed

Wednesday, May 29th

6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, June 2nd Second Sunday after Pentecost & Communion

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2024:

Karen Maxwell

Kim Snyder

Tracey Troxler

Class of 2025:

Donna Mitchell-Ayers

Tina Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Class of 2026:

Chip Allen

Jean Payne

Ben Russell

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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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