



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

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May 31, 2026 – 11:00 am

Trinity Sunday



Love Never Fails

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4-8A

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: *O Worship the King*

DAN FORREST

WELCOME

***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!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

Our gracious God has created us and called us his own.

Let us worship the triune God.

Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, has redeemed our lives.

Let us worship the triune God.

The Holy Spirit sustains and guides us all the days of our lives.

In gratitude and joy, let us worship the triune God!

GATHERING PRAYER

(GENESIS 1, MATTHEW 28)

Loving God, in that first spark of creativity, you set the cosmos in motion.

Time after time, your creative presence brings new life and hope.

We experience your love, as we see the marvels of nature.

We experience your love, as we study the ethics and compassion of Christ.

We experience your love through the ever-presence of your Holy Spirit, who was with you in the beginning,
was with Christ throughout his ministry, and is with us to the end of the age.

For your loving presence in all your infinite ways, we give you thanks. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(FROM THE STUDY CATECHISM)

How do you live for the love of God?

I love because God first loved me. God loves me in Christ with a love that never ends.

Amazed by grace, I no longer live for myself. I live for the Lord who died and rose again,

triumphant over death, for my sake. Therefore, I take those around me to heart,

especially those in particular need, knowing that Christ died for them no less than for me. Amen.

*HYMN OF THE DAY #473: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

FOLLIOTT SANDFORD PIERPOINT

For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies.

Refrain

Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower,
Sun and moon, and stars of light. **(Refrain)**

For the joy of ear and eye,
For the heart and mind's delight,
For the mystic harmony
Linking sense to sound and sight. **(Refrain)**

For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild. **(Refrain)**

For Thy Church, that evermore
Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering up on every shore
Her pure sacrifice of love. **(Refrain)**

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

God calls us, again and again, to turn from all that separates us from the Divine and to return to God's path. Let us, then, name the ways we have sinned in wandering from God, relying on God's mercy to forgive and renew us.

Look deep, loving God, and see us as we really are. We are a people who prefer our will to your will. We focus on things of the self and give little thought or care to others. We wander through our days giving little thought to our own discipleship, let alone our call to help others become disciples. Forgive us, God of grace. Forgive us and set us again on the path of your righteousness. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Hear the Good News! While it is true that we have sinned, it is a greater truth that in the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Know you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, open our hearts and minds to what you would say to us this day. By your Spirit, we ask that you would speak, as we, your people, are listening. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 25:40-45

PEW BIBLE, 1208

JOHN 13:33-35

PEW BIBLE, 1312

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *One Song in Praise*

MARY McDONALD

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Love Wins"*

DONNA MITCHELL-AYERS, ELDER

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: *See How Great a Flame Aspires*

JASON KRUG

***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 # 422:** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

ROBERT L. EDWARDS

God, whose giving knows no ending,
From Your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
Costly cross, grave's shattered door:
Gifted by You, we turn to You,
Offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever,
Gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing
Toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
All at peace in health and freedom,
Races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
Lest we strive for self alone;
Born with talents, make us servants
Fit to answer at Your throne.

Treasure too You have entrusted,
Gain through powers Your grace conferred;
Ours to use for home and kindred,
And to spread the gospel Word.
Open wide our hands, in sharing,
As we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
Serving You by loving all.

***SENDING**

I charge you to live as disciples, empowered by the triune God, this day and forever more. And may you be surrounded with the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the fellowship of the Spirit. Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Postlude on "Italian Hymn"*

EDWARD BROUGHTON

** 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 31st - Trinity Sunday

9:45 – Bible Study - Evie C. Marshall classroom

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

Wednesday, June 3rd

10:00 – Exercise class

7:00 pm – Choir Practice

Sunday, June 7th - 2nd Sunday after Pentecost - Communion & Pennies for Hunger

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

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Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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