



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

June 2, 2019 – 11:00 am

Seventh Sunday of Easter



“Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. All at once there was such a violent earthquake that it shook the prison’s foundations. The doors flew open and everyone’s chains came loose.”

Acts 16:25-26 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Acts 16 is a very important chapter in Luke’s history of the early church. Our narrator has skillfully expanded Paul’s groundbreaking statement in Galatians 3:28 into an elegant story. “There is no longer Jew [Paul and Silas] or Greek [Lydia, the mantic, the jailer], there is no longer slave [the mantic] or free [Lydia, Paul], there is no longer male [Paul, Silas, the jailer] and female [Lydia, the mantic]; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” Amen!

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove*

E. BROUGHTON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

AN OFFERING OF PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please take a moment to share the peace of Christ with your neighbor.)

* **GATHERING SONG:** *Come, All You People*

UYAI MOSE

*Come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come now and worship the Lord.*

Savior . . . Spirit

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

We come to this place of prayer,
for here we can bring our hopes and dreams, our hidden fears and the doubts we dare wear on our sleeves.
We come to this place of grace,
for here we learn compassion and joy, and discover how deeply we are loved.
We come with these people called the church,
to be blessed by the variety of gifts, to live as one for our God.

*** OPENING HYMN #376: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

HYFRYDOL

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN INVITATION TO THE WORD

As God has spoken in ages gone by.
God speaks to us now.
Hear the word of the Lord.

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

ACTS 16:16-34

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1348

Holy wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Almighty God, through Jesus Christ, you revealed to us a power that has no parallel. May the eyes of our heart be enlightened to this power and all it has done in our lives.

Pour out your Spirit of power upon us, that we may proclaim your glory and your grace.

Lord Jesus Christ, in you we see awesome power. You triumph over death and bring forth new life. You stand over all earthly powers. You are the head of the church. Yet, we often fail to acknowledge this power in our lives.

We see violence in the world. We see injustice in our communities. We see hunger and need among our neighbors. We see longing for something more. We see failures and faults in our lives. In all these things, we feel powerless.

Forgive our hesitance to call upon you. Forgive our propensity to rely upon ourselves. Forgive our reluctance to acknowledge your power. Speak your words of power again. May your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

May God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation, that the power of Jesus Christ may be visible in your life.
By the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven and empowered to serve. Amen.

*** RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE #355: Hear the Good News of Salvation**

NETTLETON

*Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love You! Jesus Christ, You save from sin!
How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.*

*** SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

As the people of God gathered in this place, who are we?

We are a community of believers, called by God to WORSHIP, SERVE, TEACH, and SUPPORT.

With the whole church, let us say what we believe. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third

day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

C. CONVERSE / ARR. F. BOCK

BEACH SPRING

* **A DOXOLOGY:** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

*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.*

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

* **HYMN OF THE DAY #443:** *O Christ, the Great Foundation*

AURELIA

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Lord, Touch Me*

MARTHA EASON BANKS

*Lord, I want you to touch me,
Touch me with Thy holy love.
Lord, come down and touch me.
Come down from heaven above.
Lord, reach out and touch me,
Reach out and touch me within,
Lord, let the goodness touch me,
Thy touch will cleanse me from sin.*

*Some folks want treasures of silver and gold,
Some want to reign with powers untold;
But in my life, all that I can say,
Lord, be my guide and have thine own way. [Refrain]*

*Teach me to love and teach me to pray,
Grant me a light to shine day by day;
Just to abide where joys never cease
Will be great joy, such comfort and ease. [Refrain]*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: ***Prison Break: The Paul and Silas Episode***

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* **CLOSING HYMN #446:** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

AUSTRIAN HYMN

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *Joy Unceasing and Infinite Praise*

T. BIRCHWOOD

* *Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and A. J. Campbell)

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.**

For our children: Childcare is available during the entire worship hour for infants and preschool children. Children are invited and welcome to stay in the service, in whatever manner befits their person: they should feel free to squirm, whine, dance, sing, cry, pray, or otherwise make themselves known. Activities for children can be found at several locations throughout the sanctuary. See an usher if you can’t find one.

Audio and Visual Assistance: A hearing enhancement system is available for those who have a need. An usher will be happy to provide you with a receiver this morning. Large print bulletins are also available.

Please take a moment – members and guests – to sign the **Fellowship Pads** that are located on each row. If you are a guest, please share any contact information you wish to, so that we may be in touch.

Operating our audio and video systems this morning is **Rick Purcell**. Anyone wishing to join this team of volunteers please contact the church office at any time.

Audio Recordings of each Sunday’s sermons are available through a link on our website, on our Facebook page, or at www.buzzsprout.com/9198.

Resources used in this morning’s worship:

- *Call to Worship* Lectionary Resources
- *Feasting on the Word* Commentary and Resources
- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- *The Text This Week* website (www.textweek.com)

Please stop by our nursery and say hello to our new nursery worker, **Paige Butts**. Paige will be with us at least through the summer. She is a familiar face around Bethany as she hangs out with her grandmother, Karen Maxwell!

Nursery Volunteers Needed! We rejoice that we have a nursery attendant during our worship services. However, policy requires that there be two adults present at all times. We feel that it is important that this role not fall on parents all the time and that as a congregation we uphold our promise made at baptism to take part in the nurture and care of our children. To that end, we would like to ask for volunteers to be with Paige in the nursery during the worship hour. The sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Center.

Do you have a smartphone? Are you on Facebook? If so, take a moment to **“check in” on Facebook**, letting your friends know that you are here at Bethany Presbyterian Church! It may seem like a small thing, but in reality, it is a wonderful message of evangelism and witness, as you let the cyber-world know what is important to you.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Jean Payne and Randy Cousins)

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

Bill Faucette	Diane Miller	John & Ann Sutton
Jack Cook	Peter Slater	Ruby Martin
Joan Richardson	Joey Leake	Shirley Lane
Teresa Wilborn	Shannon Russell	Ida Whitney
Tiffany Tauchren	Mary Moore	Katherine Turner
Jean Berry	Barbara Cousins	Jeremy Harden
Christy Lutterloh	Pat Kennedy	Anne McDaniels
Eleanor Thompson	Donna Mitchell-Ayers	Mike Sutton
Nancy Sutton	Pete Campbell	Steward Dillard
Norma Proctor	Ben Johnson	Shelvia Russell
Family of Jerry Perdue	Katherine Bayliff	Alex Thomas
Foy Bayliff	Randy Thompson	Robert Sykes

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Karen Maxwell and Tracey Troxler)

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.

Fellowship Class (Fellowship Classroom – by ramp door)

This class is using our denomination's *Present Word* curriculum and lives up to the class name in all aspects of their life here at Bethany.

Children (Upstairs – the really, really green room!)

This class for younger children is using our denomination's *We Believe* curriculum in introducing our children to the faith.

Youth (Upstairs, across from the choir room)

Using a variety of creative curricula, this class explores topics that relate to faith and adolescence.

We are so excited to offer a new Faith Formation experience for the summer with our **Summer Sunday Series, Feasting on the Word**. This study series will be held during the Sunday school hour for the months of June, July, and August, and will be led by the pastor. The class will be held in the classroom across from the offices, and will begin at 9:45 with refreshments and coffee, followed by the lesson. The unique feature of this series is that each session will focus on the scripture passage from which John is preaching on that particular Sunday. Hopefully, the engaging discussion will feed into a more meaningful and engaging worship! Here are the texts and topics for June:

- June 2nd: Acts 16:16-34, *Disruptive Information*
- June 9th: Acts 2:1-21, *God Talk* (Pentecost Sunday)
- June 16th: Psalm 8, *Divine Majesty and Human Dominion*
- June 23rd: 1 Kings 19:1-15a, *Sounds of Silence*
- June 30th: TBA - John away

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Chip Allen, and Ben Russell)

Elders of the Month for June are **Ron Osborne** and **Karen Maxwell**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – *Feasting on the Word* Summer Study Series
- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Tuesday, the 4th:

- 7:00 - Generosity Team

Wednesday, the 5th:

- 7:00 – Choir Practice

Sunday, the 2nd:

- 9:45 – *Feasting on the Word* Summer Study Series
- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Karen Maxwell

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell

Ben Russell

Tracey Troxler

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love learn serve



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Staff

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org

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Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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