



## Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian)

June 4, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.

*Day of Pentecost*



### When the Church Fails to Launch

*“When Pentecost Day arrived, they were all together in one place.  
Suddenly a sound from heaven like the howling of a fierce wind filled the entire house where they were sitting.  
They saw what seemed to be individual flames of fire alighting on each one of them.  
They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages  
as the Spirit enabled them to speak.”*

Acts 2:1-4 (CEB)

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Abba, Father, You have adopted us as heirs of your kingdom and we have inherited the gift and presence of the Holy Spirit. Through the fire of the Spirit make us generous givers of all that you have bestowed upon us, for the sake of the one whose fire brings light and life to all the world, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *On the Day of Pentecost*

D. PAXTON

### 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 #322:** *Spirit of the Living God*

DANIEL IVERSON

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

Listen, can you hear the wind?

***Come, Holy Spirit; come!***

Look, can you see the dancing flames?

***Come, Holy Spirit; come!***

Can you hear the message in a language you can understand?

***Come, Holy Spirit; come!***

Do you see the visions? Can you dream the dreams?

***Come, Holy Spirit; come!***

Come let Pentecost become real in our lives this morning. Come and worship our God who sends the Spirit to touch us and transform us into Pentecost people.

***Come, Holy Spirit; come!***

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

**\* HYMN OF PRAISE #319: *Spirit***

JAMES MANLEY

**AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS**

Spirit of God, we long to be open to your presence in our church and in our lives. Fill us with your wind and fire, that we might be enlivened again. Help us hear the words as if for the first time, that they might touch us anew.

***Give us visions and dreams of what you long for in your creation, that we might begin to live them into reality. Come, Spirit; come into our worship, into our church, into our very selves.***

O God, giver of the Spirit, we sit surrounded by red and hear the amazing story of Pentecost this morning. But we've heard it so many times before. It is so familiar; we've ceased to be amazed and surprised or filled with excitement.

***Forgive us for our complacency. Blow us out of our complacency. Let the flames of passion dance in our lives. Inspire us with visions and dreams. Help us appreciate each gift you give us. Help us truly be Pentecost People.***

**AN OFFERING OF SILENCE**

**AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE**

God has promised to send us the Spirit, that we might know fully God's presence in the world and in our lives.

***Help us know that the Spirit of forgiveness and understanding flows over us this day and always. Amen.***

**\* RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE: *Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!***

TRADITIONAL

*Glory, glory, hallelujah! Since I laid my burdens down. (Repeat)*

*I feel better, so much better since I laid my burdens down. (Repeat)*

*Feel like shouting, "Hallelujah!" since I laid my burdens down. (Repeat)*

**AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES**

**OFFERTORY:** *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

D. AKERS

**\* THE DOXOLOGY**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.*

*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**RECOGNITION OF OUR GRADUATE: MORGAN TROXLER**

# LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION #316:** *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

TRENTHAM

*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.*

**THE WORD IN MUSIC:** *Jesus, You Brought Me All of the Way*

KENNETH LOUIS

*Jesus, You brought me all of the way.*

*You carry my burdens everyday.*

*You are such a wonderful Savior, I've never known You to fail me yet.*

*Cause You brought me, thank God, all of the way.*

*Jesus, You brought me all of the way.*

*Troubles and trials, they seem to block my way.*

*Sometimes I find it so difficult to pray.*

*Oh, but there's one thing I can truly say:*

*that You've brought me, thank God, all the way.*

*Went to the valley one day to pray.*

*My soul got happy and I stayed there all day.*

*Oh, but there's one thing I can truly say:*

*that You've brought me, thank God, all the way.*

*Jesus, You brought me all of the way.*

*You carry my burdens everyday.*

*You are such a wonderful Savior, I've never known You to fail me yet.*

*Cause You brought me, thank God, all of the way.*

*Jesus, You brought me all of the way.*

## THE SPOKEN WORD

A Reading from Acts 2:1-21

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1324

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.

***Thanks be to God!***

## SERMON: *WHEN THE CHURCH FAILS TO LAUNCH*

REV. NORMAN WHITNEY

## PREPARATION FOR THE TABLE: *Drink Deeply*

DAVID LAMOTTE

*Drink deeply when the wine is poured / Pass around the drinking gourd*

*May your spirit be restored / Drink deeply when the wine is poured*

*Now take your glass and lift it up / Or grape juice in a plastic cup*

*No matter where the love is stored / Drink deeply when the wine is poured*

*Now rest a while and be renewed / My friends we have much work to do*

*With love our cause and our reward / Drink deeply when the wine is poured.*

*Now join with all who drink this wine / In many lands and many times*

*Precious children of the Lord / Drink deeply when the wine is poured*

*And though we may not all agree / Let us sing in harmony*

*Different notes make up a chord / Drink deeply when the wine is poured*

# WE SHARE THE LORD'S SUPPER

## INVITATION TO THE TABLE

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

May the Spirit of Pentecost touch you this day.

***And touch you, as well.***

May the fresh breeze of love fill your hearts.

***We open them to the Spirit who would overflow from our hearts.***

May the words of Pentecost offer you new songs.

***We will sing praise and thanksgiving to our God.***

Wow! What you do, God of imagination and wonder! You breathe your Spirit into chaos . . . With those who continue to live in fear with those who share the Spirit with others, we will sing your praise forever and ever:

***Holy, holy, holy are you, Shattering Spirit. All creation will sing until it has no more breath. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who stands in our midst speaking peace. Hosanna in the highest!***

Like your glory, may your holiness be eternal, God of wind and flames . . . As we would open our hearts to the Spirit, as we would welcome the peace and power, we tell of that faith grounded in Pentecost's mystery:

***Drawing his last breath, Christ died for us; with the sudden breath of the resurrection, Christ was raised; Christ will return, to breathe the Spirit into us forever.***

Here in this place, with people gathered in this space . . . And when that day comes when we no longer need to huddle under the covers of fear, you will gather us around the Table with our sisters and brothers of every time, of every place, breathing the Spirit upon us, telling us the Word of grace and hope, as we sing our thanks forever and ever, God in Community, Holy in One, and pray as Christ taught us, saying:

***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.***

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. Take us with you. Amen.***

## LEAVING TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME

\* **CLOSING HYMN #315:** *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

*As is our custom, our Pennies for Hunger Offering will be received during the final hymn.*

*Please feel free to bring your offerings forward and place in the basket on the table.*

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **POSTLUDE:** *Carry His Love With You*

A. MASON

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\* *Those who are able may 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. 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](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org); on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian); or on Twitter by following [@bpresbyterian](https://twitter.com/bpresbyterian).

**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, or at [www.buzzsprout.com/9198](http://www.buzzsprout.com/9198).

Resources used in this morning's worship:

- *Ministry Matters* website ([www.ministrymatters.com](http://www.ministrymatters.com))
- *Glory to God* Presbyterian hymnal
- The Text This Week website ([www.textweek.org](http://www.textweek.org))

**Our year-long 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration** didn't end with our wonderful celebration last Sunday. As has been noted before our theme scripture passage for the celebration is Isaiah 40:28-31, ***Growing Stronger – Growing Deeper – Reaching Higher***. Mark your calendars for our final celebration events:

- **Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>** – Concert by renowned artist, **David LaMotte** ([www.davidlamotte.com](http://www.davidlamotte.com))
- **Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>** – Culmination of anniversary celebration / **Rev. J. Herbert Nelson**, preaching (Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (USA) / **David LaMotte** providing music / Anniversary luncheon following worship

This morning we recognize and congratulate our high school graduate, **Morgan Troxler**, who graduates this week from Jordan-Matthews High School. Morgan will attend Elon University this fall.

**Anniversary T-Shirts** are now available for purchase. There will be a table set up in the Welcome Center. Cash, checks, or credit cards accepted.

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.

**To the parents of young children:** Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel that you must suppress those wiggles in God's house. **Please note that a professionally staffed nursery is available during the worship hour.** Here are some hints to make worship with your children more rewarding:

- Consider sitting towards the front where it is easier for little ones to engage. On the second pew nearest the choir loft, there are activities for children of all ages to keep busy with during the service.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, musicians, and leaders.
- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, “Let the children come to me!”
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.
- **To adult worshippers:** The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our church is growing! Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

**SERVE Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Jean Payne and Sherrie Moore)

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

Bill Faucette	Diane Miller	John & Ann Sutton
Faye Campbell	Jack Cook	Peter Slater
Frances Nolan	Polly & Dick Wilson	Joey Leake
Layla Benoklen	Teresa Wilborn	Shannon Russell
Ida Whitney	Tiffany Tauchren	Mary Moore
Rachel Poteat	Jean Berry	Barbara Cousins
Jeremy Harden	Christy Lutterloh	Pat Kennedy
Anne McDaniels	Eleanor Thompson	Harold Baldwin
Mike Sutton	Nancy Sutton	Duffy Strigo
Steward Dillard	Infant Sadie Ruth Majors	Norma Proctor
Donna Mitchell-Ayers	Ben Johnson	Gloria Carden Woods
	Pete Campbell	

Each week **Salem Presbytery** lists churches and other ministries that we are to lift up in prayer that week. A complete list can be viewed online at the presbytery website: [www.salempresbytery.org](http://www.salempresbytery.org). On the prayer list for this week are: **Clemmons Presbyterian; Sandy Green, ACPE Supervisor, Centra Health (Lynchburg); Springwood Presbyterian, Whitsett; Shiloh Presbyterian, Statesville.** Please keep these churches and ministries in your prayers this week.

**TEACH Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Brandon Troxler and Karen Maxwell)

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.

**Young at Heart Class** (Young at Heart Classroom – across from pastor's office)

Using the *Uniform Series*, this class engages in lively discussions pertaining to the biblically based curriculum. The class is taught by a very capable team of teachers.

**Seeker's Class** (Church Office)

The Seeker's Class is currently using the *Wired Word* curriculum, looking at current events as they relate to our faith.

**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.

**SUPPORT Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Ron Kimrey, and Glenn Patterson)

Elders of the Month for June are **A. J. Campbell and Jean Payne.**

The **Session** is reminded of their monthly scheduled meeting (a week early) on **this Tuesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.**

The Session has called for a **Congregational Meeting** to immediately follow worship on **next Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>**, for the purpose of electing a Nominating Committee, whose task will be to bring to the congregation a slate of officers to be elected to the Session for the Class of 2020.

**NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup>** will mark the second of our **T.E.A.M. (Together Everyone Achieves More) Covered-Dish Dinner and Program**. Join us at 6:00 and bring your favorite dish for an evening of fellowship and fun. The program for this gathering is brought to you by the SUPPORT Ministry Team, and will be led by John. It will be a fun, informative, and entertaining evening as John leads us in an exploration of **Computers and Social Media 101: Navigating the Net for Novices**. Bring your laptop or tablet as we explore a better and safer way to live in our cyber world.

### **This Week's Calendar:**

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Tuesday, the 6<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 – Session Meeting

Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup>:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 11<sup>th</sup>:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship
- 6:00 – T.E.A.M. Covered-Dish Dinner and Program

### **Session**

**Moderator:** Rev. John W. Johnson

**Clerk:** Rick Purcell

**Treasurer:** Ron Osborne

# **bethany presbyterian**

**love learn serve**



### **Class of 2017:**

Ron Kimrey  
Karen Maxwell  
Sherrie Moore

### **Class of 2018:**

Glenn Patterson  
Nancy Purcell  
Brandon Troxler

### **Class of 2019:**

A. J. Campbell  
Ron Osborne  
Jean Payne

**1500 S. Main Street  
Graham, NC 27215  
[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)  
336.227.4041**

### **Staff**

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – [pastor@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:pastor@bethanypreschurch.org)  
Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – [music@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:music@bethanypreschurch.org)  
Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – [office@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:office@bethanypreschurch.org)  
Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – [finance@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:finance@bethanypreschurch.org)



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