



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

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

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

June 13, 2021 – 11:00 am

Third Sunday after Pentecost



*“He continued, ‘What’s a good image for God’s kingdom? What parable can I use to explain it? Consider a mustard seed. When scattered on the ground, it’s the smallest of all the seeds on the earth; but when it’s planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all vegetable plants.’”*

Mark 4:30-32a (CEB)

## 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.*

### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *If You Will Trust in God to Guide You*

BARBARA BOERTJE / GEORG NEUMARK

### 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 a socially-distanced peace of Christ with your neighbor.)*

\* **GATHERING SONG:** *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

PAUL BALOCHE

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you; I want to see you;*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you; I want to see you;*

*To see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.  
Pour out your power and love as we sing “Holy, holy, holy.”  
Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.*

*Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;  
I want to see you; I want to see you;*

## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

The church is the place where the broken gather:

***Let us worship the One who reconciles us to one another and to God.***

The church is the place where sinners are welcome:

***Let us worship God who, with forgiving hands, shapes us into new people.***

The church is the place where the lost, the least, the forgotten, the ignored gather:

***Let us worship God who looks at us with the eyes of love.***

## \* OPENING HYMN #142: *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*

CORONATION

*All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;*

*Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!*

*Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!*

*Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,*

*Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!*

*Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!*

*Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball*

*To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!*

*To him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!*

*O that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!*

*We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!*

*We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!*

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

**MARK 4:26-34**

Holy wisdom, Holy Word.

***Thanks be to God.***

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1220

### AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Holy One: you anoint us with living water, so we may go to serve the world in these troubled days. You open our eyes so we will see everyone as our sisters and brothers.

***Seed Planter: you place faith deep within us, so we can bear witness to your just and loving kingdom. Your love regulates our hearts, so we can welcome all in your name.***

Gentle Spirit: when we cannot see the way, you take us by the hand so we can step forward, in faith, into the kingdom. You fill us with hope, so we can sing God's joy all of our days.

***God in Community, Holy in One, hear us as we pray.***

Why is it so easy to boast of our achievements, yet so hard to humbly come to God with the mistakes we make?

This is the place where we stand in the presence of the One who longs to shape us into new people.

***We confess, God of Faith, that we ask about someone's background to see if they are like us, while you look at where their heart is grounded. We examine another's good looks or athletic prowess, while you take notice of how they reach out to those who are different. We gaze at the size of another's house or car or portfolio to judge how successful they are, and you observe whether or not they have faith the size of the smallest seed.***

Forgive us, Anointing God, for looking at those around us with human eyes, and not seeing them as created in your image. As you shape us into new people, give us new eyes, new hearts, new lives to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

### AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

### AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is the good news: no longer must we walk the old paths of sin and death. Christ has come to take our old ways on himself, and to fill us with new life in God.

*Now, we know we are forgiven;  
now, we know we are at peace;  
now, we can step forward in faith,  
to live with our God forever. Amen.*

**\* RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE:** *We Are Forgiven*

TRADITIONAL LITURGICAL TEXT / HAL HOPSON

*We are forgiven. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (Repeat)*

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

THE APOSTLES' CREED

As the people of God gathered in these places, 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**

**\* A DOXOLOGY:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD HUNDRETH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\* HYMN OF THE DAY:** *When We Are Living*

SOMOS DEL SENOR

*When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus, and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.  
Both in our living and in our dying, we belong to God; we belong to God.*

*Through all our living, we our fruits must give. Good works of service are for offering.  
When we are giving, or when receiving, we belong to God; we belong to God.*

*'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain, when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,  
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing, we belong to God; we belong to God.*

*Across this wide world, we shall always find those who are crying with no peace of mind,  
but when we help them, or when we feed them, we belong to God; we belong to God.*

**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:**

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

Sermon: ***Consider the Mustard Seed***

REV. JOHNSON

# RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

## \* CLOSING HYMN: *Go, My Children, With My Blessing*

AR HYD Y NOS

*"Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own."  
"Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story; here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure."  
"Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free."*

## \* SENDING

Now go as God's seeds of hope.

***We will plant reconciliation in all the broken places and people.***

Now go as Christ's hands of peace.

***We will embrace everyone we meet with mercy and hope.***

Now go as the Spirit's eyes of love.

***We will see each person as our sister and brother.***

## \* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## \* POSTLUDE: *Rise, Go Joyously Into Life*

LANI SMITH

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\* *Please stand in body or spirit.*



# Our Faith Community @ Work

**WORSHIP Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and Helen Brown)

**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](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).

***“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.**

**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](http://www.buzzsprout.com/9198). A **Live Stream** and a **Video Recording** of our Live Stream are available on our Facebook page and on our website.

Resources used in today’s worship:

- *Presbyterian Outlook* Liturgical Resources
- *The Text This Week* website ([www.textweek.com](http://www.textweek.com))

We rejoice that we can now worship together in our beautiful sanctuary! Here are some guidelines to follow to ensure the health and safety of our congregation:

- **Masks must be worn at all times.**
- Please do not sit in any pews that have been blocked off. This is to make sure that social-distancing guidelines are being followed.
- Bulletins are available at the doors. They will not be distributed but you may pick one up as you wish.
- The offering will not be collected but offering plates are available in the narthex. You may place your offering in the plates on your way out, or you may follow the QR code below to give online.
- Please refrain from physical interaction during our “meet and greet” time. Waves and virtual hugs are our new normal - at least for awhile!
- Although we normally encourage singing hymns with gusto, that might not be the wisest thing to do right now. Either sing softly through your mask, or hum.
- John will be at the door to greet following the service, but will not shake hands or hug . . . just an elbow bump and the knowledge that he’s smiling beneath the mask!

**SERVE Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Randy Cousins and Tina Patterson)

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

Bill Faucette  
Jack Cook  
Joan Richardson  
Shannon Russell  
Katherine Turner  
Jeremy Harden  
Anne McDaniels  
Alex Thomas  
Stewart Dillard

Diane Miller  
Peter Slater  
Joey Leake  
Ida Whitney  
Jean Berry  
Christy Lutterloh  
Eleanor Thompson  
Nancy Sutton  
Norma Proctor

John & Ann Sutton  
Ruby Martin  
Teresa Wilborn  
Tiffany Tauchren  
Barbara Cousins  
Pat Kennedy  
Mike Sutton  
Ben Johnson  
Grace Johnson

Shelvia Russell  
Carol Brooks  
Janie Holt Clapp  
Linda Abplanalp

Christopher Bagley  
Randy Thompson  
Glenn Harden

Frank Wrenn  
Sylvia Donley  
Joyce & Norman Mize  
Betty Boggs

**TEACH Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Tracey Troxler and Shelby Smith)

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.

**SUPPORT Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Chip Allen, Ben Russell, and Bill Abplanalp)

Elders of the Month for June are **Bill Abplanalp** and **Nancy Purcell**.

## This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (as scheduled)
- 11:00 – Worship

Sunday, the 20<sup>th</sup>:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (as scheduled)
- 11:00 – Worship

### Session

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

**Clerk:** Randy Cousins

**Treasurer:** Glenn Patterson

### Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell

Ben Russell

Tracey Troxler

### Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp

Helen Brown

Tina Patterson

### Class of 2023:

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Shelby Smith

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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### 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)

Scan this QR code for fast, safe, and reliable online giving:



*Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*

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