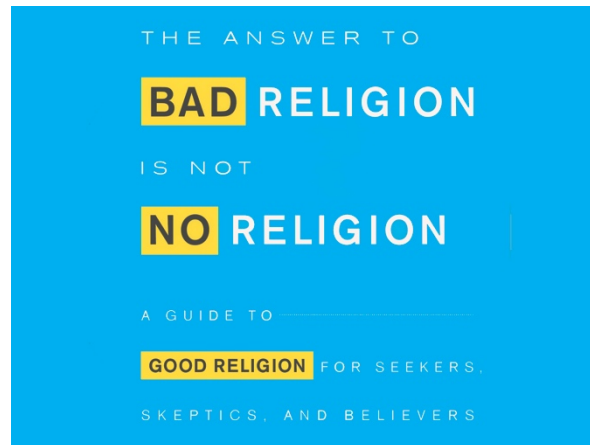




Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina
www.bethanypreschurch.org
www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

June 24, 2018 – 11:00 am
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost



*"I tell you, this person went down to his home justified rather than the Pharisee.
All who lift themselves up will be brought low, and those who make themselves low will be lifted up."*
Luke 18:14 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Our theme this morning confronts the arrogant spirit that convinces some religious people that they have all the answers, that they can and must be dogmatically certain in matters of belief and behavior. Good religion celebrates faith without certainty, keeping an open mind about new information, ideas, and situations.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

F. RITTER

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 #472:** *O Sing to the Lord*

BRAZILIAN FOLK MELODY

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We live in a world of infinite mysteries.

We can know only in part.

We see truth through dim, stained glass.

We long to see you face-to-face.

One day, we will know fully;
even as we are fully known.
Our knowledge is limited.
But faith, hope, and love never end.

* **OPENING HYMN:** *Bring Many Names* (see page 4)

BRIAN WREN / CARLTON YOUNG

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN INVITATION TO THE WORD

The universe proclaims God's truth. God's knowledge flows night and day!
We open our ears to hear, our minds to comprehend, our hearts to receive.

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE: LUKE 18:9-14

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.
Thanks be to God.

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1276

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Pour out your Spirit upon us as we gather, so your grace might strengthen us for service; so your peace might calm our troubled souls; so your hope might mend our broken hearts.

You poured out your life that we might be filled with the gift of salvation. You humbled yourself that we might be raised to eternal life. Take hold of our hands, so we might cross the finish line together.

You are in our midst, Spirit of wholeness. You enabled us to cling to faith, when hope runs through our fingers like sand. You open the gateways of our hearts morning and evening, that we might sing our praises with all creation.

God in Community, Holy in One, we pour out our hearts to you.

When we pray to God, do we do so with pride in what wonderful people we are, or with that humble hope which recognizes how we have not lived as God's children, and how we need God's forgiveness and grace in our lives?

Join me as we pray to our God, saying,

Watching God, like the Pharisee, we think we can stick our thumbs into life, pull out a prayer, and congratulate ourselves for being such good Christians. Then, we remember the harsh words we have spoken this week, the hurt we have inflicted on someone we loved, the lack of compassion we failed to offer to someone who needed our help.

Forgive us, God of Grace, and deal gently with us. May we become more like the tax collector - humble, penitent, acknowledging our faulty lives to you. Then, may we receive the mercy promised to us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Forgiven and healed, we open ourselves to the grace, the peace, the hope offered to us through our loving God. This is the good news we have received!

Graced and blessed, we are able to live our lives for others, taking them by the hand to reach that finish line called the Kingdom. Thanks be to God. Amen.

* **RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE:** *You Are My Strength When I Am Weak*

DENNIS JERNIGAN

*You are my strength when I am weak; you are the treasure that I seek; you are my all in all.
When I fall down, you pick me up; when I am dry, you fill my cup; you are my all in all.
Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name! Jesus, Lamb of God, worthy is your name!*

* SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE

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 confess our faith. 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: *I Surrender All*

W. WEEDEN

OLD HUNDRETH

*** THE DOXOLOGY:**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

*** HYMN OF THE DAY #339:** *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS AND 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.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG (@ HEART) / MOMENT FOR MISSION

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked*

GEOFFREY O'HARA

*I walked today where Jesus walked, in days of long ago.
I wandered down each path He knew, with reverent step and slow.
Those little lanes, they have not changed. A sweet peace fills the air.
I walked today where Jesus walked, and felt Him close to me.
My pathway led through Bethlehem; ah, memory's ever sweet.
The little hills of Galilee that knew His childish feet.
The Mount of Olives, hallowed scenes that Jesus knew before.
I saw the mighty Jordan roll as in the days of yore.
I knelt today where Jesus knelt, where all alone he prayed.
The Garden of Gethsemane, my heart felt unafraid.
I picked my heavy burden up, and with Him at my side,
I climbed the Hill of Calvary, I climbed the Hill of Calvary.
I climbed the Hill of Calvary where on the Cross He died!
I walked today where Jesus walked and felt Him close to me.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: ***The Answer to Arrogance is Openness***

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* **CLOSING HYMN #354:** *Guide My Feet*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

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

G. O'HARA

* *Please stand in body or spirit.*

JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION

760 Bring Many Names

Capo 1: (D) (Em7) (G2) (G) (Em) (A2) (A7)
 Eb Fm7 Ab2 Ab Fm Bb2 Bb7

1 Bring man - y names, beau - ti - ful and good,
 2 Strong moth - er God, work - ing night and day,
 3 Warm fa - ther God, hug - ging ev - ery child,
 4 Old, ach - ing God, gray with end - less care,
 5 Young, grow - ing God, ea - ger, on the move,
 6 Great, liv - ing God, nev - er ful - ly known,

(D) (Em7) (D/F#) (Em) (Asus) (A7)
 Eb Fm7 Eb/G Fm Bbsus Bb7

cel - e - brate, in par - a - ble and sto - ry,
 plan - ning all the won - ders of cre - a - tion,
 feel - ing all the strains of hu - man liv - ing,
 calm - ly pierc - ing e - vil's new dis - guis - es,
 say - ing no to false - hood and un - kind - ness,
 joy - ful dark - ness far be - yond our see - ing,

(D) (Em7) (G2) (G) (Em) (A2) (A7)
 Eb Fm7 Ab2 Ab Fm Bb2 Bb7

ho - li - ness in glo - ry, liv - ing, lov - ing God.
 set - ting each e - qua - tion ge - ni - us at play:
 car - ing and for - giv - ing till we're rec - on - ciled:
 glad of good sur - pris - es, wis - er than de - spair:
 cry - ing out for jus - tice, giv - ing all you have:
 clos - er yet than breath - ing, ev - er - last - ing home:

(D) (Em) (D) (A) (G) (D/F#) (Em) (Asus)(A) (D/F#) (Em)(A) (D)
 Eb Fm Eb Bb Ab Eb/G Fm Bbsus Bb Eb/G Fm Bb Eb

Hail and Ho - san - na! Bring man - y names!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, strong moth - er God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, warm fa - ther God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, old, ach - ing God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, young, grow - ing God!
 Hail and Ho - san - na, great, liv - ing God!



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 guest 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.

“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 can 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:

- *The Text This Week* website (www.textweek.com)
- Resources provided through Sermon Series materials

This morning marks the fourth Sunday of our **Summer Sermon Series: *The Answer to Bad Religion is Not No Religion: A Guide to Good Religion for Seekers***. Here is the schedule for the remainder of this unique series:

- Today: *The Answer to Arrogance is Openness*
- July 1st: Guest Preacher
- July 8th: *The Answer to Division is Community*
- July 15th: *The Answer to Passivity is Passion*

This afternoon John (and Debbie) and Chris will head off to **Montreat** to attend this weeks’ **Worship and Music Conference**. What a joy it always is to gather with a thousand or so of your best friends, to make music, worship, and have fellowship. Chris will be back on next Sunday, but we will welcome a guest preacher in John’s absence.

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 Sandy Cook)

We are in the process of putting together a new in-house **Pictorial Directory**. We are using photographs from the previous directory, unless you indicate otherwise. To view the picture we have on file for you, you may come by the church office and Joy will show it to you, or call Joy and she will send it to you electronically. To submit a new photo, send it to Joy (office@bethanypreschurch.org) or bring a print by so it can be scanned.

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	Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Mike Sutton	Nancy Sutton	Pete Campbell
Steward Dillard	Norma Proctor	Ben Johnson
Shelvia Russell	Family of Celeste Bayliff Agner	Ruth Younts
Ruby Martin	Levi Byrd	Diane Bullis
Betty Boggs	Shirley Lane	Susie Hunley

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.

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, Chip Allen, and Glenn Patterson)

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

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

This afternoon – Saturday, the 30th:

- John and Chris away / Montreat Worship & Music Conference

Tuesday, the 26th:

- 7:00 – “Jesus for President” Book Study

Sunday, the 1st:

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

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Sandy Cook

Karen Maxwell

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love learn serve



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Staff

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

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – music@bethanypreschurch.org

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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