



Bethany Presbyterian Church

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

July 7, 2024 – 11:00 am
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



"The Homeless Jesus Sculpture by Tim Schmalz," photo by William Murphy

Little children, let's not love with words or speech but with action and truth.
This is how we will know that we belong to the truth and reassure our hearts in God's presence.
Even if our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts and knows all things.
1 John 3:18-20 (COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE)

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! Parts of today's liturgy are from Ruth Burgess, Summer: Liturgical resources for May, June and July, including Eastertide and Pentecost, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2020), and LiturgyLink, <https://www.liturgylink.net>. Today's communion liturgy is adopted from the Book of Common Order of the Church of Scotland (Edinburgh: Saint Andrews Press, 2005).

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Spirit of God*

BRIAN GLYNCANNON/TUNE: "MORECAMBE" BY FREDERICK C. ATKINSON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***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!

***OPENING SENTENCES**

"WITNESSES," THOM SHUMAN

We are witnesses,
to the love God has poured into us.

We are witnesses of God's love,
sharing it with each person we meet.

We are witnesses to everyone we encounter,
little children like us, sisters and brothers in God's family.

Let us worship our God.

GATHERING PRAYER

"FOR SUNLIGHT DANCING," AVIS PALMER

For sunlight dancing on white-crested waves,
Creative God, we offer our thanks and praise.

For sunlight dapping forest glades,
Creative God, we offer our thanks and praise.

For sunlight gilding wheat and maize,
Creative God, we offer our thanks and praise.

For sunlight lengthening summer days,
Creative God, we offer our thanks and praise. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"BEYOND YOUR WORDS," SCOTT CERVAS

As we read the words of scripture,
we are pointed to your living Word who walked among us;

and we are surrounded by your Spirit,
who whispers words within our hearts and minds.
Inspire us in our hearing and reflecting,
that we may move beyond your words
into life-changing acts of grace, love, hope, and peace. *Amen.*

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

DEUTERONOMY 10:17-21

PEW BIBLE, 231

1 JOHN 3:16-24

PEW BIBLE, 1484

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF OUR PLEDGES

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #428:** *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

WILLIAM WALSHAM HOW

We give Thee but Thine own,
What e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

*BLESSING OUR GIFTS

***HYMN OF THE DAY #367:** *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love*

TOM COLVIN

Refrain:

Jesu, Jesu,
Fill us with Your love,
Show us how to serve the neighbors we have from You.

Kneels at the feet of his friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them.

(Refrain)

Neighbors are rich and poor,
Varied in color and race,
Neighbors are near and far away.

(Refrain)

These are the ones we should serve,
These are the ones we should love;
All are neighbors to us and You.

(Refrain)

Loving puts us on our knees,
Serving as though we are slaves,
This is the way we should live with You.

(Refrain)

Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet,
This is the way we should live with You.

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves.

*Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.*

*Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion,
cleanse us from our sin.*

*Do not cast us away from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.*

Silence

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

I proclaim to you in the name of our holy God that:

You are enough.

You are forgiven.

You are loved.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE #356: *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

ROBERT ROBINSON

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *His Grace is Sufficient for Me*

Randy Cousins - Soloist

MOSIE LISTER

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"How we know love"*

REV. PHILLIPS

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper today by inviting everyone who wants to participate up front to receive the bread and cup (we use gluten free bread and grape juice). If you are more comfortable remaining seated but would like to participate, raise your hand and we will come to your seat to serve you. We believe that Jesus invites everyone forward to his table to "taste and see," and so we proclaim that all are welcome to participate.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord your God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Living God, we acclaim you...

we praise you in the angels' hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.***

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Now, we celebrate the feast of our redemption...

...with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God for ever. ***Amen.***

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

...Jesus, Lamb of God,

have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins,

have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world,

grant us peace.

COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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.*

***CLOSING HYMN #498:** *Child of Blessing, Child of Promise*

RONALD S. COLE-TURNER

Child of blessing, child of promise,
baptized with the Spirit's sign,
with this water God has sealed you
unto love and grace divine.

Child of love, our love's expression,
love's creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits,
into joy and laughter lead.

Child of joy, our dearest treasure,
God's you are; from God you came.
Back to God we humbly give you;
live as one who bears Christ's name.

Child of God, your loving Parent,
learn to know whose child you are;
grow to laugh and sing and worship,
trust and love God more than all.

*SENDING

May grace and peace be yours in abundance
in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord.

Go forth in the name of the Lord.
This is God's charge:
to trust in Jesus Christ
and to love one another as he commanded.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Praise to God the Father*

FRANKLIN RITTER

** Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Tuesday, July 9th Alamance Co. Mobile Library

The Alamance County Public Libraries 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

Saturday, July 13th Neighbor Days - Vacation Bible School

Hi neighbor! You are invited to join us for our all-ages Vacation Bible School that once again looks to everyone’s favorite Presbyterian pastor, Fred Rogers. This year we will have offerings for people of every age and you and your neighbors are all invited! For our kids, we will have age-appropriate curriculum based on our denomination’s Mr. Roger’s emphasis day materials. For our grown-ups, I will offer two sessions – in the morning: “Teaching the Faith to Our Kids,” and in the afternoon: “Women in Leadership in the Early Church.”

We are also looking for volunteers to help. Whether you’d love to help out or are interested in the topics for grown-ups, we hope to see you there neighbor!

Saturday, July 27th Shrimp-a-Roo

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 27th at 6:00 pm for our annual **Shrimp-a-Roo**.

This is a Men of the Church sponsored event for Bethany family and friends.

Come enjoy this summertime feast, and table fellowship with your Bethany family and friends! We will be gathering in the Fellowship Hall. Don’t miss it!!

S.A.F.E. (Southern Alamance Family Empowerment)

How we can help S.A.F.E. for the next two months... they are asking for items for their backpack program. Things like low sugar granola bars, shelf stable fruit cups and applesauce, etc.

Then, before school starts back, they are going to need peanut butter again, for Back to School.

Save the Date

- **Saturday, October 26th Fall Festival**

Invitation To Scout Summer Program

All youth ages 5-11 years old are invited to attend our Scout Summer Program.

- June 15th Hike at Lake Michael
- June 26th Science STEM Slam
- July 20th Hike at Jaycee Trail Reidsville
- Aug 17th Hike at Bur-Mil Park Greensboro
- August End of Summer Pool Party

For more information contact:

Jeff Benes

Committee Chair Cub Pack 9

(336) 675-9086 cell

benes.nc@att.net

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, July 7th Seventh Sunday after Pentecost & Communion

9:45 – VBS Planning Meeting – Evie C. Marshall classroom
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, July 10th

6:30 – Choir Practice

Saturday, July 13th 9:00am-2:30 pm Vacation Bible School

Sunday, July 14th Eighth Sunday after Pentecost & Communion

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

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love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2024:

Karen Maxwell

Kim Snyder

Tracey Troxler

Class of 2025:

Donna Mitchell-Ayers

Tina Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Class of 2026:

Chip Allen

Jean Payne

Ben Russell

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