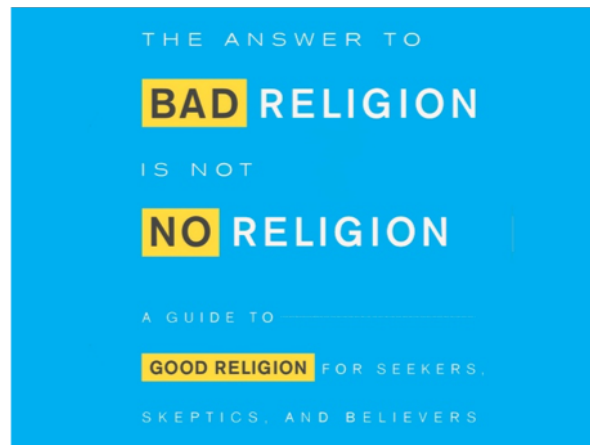




Bethany Presbyterian Church

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

July 8, 2018 – 11:00 am
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost



“Put aside all bitterness, losing your temper, anger, shouting, and slander, along with every other evil. Be kind, compassionate, and forgiving to each other, in the same way God forgave you in Christ.”
Ephesians 4:31-32 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Today’s message addresses the temptation to combine partisan politics or patriotism with one’s religion, creating divisions between Americans of different parties and between all nations. Good religion promotes community – the interaction and mutual support of people within a congregation and across cultures.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *O That Will Be Glory*

G. PETERSON / TUNE: GLORY SONG

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:** *Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining (Shine, Jesus, Shine)*

GRAHAM KENDRICK

*Lord, the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us; set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.*

Refrain: Shine, Jesus, shine; fill this land with the Father’s glory.

Blaze, Spirit, blaze; set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow; flood the nations with grace and mercy.

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

*Lord, I come to your awesome presence, from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness. Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me. (Refrain)*

*As we gaze on your kingly brightness, so our faces display your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory, mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me. (Refrain)*

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Faith has come! We are all children of God. There is no longer Jew or Greek.

No longer Democrat or Republican.

There is no longer slave or free.

No longer rich or poor.

There is no longer male or female.

No longer foreign or native-born. For we are all one in Christ Jesus.

*** OPENING HYMN #442: *The Church's One Foundation***

AURELIA

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: EPHESIANS 4:25-32

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1426

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Lord, we come to you this day with so many things going on in our lives. Some of these things are wonderful and cause us to rejoice. However, there are far too many things that cause us fear and anxiety.

Humbly we wait for your presence with us. We need your healing touch. Feed us with the bread of life, that we may hunger no more. Strengthen us to do your will.

Lord, we want the easy way out! When things go wrong, we want to find who to blame for our misfortune. When we don't get what we want, we want to punish whoever prevents us from our goals and desires. We don't want to look at the ways in which we have perverted your love for us.

We treat you as though you are a puppet who will dance to our demands. We act like spoiled children who want everything immediately, and who will become sullen and spiteful if we don't get what we ask for. We stopped listening to you. Systems of greed and injustice replaced your command to "love one another".

And now we come to you, asking for forgiveness and healing. Our hearts and lives are empty without your love. Our spirits wither and die in this greedy wasteland. Give to us your life-sustaining bread. Heal our souls. Help us to truly worship you and to willingly work for healing and hope in this world.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God has heard our cries and knows our anguish. In Jesus Christ, we are loved and forgiven.

Praise be to God who forgives us all in the name of God's beloved Son! Amen.

*** RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE: *Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!***

CARIBBEAN MELODY

*Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (Repeat)*

*** 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: *In the Garden*

C. A. MILES / ARR. F. BOCK

*** THE DOXOLOGY:**

OLD HUNDREDTH

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 #439:** *In Christ There Is No East or West*

ST. PETER

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: *My Soul Has Been Anchored*

DOUGLAS MILLER

SYLVESTER ALLEN, SOLOIST

Though the storms keep on raging in my life

And sometimes it's hard to tell my night from day

Still that hope that lies within is reassured

As I keep my eyes upon the distant shore;

I know He'll lead me safely to that

Blessed place He has prepared

But if the storms don't cease

And if the wind keeps on blowing, (in my life)

My soul has been anchored in the Lord

I realize that sometimes in this life

You're gonna be tossed by the waves

And the currents that seem so fierce

But in the word of God I've got an anchor;

And it keeps me steadfast and unmovable

Despite the tide

But if the storms don't cease

But in case the wind keeps on blowing, (in my life)

My soul has been anchored in the Lord

*Billows may roll, the breakers may dash
I shall not sway because He holds me fast.
Dark is the day, clouds in the sky
I know it's alright because Jesus is nigh.
My Soul Has Been Anchored in the Lord.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *The Answer to Division is Community*

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

*** CLOSING HYMN: *We Are One in the Spirit***

KELVINGROVE

*We are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit; we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:*

*Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love;
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.*

*We will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other; we will walk hand in hand,
and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: (Refrain)*

*We will work with each other; we will work side by side;
we will work with each other; we will work side by side,
and we'll guard human dignity and save human pride: (Refrain)*

*All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: (Refrain)*

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE: *High Praise***

R. SAWYER

** 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 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 **Brandon Troxler**. 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:

- Resources provided through Sermon Series materials
- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)

This morning marks the fifth 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 Division is Community*
- July 15th: *The Answer to Passivity is Passion*

Please keep in your prayers **April Troxler, Macie Smith, Seth Smith, and Nancy & Rick Purcell** as they are attending the **Montreat Youth Conference** this week. They will return home on Saturday, the 14th.

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	Shirley Lane
Betty Boggs	Alex Thomas	Susie Hunley
	Katherine Bayliff	

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 July are **Chip Allen** and **Karen Maxwell**.

The Session will meet for its monthly stated meeting on **this Tuesday, July 10th at 7 pm.**

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Tuesday, the 10th:

- 7:00 – Session Meeting

Wednesday, the 11th:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 15th:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship
- 6:30 – Movie Night

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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Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

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