



## Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina  
[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)  
[www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian)

July 14 2024 – 11:00 am  
*Neighbor Days*



Dear friends, let's love each other, because love is from God,  
and everyone who loves is born from God and knows God.  
1 John 4:7 (COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE)

## GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*Welcome to our Neighbor Days worship! Some of our liturgy today is from LiturgyLink. Most of our service today is adapted from the intergenerational worship service developed by our denomination to celebrate Mr. Rogers Day. From the Office of Theology, Formation & Evangelism:*

Fred Rogers was an ordained minister of word and sacrament for the PC(USA) and is a notable figure whose work around peace and reconciliation are worth remembering. Rogers was also a pioneer in the world of Christian education and formation of young children... This intergenerational worship service is a reflection and a call to action for how we serve our neighbors.

*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!*

### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** "Won't You Be My Neighbor" - Mister Roger's Neighborhood: Opening Theme

JOHN KIRKSEY

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

O for a world where everyone  
respects each other's ways,  
where love is lived and all is done  
with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared  
and misery relieved,  
where truth is spoken, children spared,  
equality achieved.

We welcome one world family  
and struggle with each choice  
that opens us to unity  
and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong,  
the foolish ones are wise.  
Tell all who mourn, outcasts belong,  
who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for  
God's glorious reign of peace,  
where time and tears will be no more,  
and all but love will cease.

\*OPENING SENTENCES

Come, all you who are neighbors, come and worship your God!  
Come, all you who are beloved, come and worship your God!  
Come, all you who are God's precious children, come and worship your God!  
Come, let us all give praise to the one who made us all very good,  
who loves us very much,  
and who calls us to go and do likewise!  
***Let us worship our God.***

GATHERING PRAYER (*prayer offered in an echo style, repeated by worshippers one line at a time*)

Thank you, God ***thank you God***  
for gathering us here ***for gathering us here***  
in your holy house – ***in your holy house -***  
to sing and pray, ***to sing and pray,***  
to speak and listen, ***to speak and listen,***  
to wonder and grow. ***to wonder and grow.***  
Teach us by your Word ***Teach us by your Word***  
and fill us with your Spirit ***and fill us with your Spirit***  
that we may go out ***that we may go out***  
sharing your great love ***sharing your great love***  
with all our neighbors; ***with all our neighbors;***  
in Jesus' name. Amen. ***In Jesus' name. Amen.***

# OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

## A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of all beauty, goodness, and truth,  
open our hearts to your Word  
and guide our feet by your Spirit,  
so we can shout and sing  
from the mountaintops  
the good news of your peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

**LEVITICUS 19:18**

PEW BIBLE, 147

**1 JOHN 4:7-21**

PEW BIBLE, 1485

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** *"Let There Be Peace On Earth"*

JILL JACKSON & SY MILLER

Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let there be peace on earth  
The peace that was meant to be.

With God as our Father  
Neighbors all are we  
Let us walk with our neighbors  
In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take  
May this be my solemn vow.

To take each moment and live  
Each moment in peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me.  
(Repeat these four lines)

## TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Friends,  
The truth is that God loves you just the way you are. No matter what.  
But that doesn't change the fact that sometimes we do things we probably shouldn't do,  
And other times we don't do things we probably should do.  
Because of that, it's important that we tell the truth about ourselves.  
So I invite you to do that with me now, as we pray together out loud:

*Holy Love, first and last, you offer yourself to us completely and call us to your life.  
Yet we are afraid, for your Way demands much of us. We confess that we are often  
quick to judge and slow to forgive. We confess that we choose that which does not satisfy,  
even as you offer us abundant life. When our fear overrides your call, forgive us.  
When we act from our own limited love rather than your expansive grace, forgive us.  
Reach down to us again, lift us up as a mother lifts a child to her cheek.  
Cast out our fear and fill us with the breath of your Spirit,  
that we may live the love we see in your Son, Jesus the Christ,  
in whose perfect name we pray.*

"LIMITED LOVE," TERI PETERSON

Let us now continue to pray in silence.

*Silence*

## AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

God loves you just the way you are.  
No matter what.  
Know that in Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven.  
***Thanks be to God. Amen.***

**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:** *"Jesus, Teach Us to Be Neighbors"*

DAVID GAMBRELL AND WIL SMITH

(Congregation see page 6 for music)

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

**Sermon:** *"God is Love"*

REV. PHILLIPS

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...Lord, in your mercy, *hear our prayer.*

## 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 #367: *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

TUNE: CHEREPONI

### 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. **(Refrain)**

## \*SENDING

Like shoes for your feet  
put on whatever will make you ready  
to go and tell everyone  
the good news of God's peace.  
*Thanks be to God.*

POSTLUDE: *A Joyous Song of Praise*

SAMUEL WESLEY/ARR. BY EDWARD BROUGHTON

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\* Please stand in body or spirit.

# Jesus, Teach Us to Be Neighbors

*A Hymn for Mr. Rogers Day / Neighboring Sunday*



*instrumental interlude* 1. Je - sus, teach us to be neigh-bors,  
2. Je - sus, teach us to be neigh-bors,  
3. Je - sus, teach us to be neigh-bors,



liv - ing, lov - ing side by side, hands for help - ing  
giv - ing, serv - ing those in need, mak - ing peace and  
work - ing, pray - ing for the day when the Lamb will



one an - oth - er, arms of wel - come, o - pen wide.  
do - ing jus - tice, shar - ing faith in word and deed.  
be the Shep-herd, when our tears are washed a - way.



Ev - er learn - ing, ev - er grow-ing, Je - sus, teach us  
Ev - er learn - ing, ev - er grow-ing, Je - sus, teach us  
Ev - er learn - ing, ev - er grow-ing, Je - sus, teach us



all to be chil - dren of the new cre - a - tion,  
all to be chil - dren of the new cre - a - tion,  
all to be chil - dren of the new cre - a - tion,



joined in true com-mu - ni - ty. *instrumental interlude*  
where we are one fam - i - ly.  
sing - ing praise in har - mo - ny.



# Our Faith Community @ Work

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### **Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> Shrimp-a-Roo**

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> 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!!

### **Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup> 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

### **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 26<sup>th</sup> Fall Festival**

### **Invitation To Scout Summer Program**

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

- June 15<sup>th</sup> Hike at Lake Michael
- June 26<sup>th</sup> Science STEM Slam
- July 20<sup>th</sup> Hike at Jaycee Trail Reidsville
- Aug 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:benes.nc@att.net)

## This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, July 14<sup>th</sup>                      Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, July 17<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, July 21<sup>st</sup>                      Nineth Sunday after Pentecost  
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)



### 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

1500 S. Main Street  
Graham, NC 27253  
[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)  
336.227.4041

### Staff

Transitional Pastor: Rev. Jon Phillips – [pastor@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:pastor@bethanypreschurch.org)

Chaplain: Rick Purcell – [chaplain@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:chaplain@bethanypreschurch.org)

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – [music@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:music@bethanypreschurch.org)

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – [admin@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:admin@bethanypreschurch.org)

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – [finance@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:finance@bethanypreschurch.org)

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