



Bethany Presbyterian Church

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

July 28, 2024 – 11:00 am
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



"Christ Pantocrator," c. 6th century,
Saint Catherine's Monastery, Sinai

And this is the testimony: God gave eternal life to us, and this life is in his Son.
1 John 5:11 (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 LiturgyLink, <https://www.liturgylink.net>; and Nathan Nettleton, LaughingBird.net

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Come, Come, Ye Saints*

LANI SMITH/TUNE: ALL IS WELL, BY J.T. WHITE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***OPENING HYMN :** *Come, We That Love the Lord*

ISAAC WATTS

Come, we that love the Lord,
and let our joys be known;
join in a song with sweet accord,
and thus surround the throne.

Let those refuse to sing
who never knew our God;
but children of the heav'nly King
may speak their joys abroad.

The hill of Zion yields
a thousand sacred sweets
before we reach the heav'nly fields,
or walk the golden streets.

Then let our songs abound,
and every tear be dry;
we're marching through Emmanuel's ground
to fairer worlds on high.

***OPENING SENTENCES**

"WONDER AND WORSHIP," STEPHEN FEARING

Today we sabbath, we take rest in the Lord our God.
We put aside productivity to wonder and worship.
Today we sabbath, to do a different kind of work.
We have gathered to do liturgy, the work of the people.
Today we sabbath, for the world does not revolve around us.
We revolve around God and God's goodness and grace.
Come, let us worship God!

GATHERING PRAYER

O God, your Son, Jesus,
prayed for his disciples,
and sent them into the world
to proclaim the coming of your reign.
By your Holy Spirit,
hold the church in unity,
and keep it faithful to your Word,
so that, breaking bread together,
we may be one with Christ
in faith and love and service,
now and forever. ***Amen.***

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"LIVING AND SHOWING LOVE," ANDY JAMES

***Living God,
speak to us anew of your love in Jesus Christ,
that we too might live in love every day
and show that love to all the world.
Amen.***

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

PSALM 1:1-3

PEW BIBLE, 665

1 JOHN 5:9-13

PEW BIBLE, 1486

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 #359:** *More Love to Thee, O Christ*

E. PRENTISS

More love to Thee, O Christ,
More love to Thee!
Hear Thou the prayer I make
On bended knee.
This is my earnest plea:
More love, O Christ, to Thee;
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!

Once earthly joy I craved,
Sought peace and rest;
Now Thee alone I seek,
Give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be:
More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!

Then shall my latest breath
Whisper Thy praise;
This be the parting cry
My heart shall raise;
This still its prayer shall be:
More love, O Christ to Thee;
More love to Thee,
More love to Thee!

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

"SOME OTHER PLACE," NATHAN WILLIAMS

Let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves.

Creating and transforming God,
you call us to spread the joy of your kingdom
and live as agents of your renewal in the world.
We confess that we are content to locate your kingdom
in some other place, some other time, some other reality.
We have been unwilling to welcome your ever-present Spirit,
to strive for your justice in the world,
or to recognize the risen Christ in the face of others.
Forgive us.
Open our hearts, our minds, and our lives
to see the truth right in front of us.
Free us from our foolishness,
and teach us to live by your wisdom.

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 #368: *I've Got Peace Like a River*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Brother James' Air*

SETTING BY DOUGLAS E. WAGNER

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"God's Testimony"*

REV. PHILLIPS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.***

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

"COMMISSION & BLESSING," NATHAN NETTLETON

Go now, and love one another,
because love is from God.
Proclaim God's salvation to every generation.
Remain in Jesus Christ,
and like branches of a vine, draw your life from him.

And may God the vine grower tend you and make you faithful;
May Jesus Christ abide in you and give you life;
And may the Holy Spirit cast out all fear and fill you with God's love.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Minuet*

G.F. HANDEL/ARR. BY LANI SMITH

* Please stand in body or spirit.



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Tuesday, July 30th 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 26th Fall Festival**

END OF SUMMER POOL PARTY

All Bethany Youth and Parents are invited to our End of Summer Pool Party.

Saturday August 24th, 2:00 pm

1407 E. Gilbreath St
Graham, NC 27253

Food: Pot Luck. Bring a dish or drink.

BBQ Grill and Pool will be provided.

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 28th Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Wednesday, July 31st

6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, August 4th Eleventh 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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Transitional Pastor: Rev. Jon Phillips – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org

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Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – admin@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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