



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

[www.bethanypreschurch.org](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org)

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August 4, 2024 – 11:00 am

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*



"Songe de Nabuchodonosor: la statue composite."  
c. 15th century, France.

"But in the days of those kings, the God of heaven will raise up an everlasting kingdom that will be indestructible. Its rule will never pass to another people. It will shatter other kingdoms. It will put an end to all of them. It will stand firm forever,"

Daniel 2:44 (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 The Iona Community, Iona Abbey Worship Book, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2017), and LiturgyLink, <https://www.liturgylink.net>.*

### TRINITY CHIMES

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**\*OPENING HYMN #139:** *Come, Thou Almighty King*

FELICE DE GIARDINI

Come, Thou Almighty King,  
Help us Thy name to sing,  
Help us to praise:  
Father, all-glorious,  
O'er all victorious,  
Come, and reign over us,  
Ancient of Days.

Come, Thou Incarnate Word,  
Gird on Thy mighty sword,  
Our prayer attend:  
Come, and Thy people bless,  
And give Thy word success;  
Spirit of holiness,  
On us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter,  
Thy sacred witness bear  
In this glad hour:  
Thou who almighty art,  
Now rule in every heart,  
And ne'er from us depart,  
Spirit of power.

To Thee, great One in Three,  
The highest praises be,  
Hence evermore!  
Thy sovereign majesty  
May we in glory see,  
And to eternity  
Love and adore.

**\*OPENING SENTENCES**

"IMAGINE, DREAM, CREATE, WORSHIP," SCOTT CERVAS

As a new light dawns... the sounds of sunrise stir us from our slumber!  
As we gather together... songs of shared celebration ascend from our souls!  
As we reside within our reality... God's Spirit invites us to imagine...  
dares us to dream... and compels us to create live as it is intended to be!  
So let's not simply sit and stand! Let's not simply sing songs and say words!  
Let's imagine... let's dream... let's create... and let's worship God!

**GATHERING PRAYER**

*Holy God, Author of our dreams,  
help us to catch a vision  
of what you have for us,  
a community in the midst of transition,  
that your dream for what our little church could be  
becomes the vision that we not only long for,  
not only strive for,  
but live into.  
All the days of our lives together.  
Amen.*

# OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

## A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Listen for God's word  
coming to us in Holy Scripture  
*Our hearts and minds are open.*

God be in our listening,  
God be in our understanding.  
*Amen.*

## ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

**GENESIS 41:14-16**

PEW BIBLE, 50

**DANIEL 2:24-49**

PEW BIBLE, 1072

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 #329:** *Break Thou the Bread of Life*

MARY ARTEMESIA LATHBURY

Break Thou the bread of life,  
Dear Lord, to me,  
As Thou didst break the loaves  
Beside the sea;  
Beyond the sacred page  
I seek Thee, Lord;  
My spirit pants for Thee,  
O living Word!

Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord,  
Now unto me,  
As Thou didst bless the bread  
By Galilee;  
Then shall all bondage cease,  
All fetters fall;  
And I shall find my peace,  
My all in all!

## TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

"DODGED YOUR CALL," J. CHRISTY RAMSEY

Let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves.

*God of all gods, Master of all kings, we have dodged your call  
and detoured from your path so much  
that we are often lost and cannot hear you.  
We deny dreams of your kingdom come,  
your will be done by rebuilding ruins with relics.  
Our exile from you means a nightmare of struggling with others.  
Forgive our self worship  
and reveal the mystery of the dream you have for us...*

*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

### THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Interpreting the Dream"*

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.***

For you, Creator God...  
...Your earth summons us to break silence  
and be one with the song of creation.  
***We give you thanks and praise...***

For you, God of all...  
...Millions upon millions invite us  
to be one with them in the drama of worship.  
***We give you thanks and praise...***

In heaven, beyond our seeing...  
...They call us to be one with the harmony of heaven.  
***We give you thanks and praise...***

So, gladly, we join our voices  
to those of earth, sea, and sky,  
in the universal hymn of praise  
which echoes through time and eternity.

***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.***

Come now, O Christ...  
...until we and all humanity  
resemble the One whose food we now share.

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world, have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world, have mercy on us.***

***Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the  
world,  
Give us your peace.***

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

The gifts of God for the people of God.  
***Thanks be to God.***

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O Brother Jesus,  
we have been guests at your table;  
come with us wherever we go  
and be present in all that we share.

***Summon out in us, whom you have fed,  
generosity of spirit  
to ensure that all the hungry are nourished  
and earth's barren places are fertile  
with food, faith, hope and love.***

## 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 #438: *Blest Be the Ties That Bind*

JOHN FAWCETT

Blest be the tie that binds  
Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
Is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne  
We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
Our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear,  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear.

From sorrow, toil, and pain,  
And sin we shall be free;  
And perfect love and friendship reign  
Through all eternity.

### \*SENDING

Now go in peace,  
seeking after God's dream.  
Do what God wills,  
follow where Christ calls,  
pray for the gifts of the Spirit;  
and may the blessing of God  
the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer  
rest on and remain with you  
now and always.  
*Amen.*

### POSTLUDE

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\* *Please stand in body or spirit.*



# Our Faith Community @ Work

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### **Tuesday, August 20<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**

## **END OF SUMMER SCOUTS POOL PARTY**

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

**Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto:benes.nc@att.net)

## This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, Communion & Pennies for Hunger  
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 – Choir Practice

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

# bethany presbyterian

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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### Staff

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

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