



## Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

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

[www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](https://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian)

September 5, 2021 – 11:00 am  
*Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost*



### ALL PEOPLE GREAT AND SMALL

*“Jesus left that place and went into the region of Tyre.  
He didn’t want anyone to know that he had entered a house,  
but he couldn’t hide.”*  
Mark 7:24 (CBE)

### 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.*

#### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *This is My Father’s World*

PATRICIA LOU HARRIS/FRANKLIN L. HARRIS

#### 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 a socially-distanced peace of Christ with your neighbor.)*

**\* GATHERING SONG #469:** *Morning Has Broken*

ELEANOR FARJEON

*Morning has broken like the first morning,  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain’s new fall sunlit from Heaven,  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.*

*Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
Sprung in completeness where his feet pass.*

*Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,  
Born of the one light Eden saw play.  
Praise with elation, Praise every morning,  
God's re-creation of the new day!*

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

The eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped.

***The lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy***

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert

***The burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.***

**\* OPENING HYMN #379: My Hope is Built on Nothing Less**

EDWARD MOTE

*My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.*

*I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.*

***Refrain***

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

*In ev'ry rough and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the vale.  
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]*

*Not earth, nor hell, my soul can move; I rest upon unchanging love.  
I trust his righteous character, his counsel, promise, and his pow'r. [Refrain]*

*When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,  
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]*

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

**A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Because of the noise and static

***Eternal God, by your Word and Spirit, you have given us a new commandment: to love and serve one another in Jesus' name. Let the good news of your liberating love be sealed in our hearts and shown in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE**

**ISAIAH 35:4-7**

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 874

**MARK 7:24-37**

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1225

The Word of the Lord.

***Thanks be to God.***

**AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS**

Those who trust in GOD are like Zion Mountain: Nothing can move it, a rock-solid mountain you can always depend on. Mountains encircle Jerusalem, and GOD encircles his people—always has and always will. The fist of the wicked will never violate what is due the righteous, provoking wrongful violence. Be good to your good people, GOD, to those whose hearts are right! GOD will round up the backsliders, corral them with the incorrigibles. Peace over Israel! (Psalm 125 The Message)

***God in Community, Holy in One, we come to you as your people.***

In the Gospel of John Chapter 6, Jesus asked the 12, "are you also disappointed? Do you also want to leave me? And Simon Peter answered, "Where would we go? We believe, it's you who have the words of eternal life."

Like the 12, where would we go? Only God can forgive us and make us whole. Join me in the prayer, that we may ask His forgiveness.

***You love us with open arms, O God. Forgive us when we do not put your love into practice: when we do not challenge the injustice around us; when we are not generous with the gifts we have to share; when we are slow to compassion and quick to judgment; when we contribute to the brokenness of the world instead of helping to make it whole. Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short. Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way.***

**AN OFFERING OF SILENCE**

**AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE**

When we are troubled by our missteps and mistakes, we can turn to our Lord for help and solace. He hears us in the darkest night or in the brightest sunshine.

***Now stand firm in your faith, covered by the saving grace of God and ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!***

***Thanks be to God. Amen.***

**\* RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me***

PAUL VASILE

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.*

*World without end, without end. Amen.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.*

**\* SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

As the people of God gathered in these places, who are we?

***We are a community of believers, called by God to WORSHIP, SERVE, TEACH, and SUPPORT.***

With the whole church, let us say what we believe. 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**

**\* A DOXOLOGY: *We Give Thee but Thine Own***

WILLIAM W HOW

*We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.*

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\* HYMN OF THE DAY #303: *Jesus, Lover of My Soul***

CHARLES WESLEY

*Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to Thy bosom fly, while the nearer waters roll,  
while the tempest still is high; hide me, O my Savior, hide,  
till the storm of life is past; safe into the haven guide; O receive my soul at last!*

*Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee; leave, ah! leave me not alone,  
still support and comfort me. All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;  
cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.*

*Thou, O Christ, art all I want; More than all in Thee I find,  
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, Heal the sick, and lead the blind. Just and holy is Thy name;  
I am all unrighteousness; False and full of sin I am, Thou art full of truth and grace.*

*Plenteous grace with thee is found, grace to cover all my sin; let the healing streams abound;  
make and keep me pure within. Thou of life the fountain art;  
freely let me take of thee; spring thou up within my heart, rise to all eternity.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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

**THE WORD IN MUSIC:** *To God Be the Glory*

JOHN SCRIVEYNER/WILLIAM H. DOANE

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

Sermon: ***All People Great and Small***

REV. SAMUEL JENKINS

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

**\* CLOSING HYMN #324: *Open My Eyes That I May See***

CLARA H. SCOTT

*Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear,  
and while the wave notes fall on my ear, ev'rything false will disappear.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my mouth and let me bear gladly the warm truth ev'rywhere.  
Open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my mouth, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

**\* SENDING**

God sends us forth into the world,

***so we will go to walk miles in the shoes of others.***

Jesus calls us to serve everyone we meet,

***so we will become all things to all people.***

The Holy Spirit encourages us to let go of our gospel-given rights,

***so we may breathe new life into the faint.***

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\* POSTLUDE: *Go Out With Praise***

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*\* Please stand in body or spirit.*

DAVID PAXTON



# *Our Faith Community @ Work*

**WORSHIP Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and Helen Brown)

**WELCOME** to this service of worship at Bethany Presbyterian Church (PCUSA). Whether you are a member or a visitor 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](http://www.bethanypreschurch.org); on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian](http://www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian); or on Twitter by following [@bpresbyterian](https://twitter.com/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.**

**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](http://www.buzzsprout.com/9198). A **Live Stream** and a **Video Recording** of our Live Stream are available on our Facebook page and on our website.

**SERVE Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Randy Cousins and Tina Patterson)

Our ongoing prayer list is below. Please let the church office know if there are any changes.

Bill Faucette	Diane Miller	John & Ann Sutton
Jack Cook	Peter Slater	Ruby Martin
Joan Richardson	Joey Leake	Teresa Wilborn
Shannon Russell	Ida Whitney	Tiffany Tauchren
Katherine Turner	Jean Berry	Barbara Cousins
Jeremy Harden	Christy Lutterloh	Pat Kennedy
Anne McDaniels	Eleanor Thompson	Mike Sutton
Alex Thomas	Nancy Sutton	Ben Johnson
Stewart Dillard	Norma Proctor	Grace Johnson
Shelvia Russell	Christopher Bagley	Frank Wrenn
Carol Brooks	Randy Thompson	Sylvia Donley
Janie Holt Clapp	Glenn Harden	Joyce & Norman Mize
Katherine Bayliff		Family of Debbie Walters

**TEACH Ministry:** (Lead Elders: Tracey Troxler and Shelby Smith)

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) - NOT CURRENTLY MEETING DUE TO COVID  
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.

**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: Chip Allen, Ben Russell, and Bill Abplanalp)

Elders of the Month for September are **Tina Patterson** and **Helen Brown**.

## This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (as scheduled)
- 11:00 – Worship (In-person and Live Stream)

Sunday, the 12<sup>th</sup>:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages (as scheduled)
- 11:00 – Worship (In-person and Live Stream)

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



### Session

**Moderator:** Rick Purcell

**Clerk:** Randy Cousins

**Treasurer:** Glenn Patterson

### Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell  
Ben Russell  
Tracey Troxler

### Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp  
Helen Brown  
Tina Patterson

### Class of 2023:

Chip Allen  
Randy Cousins  
Shelby Smith

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### Staff

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

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*Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*

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