



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

September 25, 2022 – 11:00 am

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Olli Homann, "Prison"

While he was in jail, the LORD was with Joseph and remained loyal to him.
Genesis 29:20b-21 (CEB)

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!

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***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.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. **(Refrain)**

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. **(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)**

*OPENING SENTENCES

PHIL. 2:11

Let every tongue confess the good news: ***Jesus Christ is Lord; glory to God!***

Let us worship our God.

*GATHERING PRAYER

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly cares, but to love that which is above, and even now, while we live among transient things, to hold fast to those things that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. ***Amen.***

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O God, by your Holy Spirit tell us what we need to hear
and show us what we ought to do
to follow Jesus Christ our Savior. ***Amen.***

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 5:11-12

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1173

GENESIS 39:1-23

PEW BIBLE, PAGES 48-49

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

***DOXOLOGY #593:** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

THOMAS KEN

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. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

*BLESSING OUR GIFTS

Fairest Lord Jesus,
Ruler of all nature,
O Thou of God to earth come down,
Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.

Fair are the meadows,
Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels heaven can boast.

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

Friends, let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves. Please pray with me.

O Lord our God, you call us to work for a world where all will be fed and have dignity, but we find ourselves distracted by our own desires. You call us to seek justice and peace, but we are satisfied with injustice and discord. You call us to bring liberty to the oppressed, but we do not insist on freedom for all.

Forgive us, O Lord. Turn us to your will by the power of your Spirit, so that all may know your justice and peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

A MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Hear the good news! Hope does not disappoint us, for God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us in baptism. Believe the good news and give thanks: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **Amen.**

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: #837 (GLORY TO GOD): *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

ELISHA A. HOFFMAN

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain:

Leaning, leaning,
safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"God is With Us"*

REV. PHILLIPS

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

So now, as Jesus taught us, let us pray in the language we are most familiar with, saying:

*...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.*

*CLOSING HYMN #339: *Be Thou My Vision*

MARY E. BYRNE - TRANSLATOR

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art--
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

*CHARGE

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

*BLESSING

Now may the Lord of peace give you peace at all times and in all ways.
The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

POSTLUDE

** Please stand in body or spirit.*

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

Sunday, September 25th – Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

Wednesday, September 28th

- ☐ 6:30 – Choir Practice

Sunday, October 2nd – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost & Communion Sunday
Pennies for Hunger Sunday

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

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Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

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Class of 2022:

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