



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

September 29, 2019 – 11:00 am

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



“But as for you, man of God, run away from all these things. Instead, pursue righteousness, holy living, faithfulness, love, endurance, and gentleness. Compete in the good fight of faith.

Grab hold of eternal life—you were called to it, and you made a good confession of it in the presence of many witnesses.”

1 Timothy 6:11-12 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to our service of worship! Join in with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength . . . don’t hold back! Sing from your toes! Pray from your guts. Worship the Eternal Creator from your soul. It’s not about perfect music. It’s not about the perfect prayer. It’s about joining the holy roar of a community honestly wrestling with what it means to follow their Creator.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *God Will Take Care of You*

C. BOYLES

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 the peace of Christ with your neighbor.)

* **GATHERING SONG:** *Open the Eyes of My Heart*

PAUL BALOCHE

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;

I want to see you; I want to see you;

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord. Open the eyes of my heart;

I want to see you; I want to see you;

to see you high and lifted up, shining in the light of your glory.

Pour out your power and love as we sing “Holy, holy, holy.”

Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy. Holy, holy, holy, I want to see you.

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

The word has come for us from God:

who promises to shelter us under the wings of hope and grace.

The word has come to us from Jesus:

who encourages us to remember the good news we have received.

The word flows to us from the Spirit:

who reminds us to place our hope and trust in God.

* **OPENING HYMN #145: Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!**

MARION

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

1 TIMOTHY 6:6-19

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1447

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

When we fall into the traps of groundless fears, you deliver us. When an epidemic of worry threatens to overcome us, you protect us. When harmful words are flung at us, you answer our cries for help. Gracious God, we worship you.

When our lives crumble, you urge us to buy hope's fields. When we are tempted by wealth, you point us to those who have nothing but share everything. When we are eager to grasp senseless lies, you wrap our hands around God's promises. Servant of the poor, we follow you.

When the world silences our hope, you give us the words to make the good confession of faith. When we have lost our way and can no longer endure the emptiness of our lives, you satisfy us from the abundance of God's grace and joy. Sheltering Spirit, we seek your peace.

God in Community, Holy in One, our Refuge, our Trust, our Hope, we lift our prayer to you

In God's presence, our lives are exposed, our words are shown for their hollowness, our need is revealed. Let us confess who we are, as we ask God to embrace us with grace and hope.

We need to confess how often we are not content with the simple gifts and lives you offer. Tempted by everything, we can become insensitive to those who have nothing.

Encouraged by the world to accumulate more, we may miss the chance to gather your goodness and godliness.

Chasing after all which has no value, we may not have the energy to pursue the faith, the love, the gentleness you have for us.

Forgive us, God of Reversals. You have sent the One who speaks the words we need to listen to in order to have life.

Help us to remember how you have redeemed us, and in remembering, may we make that good confession that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior, now and forever.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is the good news that comes from God: I will hear your prayers, I will answer with hope and peace, I will deliver you from your sins.

God has covered us with grace; under God's hope we will find shelter. Thanks be to God. Amen.

* **RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE #355: Hear the Good News of Salvation**

NETTLETON

*Hear the good news of salvation: Jesus died to show God's love.
Such great kindness! Such great mercy! Come to us from heaven above.
Jesus Christ, how much I love You! Jesus Christ, You say from sin!
How I love You! Look upon me. Love me still and cleanse within.*

* SAYING WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE BELIEVE

As the people of God gathered in this place, 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

OFFERTORY: *He Touched Me*

W. GAITHER

* **A DOXOLOGY #422:** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

BEACH SPRING

*God, whose giving knows no ending, from Your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
Gifted by You, we turn to You, offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.*

* **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

* **HYMN OF THE DAY #527:** *Near to the Heart of God*

MCAFFEE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Unity*

GLORRAINE MOONE

Behold how good and how pleasant it is for kindred to dwell together in unity.

Unity. Lord, we pray for unity.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: ***The Price of a Clean Life***

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* **CLOSING HYMN #210:** *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past*

ST. ANNE

* **SENDING**

God sends us from this place with a word of hope.

We will offer the shelter of grace to all in need.

Jesus sends us out with the word of life.

We will seek to share community with those we will meet.

The Spirit sends us into a world which longs for justice.

We will trust that God's freedom will be offered to all people.

* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

* **POSTLUDE:** *Blessed Be the Name*

B. GLYNCANNON

* *Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WORSHIP Ministry: (Lead Elders: Nancy Purcell and A. J. Campbell)

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; on Facebook at 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.**

For our children: Childcare is available during the entire worship hour for infants and preschool children. Children are invited and welcome to stay in the service, in whatever manner befits their person: they should feel free to squirm, whine, dance, sing, cry, pray, or otherwise make themselves known. Activities for children can be found at several locations throughout the sanctuary. See an usher if you can’t find one.

Audio and Visual Assistance: A hearing enhancement system is available for those who have a need. An usher will be happy to provide you with a receiver this morning. Large print bulletins are also available.

Please take a moment – members and guests – to sign the **Fellowship Pads** that are located on each row. If you are a guest, please share any contact information you wish to, so that we may be in touch.

Operating our audio and video systems this morning is **Rick Purcell**. Anyone wishing to join this team of volunteers please contact the church office at any time.

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.

Resources used in today’s worship:

- *The Text this Week* website (www.textweek.com)
- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- *Feasting on the Word* worship resources.

The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given in memory of **Willie Schappacher’s** birthday on October 3rd, given by **Christel Schappacher and family**.

Beginning this Wednesday, John and Debbie will be away for a week, taking a “bucket list” vacation traveling by train through the Canadian Rockies. They will be traveling with classmates of John’s from the Class of 1979 of the Presbyterian School of Christian Education - celebrating their 40-year reunion! John will return to the office on Thursday, October 10th.

Next Sunday, October 6th will be a special day as we celebrate **Presbyterian Women Sunday**, as well as observe **World Communion Sunday!** Worship will be led by the women of Bethany, and Elder Rick Purcell will preside at the table.

Do you have a smartphone? Are you on Facebook? If so, take a moment to **“check in” on Facebook**, letting your friends know that you are here at Bethany Presbyterian Church! It may seem like a small thing, but in reality, it is a wonderful message of evangelism and witness, as you let the cyber-world know what is important to you.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elders: Jean Payne and Randy Cousins)

We are pleased to share the information that all the **school supplies** that we collected a few Sundays ago have been delivered to South Graham and North Graham Elementary Schools. They wish to thank all who donated for your generosity and they assure us that these supplies will be put to good use!

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	Shirley Lane
Teresa Wilborn	Shannon Russell	Ida Whitney
Tiffany Tauchren	Mary Moore	Katherine Turner
Jean Berry	Barbara Cousins	Jeremy Harden
Christy Lutterloh	Pat Kennedy	Anne McDaniels
Eleanor Thompson	Donna Mitchell-Ayers	Mike Sutton
Nancy Sutton	Pete Campbell	Steward Dillard
Norma Proctor	Ben Johnson	Shelvia Russell
Katherine Bayliff	Alex Thomas	Foy Bayliff
Randy Thompson	Robert Sykes	Ritchie Fishburne
Family of Don Boggs	Glenn Thompson	Janie Holt Clapp

TEACH Ministry: (Lead Elders: Karen Maxwell and Tracey Troxler)

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)

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. The Fellowship Class is currently participating in the *Feasting on the Word* summer series.

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: Ron Osborne, Chip Allen, and Ben Russell)

Elders of the Month for September are **Randy Cousins** and **Jean Payne**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship

Monday, the 30th:

- 6:30 - Fall Book Study

Wednesday, the 25th:

- 7:00 - Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, the 2nd - Wednesday, the 9th:

- John away

Sunday, the 6th:

- 9:45 - Sunday school for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship
 - Presbyterian Women Sunday
 - World Communion Sunday

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Randy Cousins

Karen Maxwell

Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell

Ben Russell

Tracey Troxler

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love learn serve



1500 S. Main Street
Graham, NC 27215
www.bethanypreschurch.org
336.227.4041

Staff

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org

Director of Music: Christopher Bagley – music@bethanypreschurch.org

Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org

Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

Scan this QR code for fast, safe, and reliable online giving:



Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation

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