



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

November 3, 2024 – 11:00 am

*Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion*



But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this **extraordinary power belongs to God** and does not come from us. 2 Corinthians 4: 7

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: *Immortal, Invisible*

LANI SMITH

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SENTENCES

BASED ON DEUTERONOMY 6:4-5 & LEVITICUS 19:18

Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

Hear, O Church of God: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

And we shall love the Lord our God with all our heart, and with all our soul, and with all our might.

Hear, O children of God: there is another commandment like the first.

Yes: we shall love our neighbors as we love ourselves.

These two commandments are the foundation of our Christian lives.

Thanks be to God!

Let us worship God!

***OPENING HYMN #138:** *Holy, Holy, Holy!*

REGINALD HEBER

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, Holy, Holy! all the saints adore thee,
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
Who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, Holy, Holy! though the darkness hide thee,
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
Only thou art holy, there is none beside thee
Perfect in power, in love, and purity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea;
Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

The Scriptures tell us, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Gracious God, you have loved us by sending your only Son, but we have not loved you with our whole heart, soul, mind and strength. In his life and death, Jesus showed us how truly to love our neighbors, but we love ourselves more than we love others. Loving God, forgive us for withholding our complete love for and devotion to you.

Help us give our hearts and lives fully to you so our hearts and lives may be open to our neighbors, especially those in need. Lord, forgive us, love us, and guide us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

BASED ON 1 TIMOTHY 1:15

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,
that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.
Children of God, hear and believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

HEARING GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Live-a-Humble*

DR. PETER BAGLEY

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

We wait for you, Lord, our souls wait for you, and in your Word we hope.
Open our hearts and minds to hear your Word read and proclaimed, that
we may have hope and believe in the good news. Amen.

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5-12

PEW BIBLE, 1407

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"We have this treasure"*

Rev. SCOTT LAWSON

HYMN : *Take Time to Be Holy*

WILLIAM D. LONGSTAFF

Take time to be holy, speak oft with thy Lord;
Abide in Him always, and feed on His Word.
Make friends of God's children, help those who are weak,
Forgetting in nothing His blessing to seek.

Take time to be holy, the world rushes on;
Spend much time in secret, with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like Him thou shalt be;
Thy friends in thy conduct His likeness shall see.

Take time to be holy, let Him be thy Guide;
And run not before Him, whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow the Lord,
And, looking to Jesus, still trust in His Word.

Take time to be holy, be calm in thy soul,
Each thought and each motive beneath His control.
Thus led by His Spirit to fountains of love,
Thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

AN OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

BLESSING OUR GIFTS

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION BY THE PEOPLE

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***CLOSING HYMN #462:** *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

CHARLES WESLEY

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day's return
Till Thy mercy's beams I see,
Till they inward light impart,
Cheer my eyes and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine;
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiance divine;
Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display,
Shining to the perfect day.

*SENDING

Peace be to the whole community,
and love with faith,
from God the Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace be with all
who have an undying love
for our Lord Jesus Christ.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with all of you.
Amen.

POSTLUDE: *Hark, the Glad Sound!*

TOM BIRCHWOOD

** Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Tuesday, November 12th 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

Sunday, November 17th 11:00am Brass Sunday - Sanctuary

Brass Sunday is also back! Join us for a worship featuring our wonderful brass ensemble.

Sunday, November 24th 11:00am Stewardship Sunday

We will be blessing our pledges on this Sunday as part of our Stewardship Season.

Sunday, November 24th 6:00pm Joint Thanksgiving Service – Shiloh Presbyterian Church

We are joining Shiloh Presbyterian Church this evening for a Thanksgiving Service. The service is located at Shiloh, 2638 Grand Oaks Boulevard, Burlington, NC.

Tuesday, December 3rd The Women of Bethany Church Gathering

The Women of Bethany Church will come together on Tuesday, December 3rd at 10:30am in the Fellowship hall.

Saturday, January 11, 2025 4:00pm Organ Concert - Sanctuary

S.A.F.E. (Southern Alamance Family Empowerment)

How we can help S.A.F.E. for the month of **November**? They are asking for **shelf stable sides for Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.**

S.A.F.E. will be closed the 1st and 5th Saturday of the Month.

Consider donating your plastic and paper bags.

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, November 3rd Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost; Communion; Pennies for Hunger
11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, November 6th

6:30 - No Choir Practice **Next Choir Practice will be on Thursday, November 14th**

Sunday, November 10th Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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

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love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. Scott Lawson

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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Pastor: vacant – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org

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Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org

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