



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

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

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

November 8, 2020 – 11:00 am

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost



*“Make sure no one repays a wrong with a wrong, but always pursue the good for each other and everyone else. **Rejoice always.** Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:15-18 (CEB)

## GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*“Perhaps we have all said this at some time in some particular context: ‘Enough is enough.’ We say this when circumstances drive us into a corner. We’re forced to say, ‘Enough.’ At that point in time something changes. But often, we are not likely to say ‘Enough is enough’ when it comes to money. Somehow, we never have enough money. Few people ever call a halt to the quest for wealth and say, ‘You know what? I have enough. I’d like to spend less time making money and more time making a difference.’” - Homiletics Online for November 11, 2018*

**PRELUDE:** *In Everything Give Thanks*

JULIETTE CALKINS

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### AN OFFERING OF PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*(Please take a moment to **socially distantly** share the peace of Christ with your neighbor.)*

\* **GATHERING SONG:** *Lord, Prepare Me*

JOHN THOMPSON / RANDY SCROGGS

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true.*

*With thanksgiving, I’ll be a living sanctuary for you.*

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Heirs of the covenant, come; let us present ourselves before the Lord.

**We gather to worship the Holy One, to incline our hearts to the one true God.**

Family of faith, come; choose this day: Whom will you serve?

**As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.**

\* **OPENING HYMN #551:** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

*Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.  
All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise to yield,  
wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.  
For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;  
from each field shall in that day all offenses purge away;  
give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
but the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.  
Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.  
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there forever purified, in thy presence to abide:  
come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!*

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

##### 1 THESSALONIANS 5:12-18

The Word of God for the people of God.

***Thanks be to God.***

#### AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Each morning we arise, O Lord, wondering what the day will bring. For some of us there are many wonderful things to anticipate; new opportunities to celebrate. We smile at the sun and revel in its warmth. Even in the midst of trouble, your love comes through to us in the most amazing ways.

***For our friends and family who experience great joy at this time, we offer our prayers of joy!***

For many people, pain and hurt seem to be the daily encounter with life. Hope for something better is a distant vision. Lord, be with our sisters and brothers in their pain.

***Lord, we ask for your healing love to surround them as they journey through life. Give them courage and peace.***

Lord, forgive us when we so easily turn our backs on you; when we choose not to help in times of need; when we utter words of anger and bitterness as ways to relate to one another. Heal our hearts and our wounded spirits. Lift us from the depths of our anguish into the light of your love that we may serve you faithfully.

***When the darkness becomes oppressive and we cling to our fears, O Lord, forgive us. Open our hearts and release us from all those things which block us from your love, for we ask these things in Jesus' name.***

#### AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

#### AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

This is our assurance: God forgives us. This is our hope: God's love is everlasting. This is our truth: God is with us always.

***We will speak the truth; we will live the hope; we will share God's mercy. Thanks be to God. Amen.***

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

PAUL M. VASILE

# 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Capo 3: (G) (D) (G) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D)  
B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> F Gm F

1 Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,  
2 World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,  
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free.  
World with - out end, with - out end. A - men.

As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

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

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.**

## MOMENT FOR MISSION: STEWARDSHIP II - SERVE

ELDER TINA PATTERSON

## AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

\* **A DOXOLOGY:** *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:** *Be Still My Soul*

FINLANDIA

*Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.  
Leave to thy God to order and provide, who through all changes faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.*

*Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future surely as the past.  
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.  
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.  
Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord;  
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.  
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.*

**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:** *My Help* (Psalm 121 . . . *I will lift up mine eyes . . .*)  
CHRISTOPHER BAGLEY, SOLO

DONNIE MCCLURKIN

**THE WORD PROCLAIMED**

Sermon: *Rejoice Always*

REV. JOHNSON

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

\* **CLOSING HYMN #155:** *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

DARWALL'S 148<sup>TH</sup>

*Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore!  
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!  
God's kingdom cannot fail; Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!  
Rejoice in glorious hope! For Christ, the Judge, shall come  
To glorify the saints for their eternal home.  
Lift up your heart; lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

\* **SENDING**

Go now to tell the stories of our God - rejoicing always!

***We will listen to the lives of those around us as we do.***

Go now to discover the gifts of everyone you meet - rejoicing always!

***We will remember Jesus, who blessed us with hope and life.***

Go now to share all that is within you - rejoicing always!

***We will tell everyone - from the smallest child to the oldest person - of the Spirit who longs to shape us into one community . . . rejoicing always!***

\* **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

\* **POSTLUDE:** *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

E. H. PLUMPTRE



# 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 **Video Recording** of our Zoom Worship and our Facebook Live stream will be available on our Facebook page and on our website.

We also rejoice that we have returned to **worshipping in person** in our beautiful sanctuary. Here are some guidelines to follow to ensure the health and safety of our congregation:

- **Masks must be worn at all times.**
- Please do not sit in any pews that have been blocked off. This is to make sure that social-distancing guidelines are being followed.
- Bulletins are available at the doors. They will not be distributed but you may pick one up as you wish. See the QR code to download our Interactive Digital Bulletin to your smartphone or tablet.
- The offering will not be collected but offering plates are available in the narthex. You may place your offering in the plates on your way out, or you may follow the QR code below to give online.
- Please refrain from physical interaction during our “meet and greet” time. Waves and virtual hugs are our new normal - at least for awhile!
- Although we normally encourage singing hymns with gusto, that might not be the wisest thing to do right now. Either sing softly through your mask, or hum.
- John will be at the door to greet following the service, but will not shake hands or hug . . . just an elbow bump and the knowledge that he’s smiling beneath the mask!

Resources used in today’s worship:

- *Glory to God* Presbyterian Hymnal
- *The Text This Week* website ([www.textweek.com](http://www.textweek.com))
- *Ministry Matters* website ([www.ministrymatters.com](http://www.ministrymatters.com))
- *Call to Worship* worship resource

**Stewardship Season Sermon Series:** This morning begins our four-week journey through **Stewardship Season 2020**. Our theme is ***“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”*** and is based on 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18. Each Sunday during this Stewardship Season one of our Generosity Team members will share a **Moment for Mission** focusing on one of our ministry areas. This morning we welcome **Elder Tina Patterson**. Here are the themes for each Sunday during the series:

- Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>: *Live in Peace*
- **Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>: *Rejoice Always***
- Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>: *Pray Continually*
- Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> - Consecration Sunday: *Give Thanks*

**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  
Jack Cook  
Joan Richardson  
Teresa Wilborn  
Tiffany Tauchren  
Jean Berry  
Christy Lutterloh  
Eleanor Thompson  
Nancy Sutton  
Norma Proctor  
Christopher Bagley  
Randy Thompson  
Frederica Beatty

Diane Miller  
Peter Slater  
Joey Leake  
Shannon Russell  
Family of Mary Moore  
Barbara Cousins  
Pat Kennedy  
Mike Sutton  
Pete Campbell  
Ben Johnson  
Grace Johnson  
Frank Wrenn  
Sylvia Donley  
Family of Norman Whitney

John & Ann Sutton  
Ruby Martin  
Family of Shirley Lane  
Ida Whitney  
Katherine Turner  
Jeremy Harden  
Anne McDaniels  
Alex Thomas  
Stewart Dillard  
Shelvia Russell  
Carol Brooks  
Ritchie Fishburne  
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.

**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 November are **Tracey Troxler** and **Helen Brown**.

Scan the QR code here to access and download our new Interactive Digital Bulletin.



## This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- **Stewardship Season II - Rejoice Always**
- 9:45 - Faith Formation Hour (as announced per class)
- 11:00 - Worship

Tuesday, the 10th:

- Salem Presbytery Meets (virtually)
- 7:00 - Session Meeting

Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> :

- 7:00 - Choir Rehearsal (not meeting)

Sunday, the 1st:

- **Stewardship Season III - Pray Continually**
- 9:45 - Faith Formation Hour (as announced per class)
- 11:00 - Worship

### Session

**Moderator:** Rev. John W. Johnson

**Clerk:** Karen Maxwell

**Treasurer:** Glenn Patterson

### Class of 2020:

Chip Allen  
Randy Cousins  
Karen Maxwell

### Class of 2021:

Nancy Purcell  
Ben Russell  
Tracey Troxler

### Class of 2022:

Bill Abplanalp  
Helen Brown  
Tina Patterson

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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### Staff

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Elder Emeritus: Bobby Peele  
Elder Emeritus: Don Boggs

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