



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

November 12, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.
Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost



“But if it seems wrong in your opinion to serve the Lord, then choose today whom you will serve. Choose the gods whom your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you live. But my family and I will serve the Lord.”
Joshua 24:15 (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: *Toccatà in E Minor*

JOHANN PACHELBEL

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:** *We Are Standing on Holy Ground*

GERON DAVIS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The God of our ancestors has led us to this place.

We are witnesses.

We have sworn to teach God’s promises to all generations.

We are witnesses.

The time is coming when Christ will come again in glory.

We are witnesses.

Let us tell the world of God's faithful love.
We will worship and witness together!

* **HYMN OF PRAISE #11:** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?*

VALET WILL ICE DIR GEBEN

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Your love has brought us together, O Lord, and it is your love that sustains us through each day. We pray that you would keep us faithful. Even as we watch for signs of your kingdom, strengthen us to work with you to bring about, here and now, your reign on earth.

Give us the courage to witness to your presence in the world, today, tomorrow, and into the future.

God of Mystery, we want to stay awake and be ready for your surprises, but we are tired and overcome with the usual routine.

We want to wait patiently for the fulfillment of your kingdom, but we are frustrated by our need for immediate gratification.

We want to believe your promises from ancient days, but we are overwhelmed with postmodern doubts. Come to us again, O God.

Awaken us with your unexpected grace. Shock us with your daring mercy. Lift us up from lethargy and set our feet on your path once more.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Encourage one another with these words: "We will be with the Lord forever." God's promises are never forgotten. Do not grieve as those who have no hope.

Our hope is in God, and not even death can overcome that hope. We enter into God's mercy and love! 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 save 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 confess our faith. Do you believe in God, the Father almighty?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

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 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.

* **HYMN OF THE DAY:** *When Peace Like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)*

VILLE DU HAVRE

840 When Peace like a River

It Is Well with My Soul

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
 2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
 3 He lives: O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought, My
 4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
 this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
 sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I
 clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul;
 It is well with my soul;

it is well; it is well with my soul.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *Light from Nunc Dimittis*

WILLIAM PRENTISS ROGERSON

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*** THE DOXOLOGY:**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

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

MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG (@ HEART) / MOMENT FOR MISSION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: *Thy Word Is a Lamp Unto My Feet*

AMY GRANT

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. (Repeat)
When I feel afraid, and I think I've lost my way, still you're there right beside me.
Nothing will I fear as long as you are near. Please be near me to the end.
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: **Code-Switching**

Text: Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

REV. JOHNSON

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 298

LEAVING TO SERVE IN GOD'S NAME

*** CLOSING HYMN #15:** *Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers*

LLANGLOFFAN

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE:** *Prelude in A Minor*

J. S. BACH

** Those who are able may 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. 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).

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 this morning's worship:

- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- *Homiletics Online* website (www.homileticonline.com)

If you were not present last Sunday, or have not submitted your **Pledge Card** for 2018, please do so at your earliest convenience. They can be brought by the church office at any time, or mailed to the church to the attention of Pam Hurt. Thank you for your continued support of the mission and ministry of Bethany Presbyterian!

During the final hymn this morning we will receive our **Pennies for Hunger Offering**. You are invited to come forward during the hymn and place your offerings in the basket on the communion table. This offering is normally received on the first Sunday of the month but was moved due to all that was going on in the service last Sunday.

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.

To the parents of young children: Relax! God put the wiggle in children; don't feel that you must suppress those wiggles in God's house. **Please note that a professionally staffed nursery is available during the worship hour.** Here are some hints to make worship with your children more rewarding:

- Consider sitting towards the front where it is easier for little ones to engage. On the second pew nearest the choir loft, there are activities for children of all ages to keep busy with during the service.
- Quietly explain the parts of the service and actions of the pastor, musicians, and leaders.
- Sing the hymns, pray and voice the responses. Children learn behavior by mimicking you.
- If you have to leave the sanctuary with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me!"
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.
- **To adult worshippers:** The presence of children is a gift to the church and they are a reminder that our church is growing! Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

SERVE Ministry: (Lead Elder: Jean Payne)

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

Bill Faucette
Faye Campbell
Frances Nolan
Layla Benoklen
Ida Whitney

Diane Miller
Jack Cook
Polly & Dick Wilson
Teresa Wilborn
Tiffany Tauchren

John & Ann Sutton
Peter Slater
Joey Leake
Shannon Russell
Mary Moore

Rachel Poteat
Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Mike Sutton
Steward Dillard
Ben Johnson
Celeste Bayliff Agner

Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norma Proctor
Sandy Cook and niece Rachel

Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Pete Campbell
Carolyn Thompson
Shelvia Russell
Ruby Martin

Please join us in our **Thanksgiving Food Drive**. Realizing the fact that as we enjoy the usual feasts of the season, there are many who do not have enough food to eat, and cannot properly feed their families. As a demonstration of our concern and care, we are participating in a Thanksgiving Food Drive. We ask that you bring non-perishable foods to church today and next Sunday and place them on and around the Communion Table. Next Sunday, our service will include a blessing of these gifts, and they will be distributed to local agencies.

Each week **Salem Presbytery** lists churches and other ministries that we are to lift up in prayer that week. A complete list can be viewed online at the presbytery website: www.salempresbytery.org. On the prayer list for this week are: **Covenant Presbyterian, Winston-Salem; Joyce Presbyterian, Stoneville; Cameron Presbyterian, Statesville**. Please keep these churches and ministries in your prayers this week.

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

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.

Young at Heart Class (Young at Heart Classroom – across from pastor's office)

Using the *Uniform Series*, this class engages in lively discussions pertaining to the biblically based curriculum. The class is taught by a very capable team of teachers.

Seeker's Class (Church Office)

The Seeker's Class is currently using the Wired Word curriculum, looking at current events as they relate to our faith.

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, Ron Kimrey, and Glenn Patterson)

Elders of the Month for November are **Ron Kimrey** and **Glenn Patterson**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship with Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Monday, the 13th:

- 10:00 - Circle #1
- 7:00 - Circle #3

Tuesday, the 14th:

- Meeting of Salem Presbytery / St. James Presbyterian, Greensboro
- 7:00 - Session Meeting

Wednesday, the 15th:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 19th:

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

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2017:

Ron Kimrey
Karen Maxwell

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson
Nancy Purcell
Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell
Ron Osborne
Jean Payne

bethany presbyterian
love learn serve



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Staff

Pastor: Rev. John W. Johnson – pastor@bethanypreschurch.org
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Office Administrator: Joy Saleeby – office@bethanypreschurch.org
Bookkeeper: Pam Hurt – finance@bethanypreschurch.org



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