



# Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

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

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

November 17, 2024 – 11:00 am

*Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost*

*Brass Sunday*



"Añafiles de las Cantigas de Santa María," Alfonso X el Sabio,  
c. 13th century CE

Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,  
praise him with the harp and lyre, (Psalm 150:3 NIV)

## 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! Parts of today's liturgy are from Ruth Burgess, Acorns and Archangels: Resources for Ordinary Time (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2009); and LiturgyLink, <https://www.liturgylink.net>.*

### TRINITY CHIMES

**PRELUDE:** *Be Still, My Soul*

TUNE: FINLANDIA

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #8:** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

GEORG WEISSEL/TUNE: TRURO

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates,  
Behold, the King of glory waits;  
The King of kings is drawing near;  
The Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
Make it a temple, set apart  
From earthly use for heaven's employ,  
Adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide  
My heart to Thee: here, Lord, abide.  
Let me Thy inner presence feel;  
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

**\*OPENING SENTENCES**

"THANK YOU," RUTH BURGESS

Thank you  
for food to share  
for family  
for friends  
for smiles and stories.

Thank you  
for good books  
and music  
for posters and paintings  
and sculpture on the streets.

Thank you  
for making me, me.  
Thank you for being you.  
Thanks for hope  
and tears  
and laughter.

*Thank you  
for sunshine and snow  
for stars  
for moonlight  
for frost on windows.*

*Thank you  
for computers -  
they're amazing!*

*Generous giver,  
breath of life,  
God of love  
and surprises,  
thank you.*

Let us worship our God!

**\*GATHERING PRAYER**

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts.  
Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service,  
that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**\*RESPONDING TO OUR PRAYERS:** *Hear our Prayer, O Lord* (Choir 1<sup>st</sup> time; Congregation 2<sup>nd</sup> time)

Hear our prayer, O Lord  
Hear our prayer, O Lord  
Incline Thine ear to us  
And grant us Thy peace - Amen

## OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

**A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Guide us, O God,  
*by your Word and Spirit*

that in your light we may see light,  
*in your truth find freedom,*  
and in your will discovery our peace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

## ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

**PSALM 150**

PEW BIBLE, 781

**ROMANS 15:1-13**

PEW BIBLE, 1384

The Word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

## AN OFFERING OF OUR PLEDGES

**OFFERTORY**

**\*DOXOLOGY #592:** *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

THOMAS KEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*BLESSING OUR GIFTS**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY #376** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

CHARLES WESLEY/ TUNE: HYFRYDOL

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,  
All Thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.

Come, Almighty to deliver,  
Let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never,  
Nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,  
Glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation;  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation  
Perfectly restored in Thee;  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

## TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

God promises forgiveness through Jesus Christ. In humility and faith, let us approach God in honest confession.

*Eternal God, too often we settle for the way things are. We embrace what is comfortable and disengage from the work of necessary change. We fail to hope for a new day and a new world because our present reality feels good enough. Forgive us. Have mercy upon us. Fill us with the passion to live and work towards a world made just and equitable and new. Amen.*

*Silence*

## AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

We confess, and so we rejoice, for God has accepted us for who we are, and claimed us as God's own children.

*We lift our praise to God, who fills us with hope and grace.  
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.*

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE: #398: *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

DORIS MAE AKERS

There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place,  
And I know that it's the spirit of the Lord;  
There are sweet expressions on each face,  
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit,  
Sweet Heavenly Dove,  
Stay right here with us,  
Filling us with Your love,  
And for these blessings  
We lift our hearts in praise,  
Without a doubt we'll know  
That we have been revived  
When we shall leave this place.

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

### THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Let the Nations Praise the Lord*

JAMES MONTGOMERY/MICHAEL WARE

### THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Welcome"*

RICK PURCELL, CRE

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 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.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN #288:** *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

ISSAC WATTS/TUNE: ELLACOMBE

I sing the mighty power of God  
That made the mountains rise;  
That spread the flowing seas abroad  
And built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
The sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
And all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord  
That filled the earth with food;  
God formed the creatures with a word  
And then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,  
Where'er I turn my eyes;  
If I survey the ground I tread,  
Or gaze upon the skies!

There's not a plant or flower below  
But makes Thy glories known;  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
By order from Thy throne;  
While all that borrows life from Thee  
Is ever in Thy care,  
And everywhere that we can be,  
Thou, God, art present there.

**\*SENDING**

As God's own, clothe yourselves with compassion,  
kindness, and patience, forgiving one another  
as the Lord has forgiven you,  
and crown all these things with love,  
which binds everything together  
in perfect harmony.  
***Amen.***

**POSTLUDE:** *To God Be the Glory*

FRANNY CROSBY/WILLIAM HOWARD DOANE

---

*\* Please stand in body or spirit.*



# Our Faith Community @ Work

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

We welcome today our guest brass musicians.

**Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 11:00am Brass Sunday - Sanctuary**

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

**Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> 11:00am Stewardship Sunday**

We will be blessing our pledges on this Sunday as part of our Stewardship Season. Please join us for lunch after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

**Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> The Women of Bethany Church Gathering**

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

**Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> 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

**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 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the Month. Consider donating your plastic and paper bags.

## **This Week's Calendar:**

Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>      Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost – Brass Sunday

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

Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>

6:30 - Choir Practice

Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>      Twenty-seventh Sunday after Pentecost – Stewardship Sunday

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

Lunch will be served in the Fellowship Hall after the service

# bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



## Session

**Moderator:** Rick Purcell, CRE

**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

1500 S. Main Street

Graham, NC 27253

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

336.227.4041

## Staff

**Pastor/CRE:** Rick Purcell – [pastor4bethany@gmail.com](mailto:pastor4bethany@gmail.com)

**Director of Music:** Christopher Bagley – [music@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:music@bethanypreschurch.org)

**Office Administrator:** Joy Saleeby – [admin@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:admin@bethanypreschurch.org)

**Bookkeeper:** Pam Hurt – [finance@bethanypreschurch.org](mailto:finance@bethanypreschurch.org)

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



*Bethany Presbyterian is a Stephen Ministry Congregation*

**PLEASE RECYCLE THIS BULLETIN IN THE BASKETS PROVIDED AT THE DOORS.**