



Bethany Presbyterian Church

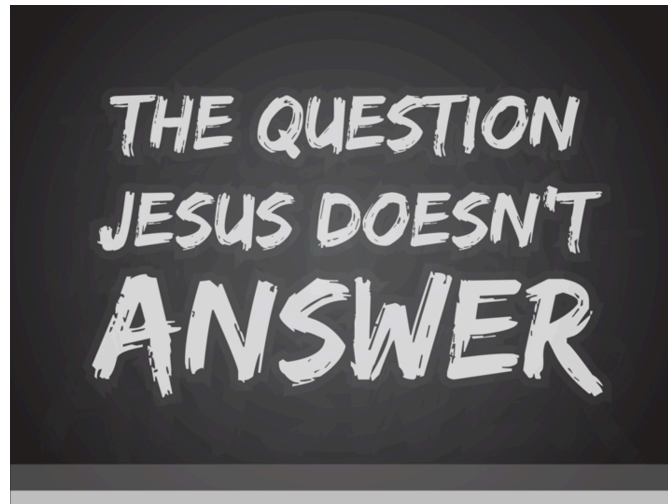
Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

November 25, 2018 – 11:00 am

Christ the King



“Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. I was born and came into the world for this reason: to testify to the truth. Whoever accepts the truth listens to my voice.’

‘What is truth?’ Pilate asked.”

John 18:37-38 (CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Parents expect questions from their children that defy an answer. “Why is the sky blue?” Yet, most of these questions do, indeed, have answers. In today’s gospel reading, a Roman governor asks a question that has vexed philosophers, politicians and pastors for millennia: “What is truth?”

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *Come, Ye Thankful People Come*

J. MANSFIELD

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 #150:** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

MADRID

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We have chosen to be here, where God remembers us.

God comes to us, the One who was and is and is to come.

Like leaves skipping over the carpet of grass:

God comes to us, the One who was and is and is to come.

Like the first glimpses of the sun peeking over the horizon:

God comes to us, the One who was and is and is to come.

Like the moon lighting our way on a cloudless, autumn night:

God comes to us, the One who was and is and is to come. Let us worship the God of all creation!

* **OPENING HYMN #139:** *Come, Thou Almighty King*

ITALIAN HYMN

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

AN INVITATION TO THE WORD

The universe proclaims God's truth. God's knowledge flows night and day!

We open our ears to hear, our minds to comprehend, our hearts to receive.

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE:

JOHN 18:33-37A

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1318

This is Holy Scripture for God's people.

Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Almighty God: from the beginning of time to the end of eternity, you have chosen to use your power and majesty to love us, to redeem us, to shape us as your people.

King of Kings and Lord of Lords: you became weak so you could confront the strength of sin and death, confounding their ridicule with your resurrection.

Spirit of God, resting upon us: may your power enflame us with your peace; may your peace touch us with your grace; may your grace fill us with your hope; may your hope lead us into your Kingdom.

God in Community, Holy in One, may your word be on our lips. While there are many with power in our world - power to hurt us, power to hire or fire us, power to control us - only God has the power to forgive us and make us new people.

The choices we make reveal who we are. Choosing the lies of the world, your Word has not been on our lips. Choosing independent and isolated lives, we do not reflect your Spirit in our actions towards others. Choosing to exalt the powerful of our day, we are unable to follow the One whose weakness gives us life.

Forgive us, God who became weak for our sake. Do not turn your face from us, but help us to face ourselves honestly. Free us from our captivity, so we may faithfully follow Jesus Christ, our King, our Lord, our Savior.

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

Shout for joy, children of God! The God who was and is and is to come loves you, forgives you, and renews you.

God's Spirit rests upon us, grace and peace are the gifts of our loving God. Amen.

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

NETTLE TON

All the sins I have committed to my Savior now I bring.

I bow down with tears of anguish; Christ forgives and so I sing:

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 say what we believe.

We believe in God – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who gathers, protects and cares for the church.

We believe the church is one worldwide communion of saints, called from the entire human family.

We believe the church is the single community of believers, reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that through the working of God's Spirit, unity is a binding force and also that we must seek this unity, which must become visible to the world.

We believe that the sin of division, separation and hatred between people and groups has been conquered by Christ.

*We commit ourselves to protecting the unity of the church universal.
We pledge to make this unity active in all of our words, thoughts and deeds. Amen.*

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

OFFERTORY: *The Grateful Heart Rejoices*

F. RITTER
OLD HUNDREDTH

*** THE DOXOLOGY:**

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

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

HYMN OF THE DAY #148: *At the Name of Jesus*

KING'S WESTON

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS 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

MOMENT FOR MISSION

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Thanks*

BROOKLYN TABERNACLE CHOIR

Chorus:

*Thanks! Thanks! I give you thanks
For all you've done
I am so blessed, my soul is at rest
Oh Lord, I give you thanks.*

*Thank you Lord for the strength you give to simply carry on
Though life's toil and tests the worst and best never left alone
Always right beside me to hear me when I pray
And since I first began, you've been my dearest friend
I'll give you all the praise.*

*Even in the bad times when everything is going wrong
Even on that mountain your loving presence makes me strong
Each and every moment, each and every day
I'll sing and shout don't let the rocks cry out
I'll give you all the praise.*

THE WORD PROCLAIMED: *THE QUESTION JESUS DOESN'T ANSWER*

REV. JOHNSON

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

*** CLOSING HYMN #151:** *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

DIADEMATA

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE:** *Now Thank We All Our God*

T. CHESTERTON

** 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 guest 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 this morning’s worship:

- *Homiletics Online* website (www.homileticonline.com)
- *The Text This Week* website (www.textweek.com)

Next Sunday is the **First Sunday of Advent**, and we begin our journey to the manger. This is always such an exciting and expectant time of year, and one that brings us much joy and hope. Our Advent celebration continues on **next Sunday afternoon at 4:00 pm with our Advent Adventures**. Please let Nancy Purcell know if you are attending so we can get an accurate count for food.

For those who are able, immediately following worship this morning we will be bringing up from downstairs all of our Advent and Christmas decorations for the sanctuary. Many hands make light work, so your help would be greatly appreciated.

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 Sandy Cook)

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

Bill Faucette
Faye Campbell
Frances Nolan
Shirley Lane
Ida Whitney
Rachel Poteat
Jeremy Harden
Anne McDaniels
Mike Sutton
Steward Dillard
Shelvia Russell
Ruby Martin
Katherine Turner
Deanna Yates

Diane Miller
Jack Cook
Joan Richardson
Teresa Wilborn
Tiffany Tauchren
Jean Berry
Christy Lutterloh
Eleanor Thompson
Nancy Sutton
Norma Proctor
Levi Byrd
Katherine Bayliff
Randy Thompson
Foy Bayliff
Family of Pat Testerman

John & Ann Sutton
Peter Slater
Joey Leake
Shannon Russell
Mary Moore
Barbara Cousins
Pat Kennedy
Donna Mitchell-Ayers
Pete Campbell
Ben Johnson
Ruth Younts
Alex Thomas
Susie Hunley
Bill Abplanalp

As the holiday season approaches, our heart goes out to those who are in need of help in order to celebrate the season in a joyous manner. Once again this year, our **Angel Tree** is up in the west entryway. **KidsPath** and **Eldercare** will once again be the beneficiaries of our generosity. So, take an angel or a snowflake from the tree and be joyous in your giving! Please refer to the next page for details and further instructions.

This year our Advent journey will also include an **Advent Food Drive**. You are invited to bring non-perishable food items each of the four Sundays of advent and place them in the designated spot. These will be donated to a local charity for those in need of food for the holidays.

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.

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.

Our weekly Bible study, ***Disciple Bible Study: Into the Word, Into the World***, continues to meet each Tuesday at 7:00 (except for the second Tuesday of the month when the Session meets.)

SUPPORT Ministry: (Lead Elders: Ron Osborne, Chip Allen, and Glenn Patterson)

Elders of the Month for November are **Jean Payne** and **Brandon Troxler**.

Thank you to all who have submitted their pledges for the mission and ministry of Bethany for the coming year. For those who have not yet turned their pledges in, it's not too late. **Pledge cards** are available in the church office and can be returned to Pam Hurt or put in her mailbox. Thank you for your generosity.

BETHANY ANGEL TREE 2018

Again this year the Presbyterian Women's Council has decided to adopt KidsPath and Eldercare families for the Christmas Season. The Angel Tree will be loaded and ready for your choosing on Sunday, November 18th. Several have asked to have Angels in hand prior to Black Friday shopping.

KidsPath

KidsPath is a division of Hospice of Alamance/Caswell. KidsPath provides services to families with children who are experiencing a life threatening illness. They also provide grief counseling to children who have lost a loved one. KidsPath assists these families in many ways. In participating with our Angel Tree, we help out with Christmas gifts for the sick children and their siblings. This helps the parents who are struggling monetarily from the effects that a life threatening illness can bring to a family. Often one parent has to quit their job to help care for the ailing child. Traveling to hospitals, overnight stays, paying for food when the child is in the hospital, surgeries, chemo, and overall medical costs are devastating to these families at times. Our generosity helps make Christmas merrier and less stressful for these families facing a crisis with a child.

Alamance Eldercare

Alamance Eldercare provides assistance to Elderly citizens in our area who have very little to no family to assist them. These citizens usually still live in their homes, many of them alone, and have no one to make their Christmas special. In participating in our Angel Tree effort, we help provide these beautiful people who are often overlooked, with some simple Christmas cheer!!!

How does the Angel Tree work?

The social workers who are familiar and are assisting these families interview the families and come up with "wish lists". These lists are turned over to us at Bethany, and we place the items requested on Angels (for KidsPath) or Snowflakes (For Eldercare). Each KidsPath child or Eldercare patron will have several Angels/Snowflakes represented on the tree. (One Angel is not "all they will get" for Christmas)

How to participate?

- Choose Angels or Snowflakes from the tree
- Purchase the item written on the Angel or Snowflake
- Wrap the gift, and attach the Angel/Snowflake you chose to the gift so that we know which item the gift contains. *Please tie the angel/snowflake to the gift so that it is easily removed without damaging the packaging*
- Return the gift to the Fellowship Hall (Look for signs) **NO LATER THAN Sunday, December 16th.**
- **OR DONATE \$** - If you can't, or don't like to shop and would rather give a monetary donation, we welcome and need donations. Please give the money (Cash / or Check to Presbyterian Women) to Tina Patterson, or Brenda Sykes by **Wednesday, December 12th.** Monetary donations are welcomed, and every dollar will be used to purchase items for Angels left on the tree, or gift cards for Christmas Meals, and/or Groceries.

The "Wrap Up"

Monday, December 17th - at 6:30 pm - Please join us in the Fellowship Hall to SORT the gifts, and Wrap any gifts that were purchased with monetary donations. Please bring scissors and tape.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

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

Tuesday, the 27th:

- 7:00 – Disciple Bible Study

Wednesday, the 28th:

- 7:00 – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, the 2nd:

- **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
- 9:45 – Sunday School for all ages
- 11:00 – Worship
- 4:00 - Advent Adventures
- 7:00 - Officer Training

Session

Moderator: Rev. John W. Johnson

Clerk: Rick Purcell

Treasurer: Ron Osborne

Class of 2018:

Glenn Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Brandon Troxler

Class of 2019:

A. J. Campbell

Ron Osborne

Jean Payne

Class of 2020:

Chip Allen

Sandy Cook

Karen Maxwell

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



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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

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