



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina

www.bethanypreschurch.org

www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian



“Crumbs”

August 16, 2020 – 11:00, *the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

“But even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall off their masters’ table.”

Matthew 15:27(CEB)

GATHERING AS GOD’S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Merciful God, this day is full of your possibilities for healing and reconciliation, for new beginnings and restored relationships. Unite my heart with your will so that your abundant anointing will flow through me.

Send me now with your promised blessings to preserve the lives of those in need. Amen.

PRELUDE: *GIVE THANKS*

Henry Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* CALL TO WORSHIP

May God be gracious to us and bless us and
make his face to shine upon us,

**that your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge
the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

**The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.**

**May God continue to bless us;
let all the ends of the earth revere the Lord.**

***OPENING HYMN: #139** *COME, THOU ALMIGHTY KING*

Come, thou Almighty King,
help us thy name to sing,
help us to praise.
Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word,
gird on thy mighty sword,
scatter thy foes.
Let thine almighty aid
our sure defense be made,
our souls on thee be stayed;
thy wonders show.

Come, Holy Comforter,
thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour.
Thou who almighty art,
now rule in ev'ry heart,
and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of power.

To the great One in Three
eternal praises be,
hence evermore.
His sov'reign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, the noise all around us is loud and frightening. We find ourselves anxious and distracted, worried about much we cannot control. We long to hear you tell us to not be afraid. We ask again for the gift of your peace that passes understanding. As the Word is read and proclaimed, send your Holy Spirit to help us rightly hear and respond. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 15:21-28

PEW BIBLE, PAGE 1191

Keep these words in your heart.
The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF PRAYERS

Let us confess our sins without fear to the One who yearns to embrace us, forgive us, protect us, and bless us. *God of all people, we come before you this day keenly aware of the ways we fall short of your vision for us and for our life together. You tell us how good and pleasant it is when we dwell together in unity, and yet we create division and cultivate disdain. You command us to care for each other, but we send away those crying out for help. You call us and put us together in community, but we want to pick and choose those with whom we associate. Forgive us for thinking we are self-sufficient and independent, rather than utterly dependent upon you and in need of each other. Help us to see ourselves and others as the beloved reflections of the divine we are and give us the grace to treat each other as such. Amen.*

AN OFFERING OF SILENCE

AN OFFERING OF GRACE

Friends, the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.
Receive the gift of forgiveness and share that gift with others,
in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Thanks be to God.

Since we are justified by faith we have peace with God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AN OFFERING OF PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS AND BLESSING OF THE STUDENTS AND SCHOOL WORKERS

O Holy God, the time is coming when school begins. As your children begin their studies, we ask a blessing on their journey in these uncharted and new ways of school.

Hear our prayer.

Bless, O God, all who will teach our children in the coming days and weeks and months. Give them the wisdom to find inspiration for each child. Give them the energy and creativity and love that will make their work a blessing to our children. O Lord of Life and Love,

Hear our prayer.

Bless, O God, all school administrators that they may be faithful stewards of the resources entrusted to their care. Make them fair and merciful, able to do their crucial work with a spirit of grace and compassion.

O Lord of Life and Love,

Hear our prayer.

And bless, O God, these our children, those whom we have promised to love and nurture at their baptism. Keep them safe, keep them excited, keep them ever seeking to learn more and to develop their gifts. Grant that through their study, they may gain the tools to grow in love and faith and service, all their days. O, Lord of Life and Love,
Hear our prayer. Amen.

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

* 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: (The Apostles' Creed)

God the Holy Spirit fulfills the work of reconciliation in human life. The Holy Spirit creates and renews the church as the community in which people are reconciled to God and to one another. The Spirit enables people to receive forgiveness as they forgive one another and to enjoy the peace of God as they make peace among themselves. In spite of their sin, the Spirit gives people power to become representatives of Jesus Christ and his gospel of reconciliation to all. Amen (The Confession of 1967, section on the Holy Spirit)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,

Lord help us. We trust in you.

God of mercy and healing, you are lord of all, embracing the estranged,

Blessing the banished, reconciling the rejected. We cry out to you now,

Confident that your provision is abundantly more than enough

To preserve the church, redeem the world, and deliver the tormented.

Lord, help us. We trust in you.

For your people, the house of Israel, and the household of faith near and far,

Lord, help us. We trust in you.

That the church may replicate your reconciliation,

Model your mercy, and herald your healing for all,

Lord, help us. We trust in you.

For unity and harmony to flow freely among your creatures and throughout your creation,

Lord, help us. We trust in you.

For reconciliation and new beginnings among estranged families, races, nations, and peoples,

Lord, help us. We trust in you.

For healing for those who are tormented, rejected, marginalized, fearful, forgotten, cast off,

Lord, help us. We trust in you.

For those whose names we now lift in your presence, silently or aloud.

[names may be called forth from the assembly or silently remembered.]

Lord, help us. We trust in you.

For our ancestors in the faith, now kept in your care and never forgotten by you,

Lord, help us. We trust in you.

We stand in your circle of favor, embraced by you, healed by you, blessed by you,

Remembered by you, secured by you, grateful for your loving care as you taught us to pray...

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.

AN OFFERING OF OUR RESOURCES

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,
to present yourselves as a living sacrifice,
holy and acceptable to God.
Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of unending gifts, we praise you for your abundant goodness.
As you are generous, we want to be generous too.
May the gifts we bring extend your generosity into the world,
so that all people may be made whole by your goodness and grace. **Amen.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S VOICE

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *IN THE GARDEN*

C. AUSTIN MILES

RANDY COUSINS - SOLOIST

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: "Crumbs"

Rick Purcell, CLP

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD AS WE LEAVE TO SERVE

* CLOSING HYMN: #276 *GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS*

Chisholm / Runyan

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

[Refrain]

Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see:
all I have needed thy hand hath provided--
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [Refrain]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [Refrain]

* CHARGE

By the power of the Holy Spirit, go forth to serve your neighbor, to love your enemy,
and to embody God's mercy in the name of Jesus Christ.

* BENEDICTION

The blessing of God, source of life, power of life, redeemer of life,
be with you now and always.

* Please stand in body or spirit.



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; on Facebook at www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian; or on Twitter by following [@bpresbyterian](https://twitter.com/bpresbyterian).

Obviously, due to the ongoing health crisis surrounding the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, we are not worshipping in person at this point in time, but rather gathering virtually using the Zoom meeting platform. Each week the congregation will be emailed a link by which everyone can join the meeting using their computer, laptop, smartphone, or tablet. John will lead worship in this manner, and congregants are invited to participate as they are able. For those who are unable to connect via Zoom, we are also hoping to be on Facebook Live as well. We are still trying to work out some glitches in that.

For those unable to get the link via email, it will also be on our Facebook page, and on our website.

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. A **Video Recording** of our Zoom worship will be available on our Facebook page and on our website.

Resources used in today's worship:

- *Feasting on the Word* worship resources
- *Ministry Matters* website (www.ministrymatters.com)
- *Homiletics Online* website (www.homileticonline.com)
- *the Presbyterian Outlook* (www.pre-outlook.org)

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	Diane Miller	John & Ann Sutton
Jack Cook	Peter Slater	Ruby Martin
Joan Richardson	Joey Leake	Shirley Lane
Teresa Wilborn	Shannon Russell	Ida Whitney
Tiffany Tauchren	Mary Moore	Katherine Turner
Jean Berry	Barbara Cousins	Jeremy Harden
Christy Lutterloh	Pat Kennedy	Anne McDaniels
Eleanor Thompson	Mike Sutton	Alex Thomas
Nancy Sutton	Pete Campbell	Steward Dillard
Norma Proctor	Ben Johnson	Shelvia Russell
Christopher Bagley	Glenn Thompson	Carol Brooks
Randy Thompson	Darrell Holmes	Ritchie Fishburne
Frederica Beatty		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. (Classes will resume when we return to having church in person!)

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 August are **Tina Patterson** and **Ben Russell**.

This Week's Calendar:

Today:

- 11:00 – Worship Online

Wednesday, the 19th:

- 7:00 – Choir Practice (not meeting)

Sunday, August 23th:

- 11:00 – Worship Online

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love learn serve



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

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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

Elder Emeritus: Bobby Peele

Elder Emeritus: Don Boggs

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