



# Bethel

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

*Timeless Truths for our  
Changing Community*

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*Organized 1764*

**Mission:** “Bethel Presbyterian Church exists as a fellowship of believers to make disciples of all nations (Matt 28:18-20). Together, we strive to glorify our sovereign Lord through vibrant, God-centered worship; to build up one another by teaching God’s infallible Word; to equip every member for works of service; and to be salt and light by proclaiming the gospel in word and deed.”

**Vision:** All for the glory of God, Bethel Presbyterian Church will be a faithful resource church that is healthy and growing in order to multiply God’s kingdom locally, regionally, and internationally. We have a vision to reach and make disciples in our community and to further multiply gospel mission by equipping our leaders and our congregation for ministry and facilitating assimilation into the body of Christ.

*Celebrating God’s Faithfulness...Advancing His Kingdom!*

[www.BethelChurchPCA.com](http://www.BethelChurchPCA.com)

# The Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, April 11, 2021

## Preparation

### **The Prelude**

### **The Welcome and Announcements**

## Adoration

### **\*The Call to Worship**          Revelation 4:8b-11

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." Whenever the living creatures give glory, honor and thanks to him who sits on the throne and who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who sits on the throne, and worship him who lives for ever and ever. They lay their crowns before the throne and say: "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things and by your will they were created and have their being." NIV

**\*The Hymn of Adoration**

“Holy, Holy, Holy!”

*Trinity Hymnal #100*

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee  
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

**The Invocation 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.*

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,  
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
and all the twinkling, starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
now and for evermore be thine.

**\*The Affirmation of Faith**

*The Nicene Creed*

*We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.*

*And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.*

*And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets, and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

## Scripture Reading

Ephesians 2:1-10

As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath. But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. NIV

## Individual & Corporate Confession

Almighty and most merciful God: we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against Thee in thought, word, and deed; that we have not loved Thee with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength; and that we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Lord, forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; so that we may henceforth walk in the way of Your commandments, and do those things which are pleasing in Your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

Isaiah 53:5

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. NIV

Collection

**Offertory Scripture & Giving of Our Lord's Tithes**

Proverbs 3:9-10

Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops; then your barns will be filled to overflowing, and your vats will brim over with new wine. NIV

**Offertory Anthem**

**\*Doxology**

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.

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Consecration

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Sermon**

**Rev. Chris Hodge**

**The Sowing Season**

Text: Luke 8:4-15 (pew Bible p.1605)

<sup>4</sup>While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: <sup>5</sup>"A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds of the air ate it up. <sup>6</sup>Some fell on rock, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. <sup>7</sup>Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the

plants. <sup>8</sup> Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown." When he said this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear." <sup>9</sup> His disciples asked him what this parable meant. <sup>10</sup> He said, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that, "though seeing, they may not see; though hearing, they may not understand.' <sup>11</sup> "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup> Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup> Those on the rock are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. <sup>14</sup> The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. <sup>15</sup> But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop." NIV

### Celebration

**\*The Hymn of Consecration** "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" *Trinity Hymnal* #252

When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the death of Christ my God:  
all the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down:  
did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;  
love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

## Observance of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

### Response & Benediction

**\*The Hymn of Response**    "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"    *Trinity Hymnal #521*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;  
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;  
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

*\*We stand, as we are able, to praise the Lord.*

We continue our plan to “spread out” with some gathering at home via YouTube live, some gathering in person in the Sanctuary and some gathering MASK ONLY in the Family Life Center. In the Sanctuary, we will sit/skip EVERY OTHER ROW in the main floor area downstairs. The downstairs back corner seating areas and the balcony are fully open. We are offering infant and toddler nursery during both Sunday School and Worship Service. We support whatever decision you make as each member takes responsibility for determining your confidence level as to continue gathering together online from your home or coming in person this week and in future weeks.

Updated Summary for continued consideration:

- \* If you or a family member have been sick or are not feeling well, please worship from home online via our YouTube page.
- \* Please prayerfully consider health guidelines established by governing authorities (anyone with existing health concerns and/or susceptible age range) and take personal responsibility for deciding when you are confident to gather in person. We want to encourage patience and we support whatever decision you make!
- \* We will not pass offering plates; they will be located at door entrances/exits.
- \* Worship guides available at door entrances (the words for scripture readings and hymns printed in worship guide).
- \* Until further notice: No Choir and No Children’s sermon.
- \* Please feel free to wear masks or PPE if that is your preference.
- \* Sanctuary seating in the downstairs back corner areas and the balcony are fully open.
- \* Family households plan to sit together.
- \* Worship in the Family Life Center is mask only; chairs are spread out for social distancing.

Nursery	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Combined</u>
Today	Beverly Frommel	Cheri Jackson	Kate Krebs
Nxt wk	Lee Coble	Miranda Howland	Duree Burnett
SEC			

*If unable to find a replacement, please contact Judi Love, 803-628-1458, rossjudi99@yahoo.com*

**Happy Birthday** today to Todd Holben and Eck Miller!  
*Happy Birthday this week to Addison Ferguson on 4/13, Linda Boyd on 4/14, Betty Jo McCarter on 4/15 and Chris Wallace on 4/16.*

**This Week at Bethel:**

**Today:** We would like to extend a warm welcome to Rev. Chris Hodge, our church planting partner at King's Cross PCA in Fort Mill, SC, and his wife Karen.

**Celebration** of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

**Children's Catechism**, 5:00 pm, FLC. Parents are welcome to stay and worship with their children and then gather for fellowship and prayer with Chris Wallace at the picnic shelter.

**Monday:** Circle #3, 7:00 pm, Covenant SS room.

**Tuesday:** Circle #2, 7:00 pm, Covenant SS room.

**Wednesday:** Colleen Riddle Circle, 11:00 am, Covenant SS room.

**Upcoming:**

**WIC Council Meeting:** April 28, 6:30 pm, Covenant SS room.

**Vacation Bible School:** \*Registration is NOW OPEN\* July 12-16. Please register on our website at: [Bethel Church, Presbyterian Church in America: VBS \(bethelchurchpca.com\)](http://Bethel Church, Presbyterian Church in America: VBS (bethelchurchpca.com)) The registration link is on the home page of our website.

**Bethel Youth Group News:**

**Today:** Youth Group is meeting tonight from 5:00-6:30 pm in the Basement! Bring a friend and plan to come for some fun fellowship and time in God's word/prayer together.

**Please note** that the RYM airfare (\$200) and deposit (\$100) are past due, please contact Gunther if you have not yet paid.

**Upcoming:** We are having a boys weekend at the Long's lake house April 16-18. All youth group boys are welcome, it is no cost. Please let Gunther know if you are planning to attend. Girls weekend trip TBA.

**Building Plans Update:**

We ARE currently working on building plan options AND we ARE making some progress. We will communicate updates with more information for congregational consideration and approval as soon as we can. Given current circumstances, we do not yet know when an appropriate time to begin this project might be... THANK YOU for your continued patience and prayers!

*Anyone wishing to have your email address added to the church email loop, please send a request to [office@bethelchurchpca.com](mailto:office@bethelchurchpca.com).*

**\*\*\* Headphones are available during worship for those with hearing difficulty. Please see a Deacon for assistance. \*\*\***

**Prayer Requests:** Bobby Armstrong (brother-in-law of S. McCarter Mizell, cancer), Rick Duke (cancer) and wife Judy (friends of C. Davis), Judy Ferguson (healing from surgery), Margaret Ann Ferguson, Kathy Forester (E. Moseley's sister, breast cancer), Matthew Hall, Miriam Hovis, Mrs. Rita Jackson, Jan Kombs (friend of J. LeMoyne, stroke), Herb LeMoyne (J. LeMoyne's brother, Parkinson's disease), Dana Massey (advanced brain cancer, friend of S. Burns), Annie Mae McDaniel (Judy Ferguson's mother), Jim Pittman (V. Linder's brother, cancer), Marcia Trevino and Norm West.