



Bethel

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

*Timeless Truths for our
Changing Community*

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

The Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

Adoration

***The Call to Worship** 1 Corinthians 15:55-57

“Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?” The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. NIV

***The Hymn of Adoration**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

Trinity Hymnal #277

"Christ the Lord is ris'n today," *Alleluia!* sons of men and angels say; *Alleluia!*
raise your joys and triumphs high; *Alleluia!* Sing ye heav'ns, and earth, reply. *Alleluia!*

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; *Alleluia!* Christ has burst the gates of hell: *Alleluia!*
death in vain forbids his rise; *Alleluia!* Christ has opened paradise. *Alleluia!*

Lives again our glorious King; *Alleluia!* where, O death, is now thy sting? *Alleluia!*
Once he died, our souls to save; *Alleluia!* where thy victory, O grave? *Alleluia!*

Soar we now where Christ has led, *Alleluia!* foll'wing our exalted Head; *Alleluia!*
made like him, like him we rise; *Alleluia!* ours the cross, the grave, the skies, *Alleluia!*

Hail, the Lord of earth and heav'n! *Alleluia!* Praise to thee by both be giv'n; *Alleluia!*
thee we greet triumphant now; *Alleluia!* hail, the Resurrection, thou! *Alleluia!*

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.

***The Hymn of Praise**

“In Christ Alone”

In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all— Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save.
Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine—Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death—This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
Till He returns or calls me home— Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

***The Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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.

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 1:15-20

For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms... NIV

Individual & Corporate Confession

Almighty God, who art rich in mercy to all those who call upon Thee: hear us as we come to Thee humbly confessing our sins and transgressions, and imploring Your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken Your holy laws by our deeds and by our words, and by the sinful affections of our hearts. We confess before Thee our disobedience and ingratitude, our pride and willfulness; and all our failures and shortcomings toward Thee and our fellow men. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; and of Your great goodness grant that we may hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life; through the merit and mediation of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon **Philippians 3:10-11**

I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. NIV

Collection

Offertory Scripture & Giving of Our Lord's Tithes **Malachi 3:10**

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." 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. J. Marcus Van Vlake

Fear and the Power of God

Text: Matthew 28:1-10 (pew Bible p.1549)

28 After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. ²There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. ⁴The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. ⁵The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." ⁸So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me." NIV

Response & Benediction

***The Hymn of Response**

“Thine Be the Glory”

Trinity Hymnal #274

Thine be the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won;
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave clothes where thy body lay.

*Thine be the glory, risen conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won.*

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
let the church with gladness, hymns of triumph sing,
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting.

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors, thro' thy deathless love:
bring us safe thro' Jordan to thy home above.

**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 | Shelly Van Flake | Douglas McCarter | Marissa Robinson |
| Nxt wk | Beverly Frommel | Cheri Jackson | Kate Krebs |
| SEC | | | |

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

Happy Birthday today to Casey Forrest, Joy McCarter, Maggie McCarter and Steve Sluis! Happy Birthday this week to Travis Heffner on 4/5, Craig Adams and Carter Miller on 4/9 and Chris Wynkoop on 4/10.

The Deacons Fund will be received in the vestibule following worship this morning.

The Easter lilies in the sanctuary today were given to the Glory of God and in memory of, or in honor of, various individuals. Please see individual listings on the following page.

Congratulations to Kyle and Cullie Mounts on the birth of their son, Kyle Joseph Mounts, on March 29. Kyle Joseph weighed 9lbs, 8oz at birth and measured 22.5" long.

The rose bud in the sanctuary today is given to the glory of God and in celebration of the birth of Kyle Joseph Mounts, newborn grandson of Tim and Ann Marsh.

This Week at Bethel:

Monday: Men of the Covenant, 6:30 pm, FLC for a meal, program and fellowship. All Bethel men are encouraged to attend.

Tuesday: Circle #1, 10:30 am, Sanctuary.

Diaconate Meeting: 7:00 pm, Sanctuary.

Next Week:

Celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper: April 11. Please prepare your hearts ahead of our participation of the Lord's Supper together.

Upcoming:

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: We will not be having youth group this Sunday due to Easter. See you next Sunday!

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.

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.