



Bethel Presbyterian Church

Organized 1764

Celebrating God's Faithfulness...Advancing His Kingdom!

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.

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

The Lord's Day Worship

Sunday, August 23, 2020

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

Adoration

***The Call to Worship** John 4:23

Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. NIV

***The Hymn of Adoration**

“Thy Mercy My God”

Thy mercy, my God, is the theme of my song,
the joy of my heart and the boast of my tongue.
Thy free grace alone from the first to the last
hath won my affections and bound my soul fast.

Without thy sweet mercy I could not live here;
Sin would reduce me to utter despair;
but through thy free goodness my spirits revive
and he that first made me still keeps me alive.

Thy mercy is more than a match for my heart
which wonders to feel its own hardness depart;
dissolved by thy goodness I fall to the ground
and weep for the praise of the mercy I’ve found.

Great father of mercies thy goodness I own
and the covenant love of thy crucified son;
all praise to the spirit whose whisper divine
seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine.
All praise to the spirit whose whisper divine
seals mercy and pardon and righteousness mine!

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** "O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus!" *Trinity Hymnal #535*

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free;
rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me.
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of thy love;
leading onward, leading homeward, to thy glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Spread his praise from shore to shore;
how he loveth, ever loveth, changeth never, nevermore;
how he watches o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own;
how for them he intercedeth, watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus! Love of ev'ry love the best:
'tis an ocean vast of blessing, 'tis a haven sweet of rest.
O the deep, deep love of Jesus! 'Tis a heav'n of heav'ns to me;
and it lifts me up to glory, for it lifts me up to thee.

***The Affirmation of Faith**

Westminster Confession of Faith 23.1, 23.4

WCF 23.1 (Of the Civil Magistrate)- *God, the supreme Lord and King of all the world, hath ordained civil magistrates, to be, under him, over the people, for his own glory, and the public good: and, to this end, hath armed them with the power of the sword, for the defense and encouragement of them that are good, and for the punishment of evildoers.*

WCF 23.4 (Of the Civil Magistrate)- *It is the duty of people to pray for magistrates, to honor their persons, to pay them tribute or other dues, to obey their lawful commands, and to be subject to their authority, for conscience' sake. Infidelity, or difference in religion, doth not make void the magistrates' just and legal authority, nor free the people from their due obedience to them: from which ecclesiastical persons are not exempted, much less hath the pope any power and jurisdiction over them in their dominions, or over any of their people; and, least of all, to deprive them of their dominions, or lives, if he shall judge them to be heretics, or upon any other pretense whatsoever.*

Scripture Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-10

I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all men to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all men—the testimony given in its proper time. And for this purpose I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I am telling the truth, I am not lying—and a teacher of the true faith to the Gentiles. I want men everywhere to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing. I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God. NIV

Individual & Corporate Confession

Merciful God, You pardon all who truly repent and turn to You. We humbly confess our sins and ask Your mercy. We have not loved You with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves. We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with You, our God. Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving kindness. In Your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin. Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Do not cast us from Your presence, or take Your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. This we pray, in Jesus name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Romans 5:1-2

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. NIV

Collection

Offertory Scripture & Giving of Our Lord's Tithes Ephesians 5:1-2

Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. 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

The Church and The State (Part 1)

Text: 1 Peter 2:11-17

¹¹ Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. ¹² Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us. ¹³ Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, ¹⁴ or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. ¹⁵ For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. ¹⁶ Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. ¹⁷ Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king. NIV

Response & Benediction

***The Hymn of Response**

“Lead On, O King Eternal”

Trinity Hymnal #580

Lead on, O King eternal,
the day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest
thy tents shall be our home:
through days of preparation
thy grace has made us strong,
and now, O King eternal,
we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King eternal,
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums,
but deeds of love and mercy,
the heav'nly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King eternal:
we follow, not with fears;
for gladness breaks like morning
where'er thy face appears;
thy cross is lifted o'er us;
we journey in its light:
the crown awaits the conquest;
lead on, O God of might.

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

We continue our plan to “spread out” with some gathering at home via our YouTube page, some gathering IN PERSON in the FLC and in the Sanctuary. In the Sanctuary, we will sit/skip EVERY OTHER ROW downstairs and will continue with the balcony being open to back row only seating. We have begun offering infant and toddler nursery during Worship Service only. 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 (do not plan to handle hymnals/pew bibles, the words for scripture readings and hymns printed in worship guide).
- * Until further notice: No Choir, No Children’s sermon, no “in person” Sunday School.
- * Please no physical contact at this time (no handshakes or hugs, etc....)
- * Please feel free to wear masks or PPE if that is your preference.
- * Please fill in seats front to back and dismiss in reverse order while not gathering in large groups at exits.
- * Sanctuary seating downstairs with every other row empty between, and balcony open for back row seating. Chairs in FLC are spread out for social distancing.
- * Family households plan to sit together.

Nursery	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Combined</u>
Today	Lee Coble, Sheridan Miller	Marianne Falls, Miranda Howland	Ainsley Miller
Nxt wk	Beth Jackson, Beth Stowe	Janice Currence, Kimberly Richards	Caroline Richards
SEC			

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

Happy Birthday today to Ella Chidester! **Happy Birthday** this week to Kay Jackson on 8/24, Jacob Lee and Marcus Van Vlake on 8/25 and Madeline Brummett on 8/28.

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in honor of our precious thirteen year 'young' daughter and sister, Chrishé Simoné Wallace. May our LORD bless you & keep you & make His face shine upon you & give you peace. We are proud of you & love you dearly. Pappa, Mamma, Christo & Malize

This Week at Bethel:

Wednesday: WIC Council Meeting, 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom.

Next Week:

Diaconate Meeting: Sept. 1, 7:00 pm.

Elder/Deacon nominations: Sept. 1-30. Nomination forms will be available in the vestibule, the office and can also be printed from our website under the member tab.

Upcoming:

New Members/Inquirers Class: Plans are being made for this class to begin soon. Be looking for more information in the coming weeks.

The **Men of the Covenant** will NOT meet in September due to ongoing concerns with the coronavirus. Hopefully, we will meet in October.

The **Women in the Church** will have a wedding shower for Lawson Brackett and Kenny Gray on Sunday, September 20th. The drop-in will be from 2:00 to 3:30 pm in the Family Life Center. They are registered at Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond. They like Lowe's gift cards, too. No refreshments will be served. Social Distancing Guidelines should be respected.

Mentors & Moms will not start in September this year. We will continue to monitor conditions over the coming months and reassess a possible future start date.

Bethel Youth Group News:

Today: NO YOUTH GROUP due to school starting tomorrow. Enjoy the night off with your family!

Upcoming: Keep an eye out for info coming soon about our fall plans!

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!

Audio recordings of our sermons are available under the "media" tab on the church website, www.BethelChurchPCA.com.

Prayer Requests: 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, 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) and Adam Stowe (leukemia).