



# 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, August 30, 2020

## Preparation

### **The Prelude**

### **The Welcome and Announcements**

## Adoration

### **\*The Call to Worship**          Psalm 100

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth. Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. NIV

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.

*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.

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!

### **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.*

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long;  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.*

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
angels descending, bring from above  
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest;  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

## **\*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**

## **Psalm 2**

Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One. "Let us break their chains," they say, "and throw off their fetters." The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them. Then he rebukes them in his anger and terrifies them in his wrath, saying, "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill." I will proclaim the decree of the LORD: He said to me, "You are my Son; today I have become your Father. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession. You will rule them with an iron scepter; you will dash them to pieces like pottery." Therefore, you kings, be wise; be warned, you rulers of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry and you be destroyed in your way, for his wrath can flare up in a moment. Blessed are all who take refuge in him. NIV

## **Individual & Corporate Confession**

Most Holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before Thee our sinful nature, prone to evil and slothful in good, and all our shortcomings and offenses. Thou alone knows how often we have sinned: in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. But Thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors; cleanse us from our secret faults; and forgive our sins, for the sake of Your dear Son. And, O most holy and loving Father, help us, to live in Your light and walk in Your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. It is in His name we pray. Amen.

### **Assurance of Pardon**            1 Peter 2:24

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. NIV

### Collection

### **Offertory Scripture & Giving of Our Lord's Tithes**            Psalm 24:1

The earth is the LORD's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in 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**

### **The Church and The State (Part 2)**

Text: 1 Peter 2:11-17

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

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 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	Beth Jackson	Janice Currence	Beth Stowe
Nxt wk	Lee Coble	Peggy Long	Ilse Wallace
SEC			

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

**Happy Birthday** this week to Steve Linder, Caroline Richards, Kristopher Whitesides and Wanda Whitesides on 8/31.

**Congratulations** to Miller and Amanda Brummett on the birth of their son, Miles Houston Brummett, on August 26. Miles Houston weighed 8lbs, 11oz at birth and measured 20" long.

**This Week at Bethel:**

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

**Diaconate Meeting:** 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.

**Nursery:** We have only had a few older infants/ toddlers during the worship service over the last couple of months and have been combining the infant and toddler nurseries. Please refer to the nursery schedule in the back of your Circle book and prayerfully consider if you feel comfortable serving in the nursery with our little ones. If you do NOT want to serve the rest of the year, please contact Judi Love at [rossjudi99@yahoo.com](mailto:rossjudi99@yahoo.com) or 803-628-1458, or Laura Clinton at [laurac76@live.com](mailto:laurac76@live.com) or 803-627-1791. Please do not contact us at this time if you have a conflict with a specific date due to being out of town, etc. You can let me know or find a replacement closer to that time. Thank you so much for your consideration and service to Bethel's children.

**Bethel Youth Group News:**

**Today:** We are having youth group TONIGHT at the church picnic shelter! See you there, and bring a friend!

**Upcoming:** NO youth group next week for Labor Day. Enjoy the holiday weekend!

**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!

**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. LeMoyné, stroke), Herb LeMoyné (J. LeMoyné'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).