



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, February 28, 2021

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

Adoration

***The Call to Worship** Psalm 48:1a

“Great is the LORD, and most worthy of praise...” NIV

***The Hymn of Adoration**

“How Great Thou Art”

Trinity Hymnal #44

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
thy pow’r thro’out the universe displayed.

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:
how great thou art, how great thou art!*

When thro’ the woods and forest glades I wander
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,
he bled and died to take away my sin.

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art.

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**

"Amazing Grace!"

Trinity Hymnal #460

Amazing grace! - how sweet the sound - that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his Word my hope secures;
he will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail, and mortal life shall cease,
I shall possess within the veil a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we've first begun.

***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

Romans 8:28-30...35-39

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose. For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified...Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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 Ephesians 1:7

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace...NIV

Collection

Offertory Scripture & Giving of Our Lord's Tithes 1 Peter 5:7

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. 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 Vlakte

Gracious Provision at the Lord's Hand (in Painful Providence)

Text: Ruth 1:1-22 (pew Bible p.411)

1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a man from Bethlehem in Judah, together with his wife and two sons, went to live for a while in the country of Moab. 2 The man's name was Elimelech, his wife's name Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Kilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem, Judah. And they went to Moab and lived there. 3 Now Elimelech, Naomi's husband, died, and she was left with her two sons. 4 They married Moabite women, one named Orpah and the other Ruth. After they had lived there about ten years, 5 both Mahlon and Kilion also died, and Naomi was left without her two sons and her husband. 6 When she heard in Moab that the LORD had come to the aid of his people by providing food for them, Naomi and her daughters-in-law prepared to return home from there. 7 With her two daughters-in-law she left the place where she had been living and set out on the road that would take them back to the land of Judah. 8 Then Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's home. May the LORD show kindness to you, as you have shown to your dead and to me. 9 May the LORD grant that each of you will find rest in the home of another husband." Then she kissed them and they wept aloud 10 and said to her, "We will go back with you to your people." 11 But Naomi said, "Return home, my daughters. Why would you come with me? Am I going to have any more sons, who could become your husbands? 12 Return home, my daughters; I am too old to have another husband. Even if I thought there was still hope for me—even if I had a husband tonight and then gave birth to sons— 13 would you wait until they grew up? Would you remain unmarried for them? No, my daughters. It is more bitter for me than for you,

because the LORD's hand has gone out against me!" ¹⁴ At this they wept aloud again. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law good-by, but Ruth clung to her. ¹⁵ "Look," said Naomi, "your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her." ¹⁶ But Ruth replied, "Don't urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. ¹⁷ Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the LORD deal with me, be it ever so severely, if anything but death separates you and me." ¹⁸ When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her. ¹⁹ So the two women went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they arrived in Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them, and the women exclaimed, "Can this be Naomi?" ²⁰ "Don't call me Naomi," she told them. "Call me Mara, because the Almighty has made my life very bitter. ²¹ I went away full, but the LORD has brought me back empty. Why call me Naomi? The LORD has afflicted me; the Almighty has brought misfortune upon me." ²² So Naomi returned from Moab accompanied by Ruth the Moabitess, her daughter-in-law, arriving in Bethlehem as the barley harvest was beginning. NIV

Response & Benediction

***The Hymn of Response**

“God Will Take Care of You”

Trinity Hymnal #134

(vv. 1-3 only)

Be not dismayed whate'er betide,
God will take care of you;
beneath his wings of love abide,
God will take care of you.

*God will take care of you,
through ev'ry day, o'er all the way;
he will take care of you,
God will take care of you.*

Through days of toil when heart doth fail,
God will take care of you;
when dangers fierce your path assail,
God will take care of you.

All you may need he will provide,
God will take care of you;
trust him and you will be satisfied,
God will take care of you.

**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	Ann Carol Love	Sheridan Miller	Amanda Brummett
Nxt wk	Ann Falls	Beth Jackson	Jenni Quinn
SEC			

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

Happy Birthday this week to Ross Love on 3/1, Libby Sprouse on 3/2, Susanna Taylor and Julia Van Vlake on 3/3, Nate Woolard on 3/5 and Adam Stowe on 3/6.

This Week at Bethel:

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

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

Diaconate Meeting: March 2, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary.

Saturday: Men's Trap Shoot and Supper, 3:00 pm, at the Flying King Ranch (1725 US-321, York, SC 29745). Guest speaker-Mark Ashbaugh. Bring a friend, a camp chair, a shotgun and ammo (if you have) or \$15 to cover the cost of shells. Please RSVP to Chris Wynkoop, 803-630-7556 or koop08008@yahoo.com

Next Week:

The Bethel Cemetery Board of Directors will meet on Sunday afternoon, March 7th at 3:00 pm in the church sanctuary at Bethel Presbyterian Church. All BCA members are encouraged to be present. Social distancing will be observed, and all are encouraged to wear masks.

Children's Catechism: beginning March 7-May 23 (excluding Easter Sun. April 4) from 5:00-6:30 pm we are offering two classes-one for 4- to 5-year-olds and one for 1st through 6th graders. We will meet in the FLC at 5:00 pm for worship followed by games at 5:30 pm. We will move to classrooms (4-5-year-old class in their classroom and 1st - 6th grade in the Covenant classroom) for catechism from 6:00-6:30pm. Parents are welcome to stay and worship with their children and then gather for fellowship and prayer with Chris Wallace at the picnic shelter.

Upcoming:

Family Easter Celebration: March 28, 5:00-6:30 pm. Come celebrate the Easter season with outdoor games, egg hunt for

children 12yrs and younger, Easter lesson, and some great fellowship. Pizza and drinks will be served. Sign-up Genius coming soon for donations. Please contact Ilse Wallace (704-747-4703) or Sheridan Miller (803-230-2294) with any questions.

New Members/Inquirers Class: May 16, May 23, June 6 and June 13 with Pastor Marcus during the SS hour (10:00-10:45am). Please call or email Lara in the office if you plan to attend.

Vacation Bible School: Please note the updated **CHANGE IN DATE** now July 12-16. *SAVE the DATE* Our theme is "Wilderness Escape: Where God Guides, He Provides". More information will be coming soon. If you have any questions, please contact Sheridan Miller at 803-230-2294 (sheridanmiller@bellsouth.net) or Ilse Wallace at 704-747-4703 (radiant4JC@protonmail.com).

Bethel Youth Group News:

Today: Youth Group is meeting tonight from 6:00-7:30 pm at the FLC! Bring a friend and plan to come for some fun fellowship and time in God's word/prayer together.

Please note that RYM Colorado deposits (\$100 per attendee) are past due, and the \$200 airfare cost is due March 31st.

Upcoming: Starting on Sunday, March 7, the youth group will begin meeting from 5:00-6:30.

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: 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. 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 Norm West.