



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, March 7, 2021

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

Adoration

***The Call to Worship** Psalm 46:10-11

“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.” The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. NIV

***The Hymn of Adoration**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

Trinity Hymnal #92

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;
his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

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 Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that follow'st all my way, I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead, And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

***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

Matthew 6:25-34

“Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more important than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his

kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." 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 Psalm 46:1

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. NIV

Collection

Offertory Scripture & Giving of Our Lord's Tithes Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. 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

Gracious Reward and Refuge, at the Lord's Hand

Text: Ruth 2 (pew Bible p. 413)

2 Now Naomi had a relative on her husband's side, from the clan of Elimelech, a man of standing, whose name was Boaz. ² And Ruth the Moabitess said to Naomi, "Let me go to the fields and pick up the leftover grain behind anyone in whose eyes I find favor." Naomi said to her, "Go ahead, my daughter." ³ So she went out and began to glean in the fields behind the harvesters. As it turned out, she found herself working in a field belonging to Boaz, who was from the clan of Elimelech. ⁴ Just then Boaz arrived from Bethlehem and greeted the harvesters, "The LORD be with you!" "The LORD bless you!" they called back. ⁵ Boaz asked the foreman of his harvesters, "Whose young woman is that?" ⁶ The foreman replied, "She is the Moabitess who came back from Moab with Naomi." ⁷ She said, 'Please let me glean and gather among the sheaves behind the harvesters.' She went into the field and has worked steadily from morning till now, except for a short rest in the shelter." ⁸ So Boaz said to Ruth, "My daughter, listen to me. Don't go and glean in another field and don't go away from here. Stay here with my servant girls. ⁹ Watch the field where the men are harvesting, and follow along after the

girls. I have told the men not to touch you. And whenever you are thirsty, go and get a drink from the water jars the men have filled.”¹⁰ At this, she bowed down with her face to the ground. She exclaimed, “Why have I found such favor in your eyes that you notice me—a foreigner?”¹¹ Boaz replied, “I’ve been told all about what you have done for your mother-in-law since the death of your husband—how you left your father and mother and your homeland and came to live with a people you did not know before.”¹² May the LORD repay you for what you have done. May you be richly rewarded by the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.”¹³ “May I continue to find favor in your eyes, my lord,” she said. “You have given me comfort and have spoken kindly to your servant—though I do not have the standing of one of your servant girls.”¹⁴ At mealtime Boaz said to her, “Come over here. Have some bread and dip it in the wine vinegar.” When she sat down with the harvesters, he offered her some roasted grain. She ate all she wanted and had some left over.¹⁵ As she got up to glean, Boaz gave orders to his men, “Even if she gathers among the sheaves, don’t embarrass her.”¹⁶ Rather, pull out some stalks for her from the bundles and leave them for her to pick up, and don’t rebuke her.”¹⁷ So Ruth gleaned in the field until evening. Then she threshed the barley she had gathered, and it amounted to about an ephah.¹⁸ She carried it back to town, and her mother-in-law saw how much she had gathered. Ruth also brought out and gave her what she had left over after she had eaten enough.¹⁹ Her mother-in-law asked her, “Where did you glean today? Where did you work? Blessed be the man who took notice of you!” Then Ruth told her mother-in-law about the one at whose place she had been working. “The name of the man I worked with today is Boaz,” she said.²⁰ “The LORD bless him!” Naomi said to her daughter-in-law. “He has not stopped showing his kindness to the living and the dead.” She added, “That man is our close relative; he is one of our kinsman-redeemers.”²¹ Then Ruth the Moabitess said, “He even said to me, ‘Stay with my workers until they finish harvesting all my grain.’”²² Naomi said to Ruth her daughter-in-law, “It will be good for you, my daughter, to go with his girls, because in someone else’s field you might be harmed.”²³ So Ruth stayed close to the servant girls of Boaz to glean until the barley and wheat harvests were finished. And she lived with her mother-in-law. NIV

Response & Benediction

***The Hymn of Response** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” *Trinity Hymnal #457*

Come, thou fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God:
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander - Lord, I feel it - prone to leave the God I love:
here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

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

Nursery	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Combined</u>
Today	Ann Falls	Beth Jackson	Jenni Quinn
Nxt wk	Beth Stowe	Cathy Robinson	Jessica McMullen
SEC			

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

Happy Birthday today to Helga Long! Happy Birthday this week to Terry Burton and Paul Robinson on 3/9, Willie Keller on 3/10, Mitchell Johnson and John Slavens on 3/11, Jeff Ulatowski on 3/12 and Douglas McCarter on 3/13.

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

This Week at Bethel:

Today: The Bethel Cemetery Association Board of Directors will meet in the church sanctuary at 3:00 pm. Face masks will be required and social distancing will be observed. ALL members of the BCA Board of Directors are encouraged to attend as there is some important business to be taken care of.

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.

Daylight Savings Time begins March 14! Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday night.

Next Week:

Session Meeting: March 14, 2:00 pm, Sanctuary.

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 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 RYM Colorado \$200 airfare cost is due March 31st.

Upcoming: We will be starting a new youth Sunday School series using the film "American Gospel" on Sunday, March 14.

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!

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. LeMoynes, stroke), Herb LeMoynes (J. LeMoynes'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.