



# 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, May 16, 2021

## Preparation

### **The Prelude**

### **The Welcome and Announcements**

## Adoration

### **\*The Call to Worship**          Psalm 84:1-4

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD Almighty! My soul yearns, even faints, for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh cry out for the living God. Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may have her young—a place near your altar, O LORD Almighty, my King and my God. Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you. NIV

**\*The Hymn of Adoration**      "10,000 Reasons"

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;  
Worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul;  
I'll worship Your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

And on that day, when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near, and my time has come;  
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending  
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore!

## **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**

*"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"*

*Trinity Hymnal #499*

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfil thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;  
naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the Fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

**\*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**

John 10:22-30

Then came the Feast of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was in the temple area walking in Solomon's Colonnade. The Jews gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one." 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**                      Romans 8:28-30

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. NIV

### Collection

### **Offertory Scripture & Giving of Our Lord's Tithes**                      1 Chronicles 29:12-13

Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things. In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all. Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name. NIV

### **Offertory Anthem**

*The Choir*

## **\*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**

### **Confident Completion**

Text: Philippians 1:1-6 (pew Bible p.1825)

**1** Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons: **2** Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **3** I thank my God every time I remember you. **4** In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy **5** because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, **6** being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. NIV

Response & Benediction

**\*The Hymn of Response**      “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”      *Trinity Hymnal #629*

What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!  
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,  
all because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer.

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged: take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy-laden, cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge—take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.

*\*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 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>Infant</u>	<u>Toddler</u>	<u>Floater</u>
Today	Johna Griesman	Jody Sorey	Abby Chidester
Nxt wk	Sam Griffin	Ilse Wallace	Trinna Meek
SEC			

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

*Happy Birthday this week to Shirley Coker and Linda Johnson on 5/17 and Michelle Stowe on 5/20.*

**This Week at Bethel:**

**Today:** Session Meeting, 2:00 pm, Sanctuary. Joint meeting with the Deacons.

**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.

**Next Week:**

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

**Palmetto Women’s Center Virtual Banquet Fundraiser:**

May 27, 6:00 – 7:45 pm, FLC. Please join us for a meal as we participate in this live streamed event and consider making a financial gift in support of their life-saving work. Although PWC was unable to hold their annual fundraising banquet in 2020, the door never closed once! PWC was one of three pregnancy centers in SC to remain open throughout the entire pandemic. In order to plan for food, please RSVP to Lara in the church office.

**Upcoming:**

**Vacation Bible School:** July 12-16. Registration is open and on our website. We are also looking for volunteers

and prayer partners! The sign-up for volunteers can be found on our website, or at [www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084da8aa2aa6fd0-2021](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084da8aa2aa6fd0-2021). If anyone would like to work “behind the scenes” helping to set up and/or decorate the FLC, please contact Sheridan Miller (803-230-2294) or Ilse Wallace (704-747-4703).

**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.

**Upcoming:** The youth group girls are having a lake weekend! This is a free trip-we will be going to the Long’s lake house June 25-27. Please contact Gunther or Samantha if you are interested in coming!

**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](mailto:office@bethelchurchpca.com).*

**\*\*\* Headphones are available during worship for those with hearing difficulty. Please see a Deacon for assistance. \*\*\***

**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) and Norm West.