



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, October 4, 2020

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

Adoration

***The Call to Worship** Isaiah 28:16

So this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for a sure foundation; the one who trusts will never be dismayed."

NIV

***The Hymn of Adoration** “Jesus Christ, Our Sure Foundation” *Trinity Hymnal #354*

Jesus Christ, our sure foundation, he whose purpose stays the same,
building for himself a nation, giving those he calls his name.
Praise we now and evermore, Jesus we adore!
God has giv'n to us salvation, Jesus Christ has borne our blame.

Shepherd, Guardian, he who teaches, on whose grace the church depends,
Tending it through hist'ry's reaches, and will keep it to the end.
Praise we now and evermore, Jesus we adore!
He who from the first did seek us, Savior, Ruler, Guide, and Friend.

Jesus, come, your kingdom bringing, how we long to see its sight!
Ev'ry saint, Christ's praises singing, stands before th'eternal Light.
Praise we now and evermore, Jesus we adore!
Exaltation ever ringing, Christ, our King, return in might.

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.

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
thou, Lord, their Captain in the well-fought fight;
thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

O may thy soldiers faithful, true, and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
the saints triumphant rise in bright array;
the King of glory passes on his way.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia!

***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

1 Corinthians 3:1-11...21-23

Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly — mere infants in Christ. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men? For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not mere men? What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe — as the Lord has assigned to each his task. I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to his own labor. For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building. By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ... So then, no more boasting about men! All things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future — all are yours, and you are of Christ, and Christ is of God. NIV

Individual & Corporate Confession

Almighty and most merciful God: we acknowledge and confess that we have sinned against Thee in thought, word, and deed; that we have not loved Thee with all our heart and soul, with all our mind and strength; and that we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Lord, forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; so that we may henceforth walk in the way of Your commandments, and do those things which are pleasing in Your sight, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon 1 John 1:8-9

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. NIV

Collection

Offertory Scripture & Giving of Our Lord's Tithes 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. 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

Blessings In Christ

Text: 1 Peter 3:8-15

⁸ Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. ⁹ Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. ¹⁰ For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech. ¹¹ He must turn from evil and do good; he must seek peace and pursue it. ¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil." ¹³ Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened." ¹⁵ But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect... NIV

Response & Benediction

***The Hymn of Response**

“All Must Be Well”

Through the love of God our Savior, All will be well;
Free and changeless is His favor, All is well;
Precious is the blood that healed us, Perfect is the grace that sealed us,
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, All must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation, All will be well;
Ours is such a full salvation, All is well;
Happy still in God confiding, Fruitful if in Christ abiding,
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding, All must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow, All will be well;
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, All is well;
On our Father's love relying, Jesus ev'ry need supplying,
Yes in living or in dying, All must be well.

**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 in the main floor area downstairs. The downstairs back corner seating areas and the balcony are fully open. 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 (the words for scripture readings and hymns printed in worship guide).
- * Until further notice: No Choir and No Children’s sermon.
- * Sunday School planning to restart on Oct. 25 (specific plans still being made and will be communicated in October).
- * Please feel free to wear masks or PPE if that is your preference.
- * Sanctuary seating downstairs with every other row empty between in the main floor area. Chairs in FLC are spread out for social distancing.
- * Family households plan to sit together.
- * Planning to celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper on Nov. 8.

Nursery	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Combined</u>	<u>Combined</u>
Today	Abby Chidester	Barbara Love, Jessica McMullen	Nathalee Cuffman
Nxt wk	Ann Falls, Jody Sorey	Shannon Griesman	Shelly Van Flake
SEC			

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

Happy Birthday this week to Jillian Heard on 10/8, Barbara Love and Lucas Sorey on 10/9 and Floyd Neal on 10/10.

This Week at Bethel:

Today: WELCOME to our new Pastoral Intern Gunther Griffin and his wife Sam!

Final New Members/Inquirers Class, 10-10:45 am in the FLC conference room with Pastor Marcus.

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

Diaconate Meeting: 7:00 pm, Sanctuary.

The following men were nominated for the offices of Elder and Deacon. **Elder Nominees:** Chris Griesman, Dan Love, Bobby Meek and Hamp Stowe. **Deacon Nominees:** Tom Chidester, Tom Cuffman, Austin Griesman, Foster Krebs and Paul Robinson.

Next Week:

Elder and Deacon Nominees: Please plan to attend training from 10:00 – 10:45 am on Oct. 11, 18 and 25 with Pastor Marcus in the conference room.

Session Meeting: Oct. 11, 2:00 pm, Sanctuary.

Men of the Covenant: will have a kick-off meeting (since we have not met since March due to the virus) on Monday, October 12th, at 6:30 pm in the FLC where we can spread out. Note that this is the 2nd Monday night instead of our normal first Monday night to meet. A meal

will be provided, and we will elect officers, deal with other business matters, and have a devotional. All Bethel men are invited and encouraged to attend.

Bethel Youth Group News:

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

Upcoming: All youth and families please join us next Sunday evening at 6:00 pm for a time of food, fellowship and fun as we welcome our new Pastoral Intern Gunther Griffin and his wife Sam. More details to come.

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.

Anyone wishing to have your email address added to the church email loop, please send a request to office@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. 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).