



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, January 26, 2025

Praise the LORD!

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

Psalm 106:1

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Silent Meditation and Prayer on Romans 8:16-17

The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-- heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Adoration

***THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Read Responsively)**

Psalm 92:1-8 ESV

Leader: 'It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High,

People: To proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night, to the music of the ten-stringed lyre and the melody of the harp.

Leader: For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy at the works of your hands.

People: How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts!

Leader: The senseless man does not know, fools do not understand,

People: That though the wicked spring up like grass and all evildoers flourish, they will be forever destroyed.

ALL: But you, O LORD, are exalted forever.

To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that we may go in.

Refrain:

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thro’ Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives. (*Refrain*)

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (*Refrain*)

***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.

14 And it shall be said, "Build up, build up, prepare the way, remove every obstruction from my people's way."

15 For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: "I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite.

16 For I will not contend forever, nor will I always be angry; for the spirit would grow faint before me, and the breath of life that I made.

17 Because of the iniquity of his unjust gain I was angry, I struck him; I hid my face and was angry, but he went on backsliding in the way of his own heart.

18 I have seen his ways, but I will heal him; I will lead him and restore comfort to him and his mourners,

19 creating the fruit of the lips. Peace, peace, to the far and to the near," says the LORD, "and I will heal him.

20 But the wicked are like the tossing sea; for it cannot be quiet, and its waters toss up mire and dirt.

21 There is no peace," says my God, "for the wicked."

The Call to Confession

Revelation 2:4-5 ESV

But I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. If not, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent. Trusting ourselves to the grace of God, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all people: Our lips are ready to confess, but our hearts are slow to feel, and our wills are reluctant to repent.

We bring our entire selves to You, this morning – bend us, wound us, and, if necessary, break us. We have seen the purity of Your perfect word, the happiness of those in whose heart it reigns, the calm dignity of the walk to which it calls – yet we daily violate its precepts.

Your loving Spirit strives within us, brings us Scripture warnings, speaks in startling providences, allures by secret whispers – yet we make shameful choices that grieve Him and quench His influence. We mourn and lament these sins, crying to You for pardon.

Grant that through the tears of repentance we may see more clearly the goodness and glory of our Savior and His cross. Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

The Assurance of Forgiveness

Zephaniah 3:17 ESV

The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness; He will quiet you by His love; He will exult over you with loud singing. Bethel Church, receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***The Song of Thanks** “On Jordan’s Stormy Banks I Stand”

On Jordan’s stormy banks I stand,
and cast a wishful eye
To Canaan’s fair and happy land,
where my possessions lie.

All o’er those wide extended plains,
shines one eternal day;
There God the Son forever reigns,
and scatters night away.

Chorus:

*I am bound, I am bound,
I am bound for promised land,
I am bound, I am bound,
I am bound for promised land.*

No chilling winds nor poisonous breath
can reach that healthful shore;
Sickness, sorrow, pain and death,
are felt and feared no more. (*Chorus*)

When shall I reach that happy place,
and be forever blessed?
When shall I see my Father’s face,
and in His bosom rest? (*Chorus*)

*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,
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 worshiped 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.*

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Romans 11:34-36 ESV

"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?" "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

The Offertory Anthem

The Choir

***The 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.

***The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Consecration

The Children's Sermon

The Pastoral Prayer

***The New Testament Reading**

Matthew 5:3 ESV
(pew Bible p. 962)

The Sermon

Blessed are the Poor in Spirit

Rev. Mark Ashbaugh

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 for ever 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.

Benediction

***Postlude**

God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you,
with his sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.

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

Nursery	Infants (0-2)	Toddlers (2-4)	Worship Training (5-7)
Today	Harper Harvell and Lee Coble	Jennifer Forrest and Lindsay Hoffman	Peggy & David Long
Next week	Grace & Pavlina Benes and Lawson Gray	Douglas McCarter and Ann Falls	Johna Griesman and Cullie Mounts

Worship Training is available for children ages 5-7. The children will leave after the Children's Sermon to attend class in the Education Building; parents are to pick them up after the conclusion of the worship service.

Happy birthday this week to Bill Boyd, Brenda Seaford, Carol Davis, and Elijah Chidester on 1/29; Debbie Meek on 1/30; and Jennifer Forrest on 2/1.

Welcome visitors! Please fill out a welcome card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate.

After 6 years, our congregation is doing a new pictorial directory. We want everyone to get a new picture made so that our new directory will be complete. IT WON'T BE COMPLETE WITHOUT YOU! Photo dates are: FEB 14-15, 2025. You will have a professional photography session, see your proofs, and have the opportunity to purchase extra portraits for family and friends. **Please remember, if you choose to purchase extra portraits, a payment must be made either via check or credit card during your appointment.** You can make your appointment online by using the link sent in the earlier email, scan one of the QR codes posted around the campus, or you may sign up following today's worship service.

Bethel family, for those interested, copies of the fourth quarter financial reports are available for you in the vestibule/narthex. If you have any questions, please contact your shepherding elder or the church treasurer, DN Ken Long.

This Week at Bethel

Today: Middle School Girls Discipleship Group, 4:00 pm, basement

KidsQuest, 5:00 pm

Youth, 5:00 pm

Tuesday: GriefShare, 6:30-8:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Wednesday: GriefShare, 1:00-3:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

Thursday: Mentors & Moms, 9:30-11:15 am, Education Building

Next Week at Bethel

Middle School Girls Discipleship Group: Sunday, February 2, 4:00 pm, basement

KidsQuest: Sunday, February 2, 5:00 pm

Youth: Sunday, February 2, 5:00 pm

Men of the Covenant: Monday, February 3, 6:30 pm, FLC. All Bethel men are invited for a meal, devotional, program, and fellowship. The guest speaker will be York County's Sherriff, Tony Breedon.

Circle #1: Tuesday, February 4, 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor

GriefShare: Tuesday, February 4, 6:30-8:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Diaconate Meeting: Tuesday, February 4, 7:00 pm

GriefShare: Wednesday, February 5, 1:00-3:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

Mentors & Moms: Thursday, February 6, 9:30-11:15 am, Education Building

Parents Night Out: Saturday, February 8, 5:00-7:00 pm, FLC. See Amanda Brummett for more information.

Upcoming Events

Wedding Shower: The Women in the Church are hosting a drop-in wedding shower for Julia Van Blake and her fiancé, Jacob Kidd, on Sunday, February 23. The shower will be held in the Ladies Parlor from 2:00-3:30 pm. They are registered at Amazon, Target, Crate and Barrel, and Williams Sonoma.

Biblical Studies Released Time (BSRT) Annual Pancake Supper: Saturday, March 8, 3:00-8:00 pm. Bethel PCA has always been one of the primary supporting churches for this program. If you would like to volunteer to help with the pancake supper, please contact Joe Le Moyne by phone at 704-201-7082 or email at jlemoyne@carolina.rr.com.

QR Code for Giving



Prayer Requests: Recovery, healing, and strength: Steve Britt, Tammy Carrick, Deke Cox, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Don Johnson, Bill Keller, Mary Love, Debbie Meek, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace. Spiritual revival: the Holy Spirit would bestow a growing spiritual hunger in His people and He would draw us into a season of fervent intercession for our lost neighbors and family members. Our Congregation: that we would continue to grow in holiness, showing we've put off the old nature by our love for one another even as we engage with our neighbors who don't know the love of God.