



Bethel

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

*Timeless Truths for our
Changing Community*

Organized 1764

Our Mission

Glorifying God by going to the ends of the earth
to gather and grow His people.

Welcome to Bethel!

*The church ... is a hospital
in which nobody is completely well,
and anyone can relapse at any time.*

J.I. Packer

**The LORD'S Day
Sunday, March 1, 2026**

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

Psalm 150:6

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Silent Meditation and Prayer on Proverbs 10:12

Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all offenses.

Adoration

***The Call to Worship (Read Responsively)**

Isaiah 2:2-5 ESV

Pastor: It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say:

People: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

Pastor: For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples.

People: And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

All: O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Come, thou Almighty King, help us thy name to sing,
help us to praise. Father, all glorious,
o'er all victorious, come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

Come, thou Incarnate Word, gird on thy mighty sword,
our prayer attend. Come, and thy people bless,
and give thy Word success; Spirit of holiness,
on us descend.

Come, Holy Comforter, thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour. Thou who almighty art,
now rule in every heart, and ne'er from us depart,
Spirit of pow'r.

To the great One in Three eternal praises be,
hence evermore. His sovereign majesty
may we in glory see, and to eternity
love and adore.

***The Invocation**

***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.*

¹For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

²a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;

³a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;

⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;

⁵a time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away;

⁷a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;

⁸a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

⁹What gain has the worker from his toil?

¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with.

¹¹He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also, he has put eternity into man's heart, yet so that he cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.

¹²I perceived that there is nothing better for them than to be joyful and to do good as long as they live;

¹³also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God's gift to man.

Confession

The Call to Confession

Isaiah 6:5 ESV

And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Hearing this, Bethel Church, let us confess our sin before God.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

We confess to You, Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; that we have grievously sinned in thought, word, and deed. Forgive our sins through Christ Jesus. Make us truly contrite. Fill us with holy fear; and give us grace to amend our lives according to Your Word.

Almighty and merciful Father, restore our souls in Jesus Christ, that we may be merciful and kind, even as You are. Let your forgiveness make us willing to forgive all wrong which we have suffered, and to ask forgiveness for every wrong which we have done. Give us the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ who dwelt among men in great humility, and was meek and lowly of heart. Let the same mind be in us which was also in Him. Let our love and charity be abundant as our joy, that our hearts may be tender to all need, and our hands give freely for His sake. And grant that, being rooted and grounded in the mystery of the Son of God being made flesh for us, we may receive power to overcome the world and gain the life eternal through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

The Assurance of Forgiveness

Romans 5:1-2 ESV

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the Word:
from heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,
to guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;
though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,
against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Q. 143. What is the ninth commandment?

A. The ninth commandment is: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

Q. 144. What does the ninth commandment require?

A. The ninth commandment requires that we maintain and promote truthfulness in our dealings with each other and the good reputation of others as well as ourselves. We must come forward and stand up for the truth, speaking the truth and nothing but the truth from our hearts, sincerely, freely, clearly, and without equivocation, not only in all matters relating to the law and justice but in any and every circumstance whatsoever. We must have a charitable regard for others, loving, desiring, and rejoicing in their good reputation as well as regretting and putting the best light on their failings. We must freely acknowledge their talents and gifts, defending their innocence, readily receiving a good report about them and reluctantly admitting a bad one. We should discourage gossips, flatterers, and slanderers; we should love and protect our own good reputation and defend it when necessary; we should keep every lawful promise we make no matter what; and finally we should do the best we can to focus our lives and thoughts on things that are true, noble, lovely, and admirable.

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Malachi 3:10 ESV

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

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 Message

The Pastoral Prayer

***The New Testament Reading**

1 Peter 4:7-11 ESV
(Pew Bible p. 1206)

The Sermon

Living in Christ's Church

Pastor Chris Donnelly

I. A believer's _____ (v. 7)

A. The _____ is not near chronologically, but theologically, as we are in the last phase of God's plan for the _____ of His people.

B. We _____ biblical self-control when we see things in their proper proportion and _____ appropriately.

Colossians 3:2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

C. The _____ these traits produce in believers is _____.

II. A believer's _____ (v. 8-11)

A. We cannot _____ to be part of a thriving Christian community if we fail to extend to one another the _____ that the Lord first gave us.

B. We are to welcome _____ into our lives – not based on what they can do for us, but how we can _____ them.

Matthew 25:35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

C. Knowing that our _____ and resources come from the Lord instead of ourselves helps keep us from becoming _____ or patronizing.

Sermon Notes:

Answer Key: demonstrate, conduct, end, hope, react, grace, mindset, strangers, fruit, serve, redemption, strength, prayerfulness, proud.

***The Closing Song**

“O Church, Arise”

Getty & Townend

O Church, arise, and put your armor on; hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of Truth, we'll stand against the devil's lies;
An army bold, whose battle cry is love, reaching out to those in darkness.

Our call to war—to love the captive soul, but to rage against the captor;
And with the sword that makes the wounded whole, we will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on ev'ry side, we know the outcome is secure,
and Christ will have the prize for which He died—an inheritance of nations.

Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet, as the Son of God is stricken;
Then see His foes lie crushed beneath His feet, for the Conqueror has risen!
And as the stone is rolled away and Christ emerges from the grave,
this victory march continues 'til the day ev'ry eye and heart shall see Him.

So Spirit come, put strength in ev'ry stride, give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
that we may run with faith to win the prize of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way, retelling triumphs of His grace,
we hear their calls and hunger for the day when with Christ we stand in Glory.

***The 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.*

| | Infants (0-2) | Toddlers (2-4) | Worship Training (5-7) |
|------------------|--|---|-----------------------------------|
| Today | Sheridan Miller, Carter Miller, and Nathalee Cuffman | Peggy Long, David Long, and Jane McCall | Cullie Mounts and Amanda Brummett |
| Next Week | Marissa Robinson and Cathy Robinson | Stacie Brackett and Brittany Neely | Peggy and David Long |

Worship Training is available for ages 5-7. Children will leave after the children's sermon to attend class in the Education Building. Parents are to pick them up after the worship service concludes.

Happy birthday today to Ross Love! Happy birthday this week to Susanna Taylor on 3/3 and Adam Stowe and Darren DeRousse, Jr. on 3/6.

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

The deacons fund will be received this morning following the worship service. Please consider giving generously to this vital ministry to those in need in our congregation and community.

Interested in learning more about Bethel Presbyterian Church or becoming a member? Our new member's class began this morning, but it's not too late to join us. The meetings occur during the Sunday school hour in the Family Life Center. If you plan to attend, please get in touch with Pastor Chris at chris.donnelly@bethelchurchpca.com or 443.841.2985 or the church office.

This Week at Bethel

Sunday:

Youth Committee Meeting: 4:00 pm

Youth: 5:00 pm

Monday:

Men of the Covenant: 6:30 pm, FLC. Guest speaker is Ivan "Bud" Strope, a Marine and Vietnam veteran and author of a devotional book, *W is for Warrior*. He is currently the Pastor of Veterans Ministry at Journey Fellowship and is the chaplain at Camp Centurion, a camp for homeless and displaced veterans near Bessemer City, NC.

Tuesday:

Circle #1: 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor

GriefShare: 1:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

Diaconate Meeting: 7:00 pm

Wednesday:

Men's Bible Study: 6:00 am, Conference Room

Thursday:

Mentors & Moms: 9:30 am, Education Building

Saturday:

Men's Trap Shoot and Supper: 3:00 pm, Flying King Ranch, 1546 Chester Hwy, York. Guest speaker will be Zach Hollins. Bring yourself, a friend, camping chair, shotgun, and ammo or \$5 to cover the cost of shells. CSF BBQ food truck will be serving chicken, ribs, pulled pork, and sides.

Next Week at Bethel

Session Meeting: March 8, 2:00 pm

Circle #2: March 8, 3:30 pm, Ladies' Sunday School Classroom

Youth: March 8, 5:00 pm

Family Quest: March 8, 5:00 pm

Circle #3: March 9, 7:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

GriefShare: March 10, 1:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

Men's Bible Study: March 11, 6:00 am, Conference Room

Colleen Riddle Circle: March 11, 11:00 am, Education Building

Mentors & Moms: March 12, 9:30 am, Education Building

Upcoming Events at Bethel

Wedding Shower: WIC is hosting a drop-in shower for Parker Dooley and her fiancé, Brandon Isenhour, on Sunday, March 15th. The shower will be in the FLC from 2:00-3:30 pm. She is registered at giftful.com.

Prayer requests:

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Helen Bean, Steve Britt, Tammy Carrick, Betsy Clinton, Shirley Coker, Deke Cox, Cary Grant, Johna Griesman, Charlotte Jackson, Willie Keller, Joe LeMoyné, Barbara Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Debbie Meek, Eck Miller, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace, Larry Wilmoth, Diane Wyatt.
- Pray that we would be people eager to see the good: we would be equitable in our decisions and counsel, fair in all our dealings, treat all people equally, and not overlook those who are unlike ourselves or easily missed.
- Biblical Studies Released Time: a Bible-centered organization we support whose purpose is to evangelize boys and girls with the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ and to establish them in the Word of God and in a local church for Christian living.
- Pastor Craig Marshall, the session, and congregation at **Bullock Creek Presbyterian Church**, 7386 Lockhart Road, Sharon, SC 29742, (803) 280-4618.