



Bethel

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

*Timeless Truths for our
Changing Community*

Organized 1764

Our Vision

Joyfully obeying the Great Commandments
by obediently living the Great Commission.

Welcome to Bethel!

*The Lord is our portion,
and this is incomparably more
than if we had heaven and earth.*

David Clarkson

*The LORD'S Day
Sunday, March 30, 2025*

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!

Psalm 57:5

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Recognition of Children for Scripture Memorization

The Silent Meditation and Prayer on Deuteronomy 10:12

"And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul."

Adoration

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

Psalm 118:25-29 ESV

Leader: Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

People: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless You from the house of the LORD.

Leader: The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

People: You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; you are my God; I will extol You.

All: Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!

***The Song of Praise**

“Come Ye Sinners”

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore.
Jesus, ready, stands to save you, Full of pity joined with power.
He is able, He is able; He is willing; doubt no more.

Come ye needy, come, and welcome; God's free bounty glorify:
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.
Without money, without money, come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall.
If you tarry 'till you're better, you will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous; Sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream.
All the fitness He requires, is to feel your need of Him.
This He gives you, this He gives you, 'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended; Pleads the merit of His blood.
Venture on Him; venture wholly, let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus, can do helpless sinners good.

***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.

4 Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the clans of the house of Israel.
5 Thus says the LORD:

"What wrong did your fathers find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthlessness, and became worthless?

6 They did not say, 'Where is the LORD who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that none passes through, where no man dwells?'

7 And I brought you into a plentiful land to enjoy its fruits and its good things. But when you came in, you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination.

8 The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?' Those who handle the law did not know me; the shepherds transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit.

9 "Therefore I still contend with you, declares the LORD, and with your children's children I will contend.

10 For cross to the coasts of Cyprus and see, or send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has been such a thing.

11 Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for that which does not profit.

12 Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the LORD,
13 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

The Call to Confession

James 1:26-27 ESV

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. Therefore, trusting in His mercy, Bethel Church, let us confess our sins to Almighty God. .

The Corporate Confession of Sin

O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love You and keep Your commandments, let Your ear be attentive and Your eyes open, to hear the prayer of Your servants that we now pray before You, confessing our sins, which we have sinned against You.

We have acted very corruptly against You and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that You commanded in Your Holy Word.

Remember the Word that You commanded Your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, but if you return to Me and keep My commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make My name dwell there.'

We are those Your servants and Your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servants today, and grant us mercy in the sight of all men. Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

The Assurance of Forgiveness

Colossians 2:13-14 ESV

And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. People of the Lord, receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
he whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for his own abode:
on the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove;
who can faint, while such a river
ever flows their thirst t'assuage?—
grace which, like the Lord, the giver,
never fails from age to age.

Round each habitation hov'ring,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a cov'ring,
showing that the Lord is near:
thus deriving from their banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which he gives them when they pray.

Savior, if of Zion's city
I, through grace, a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name:
fading is the worldling's pleasure,
all his boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.

They, whom God has accepted in His Beloved, effectually called, and sanctified by His Spirit, can neither totally nor finally fall away from the state of grace, but shall certainly persevere to the end, and be eternally saved.

Nevertheless, they may, through the temptations of Satan and of the world, the prevalency of corruption remaining in them, and the neglect of the means of their preservation, fall into grievous sins; and, for a time continue therein; whereby they incur God's displeasure, and grieve his Holy Spirit, come to be deprived of some measure of their graces and comforts, have their hearts hardened, and their consciences wounded; hurt and scandalize others, and bring temporal judgments upon themselves.

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Romans 8:31-32 ESV

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?"

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**

Revelation 2:1-7 ESV
(pew Bible p. 1218)

The Sermon

Listen Up!

Rev. Michael Lee

I. On Whose Authority?

II. An Honest Evaluation

III. An Appeal to Life

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art -
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r;
raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

***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	Trinna Meek and Cindy Love	Laura, Brent & Macie Clinton	Jenni Quinn and Kathy Donnelly
Next Week	Cathy Robinson and Ann Marsh	Amanda & Miller Brummett	Lindsey Hall and Ruth McCormick

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 Linda Ferster and Steve Britt! Happy birthday this week to James Weatherby on 3/31; Dan Love and Rev. Chris Donnelly on 4/1; Bricen Krashner on 4/2; Lianne Gardner on 4/3; and Casey Forrest, Joy McCarter, Maggie Hydrick on 4/4.

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

We would like to extend our deepest condolences to the family of Tommy McCall. Please know that we are praying for your entire family.

Next Sunday, April 6, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together. Please take some time over the coming week to prayerfully prepare your heart and mind by reading and meditating on one of the following Scripture passages: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 32; Psalm 51; Isaiah 53; or John 6:25-59. For in this way, God renews and knits us together as His chosen people.

Please make plans to join us next Sunday, April 6, for a covered-dish fellowship luncheon. This is a great opportunity to invite family, friends, and neighbors to Bethel, not only to enjoy a meal, but to get to know us as a congregation. Please bring your favorite appetizer, salad, side, main dish, or dessert to share with the body.

We're still gathering information for our upcoming communicants class, so if you haven't already, please get in touch with Pastor Chris via email (chris.donnelly@bethelchurchpca.com) with any interested child's name, age, preferred time, and day of the week for the class.

Calla lilies can be ordered by using the insert found in the worship guide. Please note that the deadline to order is Sunday, April 13. They will be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 20, and can be picked up after morning worship. Please give your order to Helen or Cary Grant.

This Week at Bethel

Today:

Children's Spring Showcase, 5:00 pm, Sanctuary. We would love for the entire church to attend. There will be a celebration in the FLC after the showcase.

Youth, 5:00 pm

Tuesday:

Circle #1, 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor
GriefShare, 6:30-8:30 pm, Covenant Classroom
Diaconate Meeting: 7:00 pm

Wednesday:

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

Thursday:

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

Next Week at Bethel

Fellowship Luncheon: Sunday, April 6, following worship, FLC

Middle School Girls Discipleship Group: Sunday, April 6, 4:00pm

Youth: Sunday, April 6, 5:00 pm

Men of the Covenant: Monday, April 7, 6:30 pm, FLC. All men are invited to attend for a meal, devotional, program, and fellowship.

Colleen Riddle Circle: Wednesday, April 9, 11:00, Education Building, second room on right

Mentors & Moms: Thursday, April 10, 9:30-11:15 am, Education Building

Upcoming Events at Bethel

Easter Celebration: Sunday, April 13, 4:30 pm. Join us for an egg hunt, Easter story, fun activities, food, and fellowship! Invite friends and family. Whoever invites a friend will be entered into a drawing to win a fun prize. We are asking for pre-filled eggs, which may be placed in the bin in the vestibule. Please see the email that was sent out to the congregation to sign up for food and gift cards.

QR Code for Giving



Prayer requests:

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Helen Bean, Steve Britt, Tammy Carrick, Deke Cox, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Don Johnson, Bill Keller, Barbara Love, Mary Love, Debbie Meek, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace.
- Pray that we would be people who practice godly self-restraint: we would model good works at home, at work, and in our neighborhoods; have control over our passions; live according to the New Testament's ethical commands so that God will be glorified.
- Pastor Al Ward and the congregation at **Zion Presbyterian Church**, 219 The Avenue, Chester, SC 29706, (803) 581-6071.