



# Bethel

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

*Timeless Truths for our  
Changing Community*

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*Organized 1764*

## Our Mission

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

## Welcome to Bethel!

*The way to be anxious for nothing  
is to be prayerful in everything.*

*HB Charles Jr*

**The LORD'S Day  
Sunday, April 26, 2026**

[www.BethelChurchPCA.com](http://www.BethelChurchPCA.com)

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

*I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.*

**Psalm 9:2**

Preparation

**The Prelude**

**The Welcome and Announcements**

**The Silent Meditation and Prayer on James 2:26**

*For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.*

Adoration

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

Psalm 24:1-6 ESV

*Pastor: The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein, for he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.*

**People: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in his holy place?**

*Pastor: He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.*

**People: He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation.**

*All: Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.*

All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
him serve with fear, his praise forth-tell,  
come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord ye know is God indeed;  
without our aid he did us make;  
we are his folk, he doth us feed,  
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise,  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good,  
his mercy is forever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

**\*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.*

<sup>5</sup>For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them.

<sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down)

<sup>7</sup>"or 'Who will descend into the abyss?' " (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

<sup>8</sup>But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

<sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

<sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

<sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

<sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him.

<sup>13</sup>For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

<sup>14</sup>How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

<sup>15</sup>And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!"

<sup>16</sup>But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, "Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?"

<sup>17</sup>So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

## Confession

### **The Call to Confession**

2 Timothy 3:1-5 ESV

*But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.*

### **The Responsive Corporate Confession of Sin**

*Pastor: Eternal God, You do not change. You have revealed Yourself to us in Your Word. You call us to worship You in spirit and truth.*

**People: But we confess that we often worship a god made in our image and who we wish You to be.**

*Pastor: We frequently ask You to bless what we do, rather than seeking to do what You bless.*

**People: Forgive us for seeking concessions when we should be seeking guidance.**

*Pastor: You command us to be generous with our love and resources, for the sake of the church and the lost.*

**People: But we have been selfish and insensitive to the needs and opportunities around us.**

*Pastor: Display Your glory before us.*

**People: That we might bow before Your unspeakable majesty and so live for You now and forever in Christ. Amen.**

### **The Silent Confession of Sin**

### **The Assurance of Forgiveness**

Colossians 1:13-14 ESV

*He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.*

**\*The Song of Thanks**

**"As the Deer"**

As the deer panteth for the water,  
So, my soul longeth after Thee.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
And I long to worship Thee.

*Refrain:*

*You alone are my strength, my shield;  
To You alone may my spirit yield.  
You alone are my heart's desire,  
And I long to worship Thee.*

You're my friend and You are my brother  
Even though You are a King.  
I love you more than any other,  
So much more than anything. *(Refrain)*

I want you more than gold or silver,  
Only You can satisfy.  
You alone are the real joy giver  
And the apple of my eye. *(Refrain)*

## **\*The Confession of Faith**

Westminster Confession of Faith  
Chapter 18:2,3 – Concerning Faith and Salvation

*We believe our assurance is not based on the fallible hope of guesswork or probabilities. Rather, it is the infallible assurance of faith, established on the divine truth of the promises of salvation. There is also the inner evidence of spiritual insight, given to us by God, to which these promises are directed. And there is the testimony of the Spirit of adoption, witnessing with our spirits that we are the children of God. This Spirit is the pledge of our inheritance. By him we are sealed until the day of redemption.*

*This infallible assurance of faith and salvation does not so belong to the essence of faith but that a true believer may wait long and contend with many difficulties before he partakes of it. Yet, because he is enabled by the Spirit to know the things which are freely given to him by God, he may—without any extraordinary revelation—attain this assurance by a proper use of the ordinary means. It is therefore the duty of everyone to be very diligent in making certain that God has called and chosen him. By such diligence his heart may grow in peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, in love and thankfulness to God, and in strength and cheerfulness in the duties which obedience to God requires—the proper fruits of this assurance. Thus, it is far from inclining men to carelessness.*

### Collection

## **\*The Offertory Scripture**

Matthew 6:19-21 ESV

*“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.*

## **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 Old Testament Reading**

Nehemiah 2:1-8 ESV  
(Pew Bible p. 468)

**The Sermon**

*A Risky Request*

Pastor Chris Donnelly

- I. Nehemiah pauses for the \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1)
- A. Upon \_\_\_\_\_ the update on the state of affairs in Jerusalem, Nehemiah began \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - B. Sometimes we can use prayer as an \_\_\_\_\_, a reason for not doing \_\_\_\_\_ .
  - C. Nehemiah waited for the \_\_\_\_\_ opportunity, the right time to make his \_\_\_\_\_ .
- II. Nehemiah trusts God for His \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 2-3)
- A. The Hebrew word for \_\_\_\_\_ used here by the monarch can also mean \_\_\_\_\_ or distress.
  - B. We must remember the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ to change our outward circumstances, to bring to pass results that stump our rational \_\_\_\_\_ .
- Proverbs 16:33 The lot is cast into the lap, but its every decision is from the LORD.*
- C. In God's grand plan for the restoration of \_\_\_\_\_, Nehemiah was the man chosen to lead the covenant \_\_\_\_\_ .
- III. Nehemiah prays for \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 4)
- A. These supplications are usually made by those with a well-developed \_\_\_\_\_ life.

B. When the \_\_\_\_\_ says in everything, saints, he means in everything, every situation we face, every single \_\_\_\_\_ .

C. It's \_\_\_\_\_ the right place to lift our prayers and petitions to God.

IV. Nehemiah plans for \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5-8)

A. Notice that Nehemiah starts his request on a \_\_\_\_\_ note.

B. When God \_\_\_\_\_ the opportunity, the cupbearer was properly \_\_\_\_\_ to move ahead.

C. God is in \_\_\_\_\_ our occurrences, just like He was in all the \_\_\_\_\_ of Nehemiah's life, too.

### Sermon Notes:

**Answer Key:** outcome, apostle, excuse, day, sick, always, receiving, accomplishment, evil, personal, something, provided, ability, prepared, time, all, mind, events, perfect, Judah, praying, people, request, success, right, prayer.

How firm a foundation, you saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with you, O be not dismayed;  
for I am your God, and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call you to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be with you, your troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to you your deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply;  
the flame shall not hurt you; I only design  
your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

"E'en down to old age all my people shall prove  
my sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;  
and when hoary hairs shall their temples adorn,  
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne.

"The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

**\*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.*

	<i>Infants (0-2)</i>	<i>Toddlers (2-4)</i>	<i>Worship Training (5-7)</i>
<b>Today</b>	Jackie & Albert Krashner and Debra Kozak	Sheridan & Carter Miller and Jane McCall	Ilse Wallace and Kristine DeRousse
<b>Next Week</b>	Jennifer Forrest and Brittany Neely	Cullie Mounts and Ann Falls	Grace Benes and Savannah McCall

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 this week to Mark Kozak on 4/27; Brandon Wallace on 4/29; Laura Clinton, Marshall Hoffman, and Miller Brummett on 4/30; and Lindsey Hall on 5/1.

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

Next Sunday, May 3, 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. In this way, God renews and knits us together as His chosen people.

Please make plans to join us next Sunday, May 3, for a covered-dish fellowship luncheon. This is an excellent opportunity to invite family, friends, and neighbors to Bethel, not only to enjoy a wonderful meal but also to get to know us as a congregation. Please bring your favorite appetizer, salad, side, main dish, or dessert to share with the church family.

Save the Date: to celebrate Mother's Day, we are having a congregation-wide collection for Palmetto Women's Center on Sunday, May 10th. Please give generously in support of life.

Do you have a child interested in becoming a communicant member at Bethel? An 8-week communicants class is planned to begin on Sunday, May 17, during the Sunday school hour. If interested, please contact Pastor Chris with your child's name.

### **This Week at Bethel**

#### **Sunday**

**VBS Meeting:** 4:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

**Youth:** 5:00 pm

#### **Wednesday**

**Senior Citizen's Lunch:** 12:00 pm, FLC

#### **Thursday**

**Mentors & Moms:** 9:30 am, Education Building

### **Next Week at Bethel**

**Congregational Luncheon:** Sunday, May 3, after worship, FLC

**Girls Discipleship Group:** Sunday, May 3, 4:00 pm, Picnic Shelter

**Youth:** Sunday, May 3, 5:00 pm

**Men of the Covenant:** Monday, May 4, 6:00 pm, Picnic Shelter

**Circle #1:** Tuesday, May 5, 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor

**Diaconate Meeting:** Tuesday, May 5, 7:00 pm, Conference Room

### **Prayer requests:**

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Helen Bean, Tammy Carrick, Betsy Clinton, Shirley Coker, Deke Cox, Matt Falls, Linda Ferster, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Volney Jerome, Willie Keller, Joe LeMoyne, Barbara Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Debbie Meek, Eck Miller, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace, Norm West, Larry Wilmoth.
- Spiritual revival: the Holy Spirit would give us a passion to see people saved and eyes to see the opportunities He gives us each day to share the gospel.
- Families and marriages: that the Lord would give us the strength to honor Him through our bodies as they are the temple of the Lord, and wisdom to continuously build a healthy spiritual life and marriage with Him at the center.
- Pastor Henry Beaulieu, the session, and congregation at **Redeeming Grace Presbyterian Church**, 4800 Charlotte Highway, Lake Wylie, SC 29710, (803) 831-7133.