



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 true goal of life is not to be great,
or to do great things,
but to be just what God meant us to be.*

J.R. Miller

*The LORD'S Day
Sunday, August 23, 2026*

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

*⁹All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you,
O Lord, and shall glorify your name.*

Psalm 86:9

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introduction of New Communing Members

The Silent Meditation and Prayer

Isaiah 57:15 ESV

*¹⁵For 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.*

Adoration

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

John 4:23-24 ESV

*Pastor: ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the
Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.*

People: ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,
robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,
and all the twinkling, starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,
now and for evermore be thine.

***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.*

¹Now even the first covenant had regulations for worship and an earthly place of holiness.

²For a tent was prepared, the first section, in which were the lampstand and the table and the bread of the Presence. It is called the Holy Place.

³Behind the second curtain was a second section called the Most Holy Place,

⁴having the golden altar of incense and the ark of the covenant covered on all sides with gold, in which was a golden urn holding the manna, and Aaron's staff that budded, and the tablets of the covenant.

⁵Above it were the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy seat. Of these things we cannot now speak in detail.

⁶These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties,

⁷but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people.

⁸By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the holy places is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing

⁹(which is symbolic for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper,

¹⁰but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation.

¹¹But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation)

¹²he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.

¹³For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh,

¹⁴how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

Confession

The Call to Confession

James 4:6-7 ESV

⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

Hearing this, saints of God, let us confess our corporate sins to the Lord.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

O Lord, rebuke us not in your anger, nor discipline us in your wrath. Be gracious to us, O Lord, for we are languishing; heal us, O Lord, for our bones are troubled. Our soul also is greatly troubled. But you, O Lord—how long?

Turn, O Lord, deliver our lives; save us for the sake of your steadfast love. For in death there is no remembrance of you; in Sheol who will give you praise?

We are weary with our rebellion, and our hearts are downcast within us. Save us from our defiance against You. O Lord, you have heard our plea; you have accepted our prayer. Make all those who would have us stumble be put to shame, for our hope is in you. In the name of Your Son, Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

***The Assurance of Forgiveness**

Psalms 145:8-9 ESV

⁸The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. ⁹The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.

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

Stennett & Miner

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*)

***The Confession of Faith**

Romans 1:1-5 ESV

We believe and confess the gospel of God, which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning His Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by His resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of His name among all the nations. Amen.

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Jeremiah 9:23-24 ESV

²³Thus says the Lord: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord."

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 9:38-10:39 ESV

(Pew Bible p. 477)

The Sermon

The Covenant Renewal Service

Pastor Chris Donnelly

- I. The Declaration's _____ (vs. 1-27)
 - A. The _____ authority.
 - B. The _____.
 - C. The _____.
 - D. The _____ leaders.
- II. The Declaration's _____ (vs. 28-29)
 - A. By including their names, the people _____ their plan to walk according to the stipulations _____ in God's Word.

B. The Christian's desire to _____ God's commands out of gratitude for grace received is what the Lord _____ and what Spirit-filled disciples crave.

III. The Declaration's _____ (vs. 30-39)

A. A promise regarding the _____.

2 Corinthians 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness?

B. An oath about the _____.

Exodus 20:8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

C. A commitment to support the _____ of _____.

Sermon Notes:

Answer Key: civil, obey, signatories, expects, priests, family, general, Sabbath, Levites, oath, house, community, God, particular, indicate, pledges, contained.

***The Closing Hymn**

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Trinity Hymnal # 481

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
and life more abundant and free!

Refrain:

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
look full in his wonderful face,
and the things of earth will grow strangely dim
in the light of his glory and grace.*

Through death into life everlasting
he passed, and we follow him there;
over us sin no more hath dominion-
for more than conqu'rors we are! [*Refrain*]

His Word shall not fail you– he promised;
believe him, and all will be well:
then go to a world that is dying,
his perfect salvation to tell! [*Refrain*]

***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	Ann Carol Love and Kyla Ferguson	Kristine DeRousse and Peggy & David Long	Kathy Donnelly and Morgan Brown
Next Week	Amanda Brummett and Sheridan & Carter Miller	Shirley Brackett and Kim Britt	Debra Kozak and Cullie Mounts

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 Ella Chidester! Happy birthday this week to Kay Jackson on 8/24; Jacob Lee on 8/25; Austin Brown, Felipe Benes, and Miles Brummett on 8/26; and Madeline Brummett on 8/28.

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

More Biblical Studies Released Time volunteers are needed for this school year. Please see Mandy Wynkoop or Peggy Long if you are interested.

Saints, please prayerfully consider joining a community group this fall. These groups typically meet twice a month, either on the 1st and 3rd or 2nd and 4th weeks. This ministry aims to foster spiritual growth through honest conversations about the gospel and our lives. You can find out more about the available options on our website. If you have further questions, please contact Pastor Mark or Pastor Chris.

This Week at Bethel

Sunday

Kids' Quest Kickoff: 5:00 pm

Youth: 5:00 pm

Wednesday

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

Saturday

Acts of Love: 10:00 am for prep and 11:30 am for delivery, FLC. See Brittany Neely, Ilse Wallace, or Laura Clinton for more details.

Next Week at Bethel

Kids' Quest: Sunday, August 30, 5:00 pm

Youth: Sunday, August 30, 5:00 pm

Circle #1: Tuesday, September 1, 10:30 am, Ladies' Parlor

Men's Bible Study: Wednesday, September 2, 6:00 am, Conference Room

GriefShare: Wednesday, September 2, 1:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Upcoming Events at Bethel

Mentors & Moms will begin meeting on Thursday, September 10, at 9:30 am in the Education Building.

Prayer requests:

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Becky Adams, Craig Adams, Helen Bean, Betsy Clinton, Brent Clinton, Shirley Coker, Deke Cox, Marianne Falls, Linda Ferster, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Volney Jerome, Joe LeMoyné, Barbara Love, Bobby Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Debbie Meek, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, 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's giving us each day for sharing the gospel.
- 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.
- The session, staff, pulpit search committee, and congregation at **Westminster Presbyterian Church**, 1320 India Hook Road, Rock Hill, SC 29732, (803) 366-3107.