



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 19, 2025

*The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?*

Psalm 27:1

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Silent Meditation and Prayer on Proverbs 1:7

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

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.

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;
our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
has 'stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

O measureless Might! Ineffable Love!
While angels delight to hymn you above,
the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall lisp to your praise.

***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 For thus says the LORD to the house of Israel: “Seek me and live;

5 but do not seek Bethel, and do not enter into Gilgal or cross over to Beersheba; for Gilgal shall surely go into exile, and Bethel shall come to nothing.”

6 Seek the LORD and live, lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and it devour, with none to quench it for Bethel,

7 O you who turn justice to wormwood and cast down righteousness to the earth!

8 He who made the Pleiades and Orion, and turns deep darkness into the morning and darkens the day into night, who calls for the waters of the sea and pours them out on the surface of the earth, the LORD is his name;

9 who makes destruction flash forth against the strong, so that destruction comes upon the fortress.

10 They hate him who reproves in the gate, and they abhor him who speaks the truth.

11 Therefore because you trample on the poor and you exact taxes of grain from him, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine.

12 For I know how many are your transgressions and how great are your sins— you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and turn aside the needy in the gate.

13 Therefore he who is prudent will keep silent in such a time, for it is an evil time.

14 Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said.

15 Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

The Call to Confession

1 John 3:10 ESV

By this it is evident who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil: whoever does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor is the one who does not love his brother. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

Holy God, in the light of your holiness, we see ourselves as we really are, and we are ashamed.

We confess that we are people of impure thoughts and unclean lips; we think too highly of ourselves and too little of others. We cling so tightly to the treasures of this world that we cannot open our hands to receive blessings from above. Our feet follow the paths of sin; we wander so far astray that we become strangers to righteousness.

Forgive us, and set us again on the path that leads to life. Deal with us not as we deserve, but according to your mercy; not because we are worthy but because you are gracious.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

The Assurance of Forgiveness

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 ESV

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong. Children of God, receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***The Song of Thanks**

"All Must Be Well"

Through the love of God our Savior, All will be well
Free and changeless is His favor, All is well
Precious is the blood that healed us, Perfect is the grace that sealed us
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us, All must be well

Though we pass through tribulation, All will be well
Ours is such a full salvation, All is well
Happy still in God confiding, Fruitful if in Christ abiding
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding, All must be well

We expect a bright tomorrow; All will be well
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, All is well
On our Father's love relying, Jesus every need supplying
Yes in living or in dying, All must be well

Q. 111. What is the third commandment?

A. The third commandment is: You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

Q. 113. What particular sins does the third commandment forbid?

A. The third commandment forbids: not using God's name as is required; the abuse of it through ignorance, empty or unholy treatment, irreverence, superstition, or any wicked reference to his titles, qualities, regulations, or works; blasphemy; perjury; all sinful cursing, oaths, vows, and casting lots; violating our oaths and vows, if lawful, and keeping them, if aimed at unlawful things; complaining and quarreling about or misapplication of God's decrees and acts of providence as well as unwarranted curiosity about them; misinterpreting or misapplying God's word or perverting all or part of its meaning in any way; blasphemous mockery of his word, pointless arguing, meaningless talk, or supporting false doctrines; abusing God's name, his creatures, or anything included under his name in the practice of magic or to promote sinful desires and activities; maligning, scorning, reviling, or opposing in any way God's truth, grace, and actions; pretending to be religious or using religion for evil purposes; being ashamed of God's name or a shame to it by stubbornly refusing to obey him and by living unwisely, unfruitfully, or in such a way as to offend him or backslide away from him.

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Psalm 54:6-7 ESV

With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good. For he has delivered me from every trouble, and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

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

Ephesians 5:15-21 ESV
(pew Bible p. 1162)

The Sermon

Walking Wisely

Pastor Chris Donnelly

I. A Christian's _____ (v. 15)

A. Because we are now in Christ "in whom are _____ all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge" (Col. 2:3), His _____ are ours.

James 1:5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.

B. As believers, when we give in to _____, we are unwisely living according to our old _____, not our new one.

C. Paul _____ the Roman saints that they have all the resources they need "to be wise as to what is good and _____ as to what is evil" (Rom. 16:19).

II. A Christian's _____ (v. 16)

A. We _____ the time we have been given by using it to serve the Lord to the best of our _____ faithfully.

Galatians 6:10 So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

B. Since we live in a fallen world, when _____ with the opportunity to serve the Lord, we should do so _____.

III. The Lord's _____ (v. 17)

A. In His Word, we find the Lord's _____ and appropriate instructions for knowing and doing what _____ Him.

B. For the disciple of Christ, times of trial and tribulation _____ whether we know the God we profess to believe in and if we _____ His will.

Sermon Notes:

Answer Key: presented, ability, reminds, purposes, comprehend, nature, redeem, pleases, temptation, principles, eagerly, privileges, resources, demonstrate, perfect, hidden, innocent

***The Closing Hymn** “My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less” Trinity Hymnal #521

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.
*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

His oath, his covenant, his blood support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found;
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.
*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

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	Beth Stowe and Kathy Donnelly	Cullie Mounts and Lindsey Hall	Ilse Wallace and Grace Benes
Next week	Harper Harvell and Lee Coble	Jennifer Forrest and Lindsay Hoffman	Peggy & David Long

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 to Cate Riddle on 1/20; David McKinnon, Isak Siemens, and Julie McKinnon on 1/21; Walker Love on 1/22; Dianne Wyatt, Evey Coble, and Ruth McCormick on 1/23; Mikey Benes, Ruben Trevino, and Suzanne McCall on 1/24; and Andrew Brown on 1/25.

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

Congratulations to Seth and Brittany Neely on the birth of their son, Ezra Watkins Neely. He was born on January 15 and weighed 9 pounds. Both mom and baby are happy and healthy.

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. 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, January 26, 4:00 pm, basement

KidsQuest: Sunday, January 26, 5:00 pm

Youth: Sunday, January 26, 5:00 pm

GriefShare: Tuesday, January 28, 6:30-8:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Senior Citizens Lunch: Wednesday, January 29, 12:00 pm, FLC

GriefShare: Wednesday, January 29, 1:00-3:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

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

Upcoming Events

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

Wedding Shower: The Women in the Church are hosting a drop-in wedding shower for Julia Van Vlakte 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: an outpouring of God the Spirit would occur in our congregation and community; the Holy Spirit would inspire new zeal and commitment to sharing the gospel. Families and marriages: those relationships all around us that are stressed; our marriages to be characterized by unity, intimacy, and honesty.