



Bethany Presbyterian Church

Graham, North Carolina
www.bethanypreschurch.org
www.facebook.com/bethanypresbyterian

July 21, 2024 – 11:00 am
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost



"Love will conquer," FUMIGRAPHIX Photographer

This is the love of God: we keep God's commandments. God's commandments are not difficult, because everyone who is born from God defeats the world.

1 John 5:3-4 (COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE)

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Welcome to our service of worship. Although we are worshipping in a variety of locations, we still affirm that God is present in our worship, whether in-person or virtually. Our prayer is that all who worship with us this day will truly feel the presence of God in this time. Know that you are loved and we are so glad you are here! Parts of today's liturgy are from Ruth Burgess, Bare Feet and Buttercups: Resources for Ordinary Time, (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2008), and LiturgyLink, <https://www.liturgylink.net>.

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE: *I Look to God in Every Need*

FRANKLIN RITTER

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*OPENING HYMN #X: *O How I Love Jesus*

FREDERICK WHITFIELD

There is a name I love to hear,
I love to sing its worth;
it sounds like music in my ear,
the sweetest name on earth.

Refrain:

O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus,
O how I love Jesus,
because he first loved me!

It tells me of a Savior's love,
who died to set me free;
it tells me of his precious blood,
the sinner's perfect plea. **[Refrain]**

It tells of one whose loving heart
can feel my deepest woe;
who in each sorrow bears a part
that none can bear below. **[Refrain]**

*OPENING SENTENCES

"BECAUSE GOD DOES MARVELOUS THINGS," WILL RYAN

We sing because God does marvelous things!

God opened salvation to all and revealed God's righteousness to the world.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

We join in joyous song and sing God's praises!

It's not only us, but the sea, the rivers, even the mountains rejoice out loud.

The whole cosmos sings because the Lord is coming to establish justice on earth!

Let us worship God.

GATHERING PRAYER

O God,
you have prepared for those who love you
joys beyond understanding.
Pour into our hearts such love for you,
that, loving you above all else,
we may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

OFFERING OURSELVES FOR RENEWAL

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

"LIVING AND SHOWING LOVE," ANDY JAMES

***Living God,
speak to us anew of your love in Jesus Christ,
that we too might live in love every day
and show that love to all the world. Amen.***

ENCOUNTERING SCRIPTURE

ISAIAH 66:12-14

PEW BIBLE, 914

1 JOHN 5:1-6

PEW BIBLE, 1485

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AN OFFERING OF OUR PLEDGES

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #428:** *We Give Thee But Thine Own*

WILLIAM WALSHAM HOW

We give Thee but Thine own,
What e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

*BLESSING OUR GIFTS

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love*

PETER SCHOLTES

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Chorus:

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land. **(Chorus)**

We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's pride. **(Chorus)**

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one. **(Chorus)**

TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT OURSELVES

VULNERABLE LOVE," LUCUS LEVY KEPPEL

Let us come together to tell the truth about ourselves.

Holy and beloved God, you are the one worth of praise, who fills our hearts with extraordinary joy, and who weeps with us when we lash out and hurt each other. In your infinite love, you care for us, and teach us to love each other as you do. Instead, we too often use our feelings as a shortcut for manipulation, trying to get others to do what we want instead of listening for your guidance. Help us to change, to listen to each other, trusting in your and each other to love again in vulnerability, Knowing that all shall be well.

Silence

AN OFFERING OF GOD'S GRACE

I proclaim to you in the name of the Author of love that:

You are enough.

You are forgiven.

You are loved.

Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE #368: *I've Got Peace Like a River*

AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in-a my soul.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

THE WORD IN MUSIC: *Be Thou My Vision*

ELEANOR H. HULL/ARR. BY RICHARD SHEPHARD

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

Sermon: *"Born of God"*

REV. JON PHILLIPS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

"A PRAYER FOR MIDSUMMER," JAN BERRY

We give thanks for the joy of creation:
for all that is made and given;
for all that we shape and create;
for the springing forth of new vision.

We celebrate the flowering of hope.

We give thanks for the fruits of the earth.

We praise God for the goodness of growth.

We give thanks for the vitality of re-creation:
for times of rest and stillness that renew us;
for times of play and laughter that refresh us;
for all that nourishes and restores our spirits.

We celebrate the flowering of hope.

We give thanks for the fruits of the earth.

We praise God for the goodness of growth.

We give thanks for the depth of passion:
for the vision that inspires our longing;
for love that brings strength and tenderness;
for all that touches our deepest core.

We celebrate the flowering of hope.

We give thanks for the fruits of the earth.

We praise God for the goodness of growth.

We give thanks for the rhythm of the seasons:
for all that grows, blossoms, and fades;
for the seeds that are buried and spring again;
For the constant renewal of life from the earth.

We celebrate the flowering of hope.

We give thanks for the fruits of the earth.

We praise the God for the goodness of growth.

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.

***CLOSING HYMN #367:** *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

TUNE: CHEREPONI

Refrain:

Jesu, Jesu,
Fill us with Your love,
Show us how to serve the neighbors we have from You.

Kneels at the feet of his friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. **(Refrain)**

Neighbors are rich and poor,
Varied in color and race,
Neighbors are near and far away. **(Refrain)**

These are the ones we should serve,
These are the ones we should love;
All are neighbors to us and You. **(Refrain)**

Loving puts us on our knees,
Serving as though we are slaves,
This is the way we should live with You. **(Refrain)**

Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet,
This is the way we should live with You. **(Refrain)**

***SENDING**

"GOD OF OUR JOURNEYING," JAN BERRY

God of our journeying,
inviting us to travel with you,
forgive us when we cling to outworn security,
afraid to let go of what is safe and familiar.

Give us courage
to take the risk
of answering your call
into joyous adventure.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: *Firm in the Faith I Stand*

DAVID PAXTON

** Please stand in body or spirit.*



Our Faith Community @ Work

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Saturday, July 27th Shrimp-a-Roo

Mark your calendars for Saturday, July 27th at 6:00 pm for our annual **Shrimp-a-Roo**.

This is a Men of the Church sponsored event for **Bethany family and friends**.

Come enjoy this summertime feast, and table fellowship with your Bethany family and friends! We will be gathering in the Fellowship Hall. Don't miss it!!

Tuesday, July 30th Alamance Co. Mobile Library

The Alamance County Public Libraries mobile library will be in the church parking lot 10:30 – 11:30. Please stop by and “check-out” this wonderful service the library has to share

S.A.F.E. (Southern Alamance Family Empowerment)

How we can help S.A.F.E. for the next two months... they are asking for items for their backpack program. Things like low sugar granola bars, shelf stable fruit cups and applesauce, etc.

Then, before school starts back, they are going to need peanut butter again, for Back to School.

Save the Date

- **Saturday, October 26th Fall Festival**

Invitation To Scout Summer Program

All youth ages 5-11 years old are invited to attend our Scout Summer Program.

- June 15th Hike at Lake Michael
- June 26th Science STEM Slam
- July 20th Hike at Jaycee Trail Reidsville
- Aug 17th Hike at Bur-Mil Park Greensboro
- August End of Summer Pool Party

For more information contact:

Jeff Benes

Committee Chair Cub Pack 9

(336) 675-9086 cell

benes.nc@att.net

This Week's Calendar:

Sunday, July 21st Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

Wednesday, July 24th

6:30 – Choir Practice

Saturday , July 27th

6:00 – Shrimp-A-Roo Fellowship Hall

Sunday, July 28st Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

11:00 – Worship (In-Person & Live Stream)

bethany presbyterian

love learn serve



Session

Moderator: Rev. Jon Phillips

Clerk: Randy Cousins

Treasurer: Glenn Patterson

Class of 2024:

Karen Maxwell

Kim Snyder

Tracey Troxler

Class of 2025:

Donna Mitchell-Ayers

Tina Patterson

Nancy Purcell

Class of 2026:

Chip Allen

Jean Payne

Ben Russell

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