



# 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!

*I have one desire now  
— to live a life of reckless abandon for the Lord,  
putting all my energy and strength into it.*

*Elisabeth Elliot*

**The LORD'S Day  
Sunday, July 5, 2026**

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

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

*<sup>1</sup>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 Isaiah 43:2–3a ESV**

*<sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.*

Adoration

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

Psalm 108:1-5 ESV

*Pastor: <sup>1</sup>My heart is steadfast, O God! I will sing and make melody with all my being!*

**People: <sup>2</sup>Awake, O harp and lyre! I will awake the dawn! <sup>3</sup>I will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; I will sing praises to you among the nations.**

*Pastor: <sup>4</sup>For your steadfast love is great above the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.*

**People: <sup>5</sup>Be exalted, O God, above the heavens! Let your glory be over all the earth!**

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**

**\*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>1</sup>After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go.

<sup>2</sup>And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

<sup>3</sup>Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

<sup>4</sup>Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.

<sup>5</sup>Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!'

<sup>6</sup>And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you.

<sup>7</sup>And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house.

<sup>8</sup>Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you.

<sup>9</sup>Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

<sup>10</sup>But whenever you enter a town and they do not receive you, go into its streets and say,

<sup>11</sup>'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near.'

<sup>12</sup>I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town.

## Confession

### **The Call to Confession**

Isaiah 1:13, 16-17 ESV

<sup>13</sup>Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. <sup>16</sup>Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, <sup>17</sup>learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

*Trusting ourselves to the Lord's grace, let us confess our sins.*

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

*Pastor: O God of Love, we have not loved our enemies. We have not prayed for those who persecute us. We have not fed them when they were hungry. We have not given our enemies something to drink when they were thirsty.*

**People: We have cursed those who cursed us. We have repaid evil to those who were evil to us. We have taken vengeance, instead of leaving room for you to do it. We have too often been overcome by evil, rather than overcome evil with good.**

*Pastor: We have forgotten that we were once your enemies. We have forgotten that you sent rain and sunshine on us, even when we despised you.*

**People: O Lord, remember Jesus when you look at us. Remember how He saved us by His life, and reconciled us by His death. While we were weak, while we were sinners, while we were enemies, You loved us. Please make us more like You. Help us to love our enemies.**

*Pastor: Our sins are many, but Your mercy is more. So, we trust in the finished work of Christ alone for our forgiveness. Amen.*

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

#### **\*The Assurance of Forgiveness**

Galatians 2:20 ESV

<sup>20</sup>I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**\*The Song of Thanks**

“All Must Be Well”

*Smith*

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

**\*The Confession of Faith**

*Belgic Confession*

Article 1: There is only One God

**We all believe in our hearts and confess with our mouths that there is a single and simple spiritual being, whom we call God – eternal, incomprehensible, invisible, unchangeable, infinite, almighty; completely wise, just, and good, and the overflowing source of all good.**

Collection

**\*The Offertory Scripture**

Philippians 1:3-6 ESV

*<sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*

**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 6:1-14 ESV  
(Pew Bible p. 472)

**The Sermon**

*Plotting Against the Lord's Servant*

Pastor Chris Donnelly

I. Plotting to \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1-4)

A. As Christians, we are called to be \_\_\_\_\_ in our interactions with people around us, especially those who act like our \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves."*

**Matthew 10:16**

B. We need to understand that doing \_\_\_\_\_ except what God has called us to do, even good things, is to be \_\_\_\_\_.

II. Plotting to \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5-9)

A. While it's not easy to come to grips with unjust \_\_\_\_\_, we must realize that the \_\_\_\_\_ is not always going to be told.

B. When we follow God's \_\_\_\_\_ for handling personal insults and other fictitious charges, He will ultimately \_\_\_\_\_ us.

*Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation. 1 Peter 2:12*

III. Plotting to \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 10-14)

A. While \_\_\_\_\_ at times, we must not give in to \_\_\_\_\_.

*Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the LORD your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6*

B. We must be \_\_\_\_\_ of the enemy's tricks knowing our Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ is as close as a prayer.

**Sermon Notes:**

**Answer Key:** needlessly, tempting, insult, fear, diverted, aware, shrewd, assistance, accusations, intimidate, truth, friends, principles, injure, defend, anything.

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land;  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
hold me with thy pow'rful hand;  
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more,  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through;  
strong Deliv'rer, strong Deliv'rer,  
be thou still my strength and shield,  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side;  
songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee,  
I will ever give to thee.

**\*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 and Albert Krashner & Amanda Brummett	Laura and Macie Clinton & Trinna Meek	Miller Brummett and Jenni Quinn
<b>Next Week</b>	Renee Nix and Brittany Neely	Drew and Morgan Brown & TBD	Rebecca Wallace and Ilse Wallace

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 Kristine DeRousse! Happy birthday this week to Lindsay Bowman on 7/10 and John Clinton and Molly Wynkoop on 7/11.

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

The deacons fund will be received this morning following the worship service. Please consider giving generously to this vital ministry to those in need in our congregation and community.

Needed: Community and Discipleship Group Leaders. Summer is upon us, and fall is coming quickly. Please prayerfully consider if God would have you lead a twice-monthly community group in your home or a weekly discipleship group. The time commitment is small, and the benefits are eternal. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Pastor Mark.

Biblical Studies Released Time (BSRT) is seeking teachers and volunteers for the upcoming school year. BSRT offers Bible classes to 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students at eight Clover School District elementary schools. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Ginger Bowman at (704) 460-4213 or Brett Brackett at (704) 860-2220.

### **This Week at Bethel**

#### **Sunday**

**Youth Committee Meeting:** 4:00 pm, Youth Room

#### **No Youth**

#### **Tuesday**

**GriefShare:** 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

**Diaconate Meeting:** 7:00 pm, Conference Room

### **Next Week at Bethel**

**ILPC Session Meeting:** Sunday, July 12, 2:00 pm, Conference Room

**Session Meeting:** Sunday, July 12, 3:00 pm, Conference Room

**Youth Pool Party:** Sunday, July 12, 6:00 pm, Linders' home

**GriefShare:** Tuesday, July 14, 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

**Joint WIC Meeting:** July 16, 6:30 pm, FLC. All women are invited to our annual Salad Supper. Sarah Ivill will be the guest speaker.

### **Prayer requests:**

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Helen Bean, Betsy Clinton, Shirley Coker, Deke Cox, Matt Falls, Linda Ferster, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Volney Jerome, Willie Keller, Joe LeMoyné, Barbara Love, Bobby Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Debbie Meek, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace, Norm West, Larry Wilmoth.
- Visitors: God would give us eyes to see those singles, couples, and families we can invite to our congregation; we would be a warm, welcoming faith community where the love of Christ is freely shared and received.
- GriefShare: a support group ministry for those grieving the loss of a loved one in our congregation and community. Through this 13-week program, individuals are equipped to understand the complex emotions associated with grief and learn helpful ways to cope with them. Please praise God for our committed ministry leaders and pray for the ministry's fruitfulness.
- Pastor Al Ward and the congregation at **Zion Presbyterian Church**, 219 The Avenue, Chester, SC 29706, (803) 581-6071.