



Bethel

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

*Timeless Truths for our
Changing Community*

Organized 1764

Our Mission

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

Welcome to Bethel!

*“Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again,
the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock.
Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls
us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it costs a man his life, and it is
grace because it gives a man the only true life. It is costly because it condemns
sin, and grace because it justifies the sinner. Above all, it is costly because it
cost God the life of his Son: 'Ye were bought at a price', and what has cost God
much cannot be cheap for us. Above all, it is grace because God did not reckon
his Son too dear a price to pay for our life, but delivered Him up for us.
Costly grace is the Incarnation of God.”*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, The Cost of Discipleship

**The LORD'S Day
Sunday, September 27, 2026**

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

²Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

³Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Psalm 96:2-3

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Silent Meditation and Prayer on Colossians 3:16 ESV

¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Adoration

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

Psalm 99:1-5 ESV

Pastor: ¹The Lord reigns; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

People: ²The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

Pastor: ³Let them praise your great and awesome name! Holy is he!

People: ⁴The King in his might loves justice. You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

All: ⁵Exalt the Lord our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is he!

Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched, weak and wounded, sick and sore.
Jesus, ready, stands to save you, Full of pity joined with power.
He is able, He is able; He is willing; doubt no more.

Come ye needy, come, and welcome; God's free bounty glorify:
True belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh.
Without money, without money, come to Jesus Christ and buy.

Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and broken by the fall.
If you tarry 'till you're better, you will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous; Sinners Jesus came to call.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream.
All the fitness He requires, is to feel your need of Him.
This He gives you, this He gives you, 'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.

Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended; Pleads the merit of His blood.
Venture on Him; venture wholly, let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus, can do helpless sinners good.

***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.*

³We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you,
⁴since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints,
⁵because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel,
⁶which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth,
⁷just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf
⁸and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

⁹And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;
¹¹being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy;
¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.
¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son,
¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Confession

The Call to Confession

Matthew 23:27-28 ESV

²⁷“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people’s bones and all uncleanness. ²⁸So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: we acknowledge and lament our many sins, which we have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against Your Divine Majesty, provoking Your wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdeeds; the remembrance of them is dreadful to us; the burden of them is unbearable. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for our Lord Jesus Christ’s sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your Name;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

***The Assurance of Pardon**

Exodus 34:6-7a ESV

⁶The Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, ⁷keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin.”

Saints, in Christ alone are we forgiven.

Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art -
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my great Father, I thy true son;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Be thou my battle shield, sword for my fight;
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tow'r;
raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

The Confession of FaithWestminster Confession of Faith*

Chapter 21:8 - Concerning Religious Worship and the Sabbath Day

We believe that the Sabbath is kept holy to the Lord when the people, after a due preparation of their hearts and ordering of their common affairs beforehand, not only observe a holy rest all day long from their own works, words, and thoughts about their worldly employments and recreations, but also are involved the whole time in the public and private exercises of God's worship, as well as duties of necessity and mercy.

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Malachi 3:10 ESV

¹⁰Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.

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 13:15-31 ESV
(Pew Bible p. 481)

The Sermon

Concluding Actions

Pastor Chris Donnelly

I. God's Sabbath _____ (v15-22)

A. When people are _____ on the Sabbath, they can't help but ignore _____.

B. You can't be busy conducting _____ on the Lord's Day and still get the physical and emotional _____ you need.

Matthew 11:28-30 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

II. God's Standards _____ (v23-28)

A. Because of their _____ to keep their vows, the OT church had _____ God.

Malachi 2:10-11 Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our fathers? Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the LORD, which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god.

B. There are serious personal and spiritual _____ associated with ignoring the plain _____ found in Scripture.

III. God's Solution for _____

A. Until personal and corporate _____ is realized and confessed, little can be _____ that will last for eternity.

B. If our doctrine of God is thoroughly _____, fully embracing His commands will result in personal _____ as a loving response to Our Lord's outpoured grace.

C. Nehemiah's effort to _____ and rebuild God's OT church shows us our ongoing need for reformation too, which is _____ in us through the continuing work of the Holy Spirit.

Sermon Notes:

Answer Key: achieved, relaxation, our, biblical, failure, working, holiness, grieved, disregarded, ongoing, consequences, worship, reformation, warnings, neglected, sin, commerce, problem.

***The Closing Hymn**

“Jesus Paid It All”

Trinity Hymnal #308

I hear the Savior say, "Your strength indeed is small,
child of weakness, watch and pray, find in me your all in all."

Refrain:

*Jesus paid it all, all to Him I owe;
sin had left a crimson stain, He washed it white as snow.*

Lord, now indeed I find your power, and yours alone,
can change the leper's spots, and melt the heart of stone. [*Refrain*]

For nothing good have I whereby your grace to claim —
I'll wash my garments white in the blood of Calv'ry's lamb. [*Refrain*]

And when, before the throne, I stand in him complete,
"Jesus died my soul to save," my lips shall still repeat. [*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	Trinna Meek and Cindy Love	Brittany Neely and Cathy Robinson	Kyla Ferguson and Cullie Mounts
Next Week	Victoria Linder and Ann Marsh	Amanda Brummett and Judi Love	Rebecca Wallace and Abby Chidester

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 Luke Austin! Happy birthday this week to Brian Lentell on 9/29, Kim Deal on 10/1, Callie Smith on 10/2, and Nathaniel Toney on 10/3.

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

This Week at Bethel

Sunday

Young Girls Discipleship Group: 4:00 pm, Providence Classroom

Kids' Quest: 5:00 pm

Youth: 5:00 pm

Young Adult Community Group: 6:00 pm

Wednesday

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

Senior Citizens Lunch: 12:00 pm, FLC

GriefShare: 1:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Thursday

Mentors & Moms: 9:30 am, Education Building

Next Week at Bethel

Youth Committee Meeting: Sunday, October 4, 4:00 pm, Youth Room

Kids' Quest: Sunday, October 4, 5:00 pm

Youth: Sunday, October 4, 5:00 pm

Men of the Covenant: Monday, October 5, 6:30 pm, FLC. Join us for a meal, devotional, program, and fellowship. All Bethel men are invited to attend.

Circle #1: Tuesday, October 6, 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor

Diaconate Meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 7:00 pm, Conference Room

Men's Bible Study: Wednesday, October 7, 6:00 am, Conference Room

GriefShare: Wednesday, October 7, 1:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Upcoming Events at Bethel

Missions Conference: October 15th-18th. The Bethel International Missions team, staff, and leadership are excited to bring you many opportunities to meet with our local and regional ministry representatives and Latin American mission team over the 4-day event. Refer to the insert for more details!

Prayer requests:

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Craig Adams, Helen Bean, Betsy Clinton, Shirley Coker, Deke Cox, Marianne Falls, Linda Ferster, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Volney Jerome, Joe LeMoyne, Barbara Love, Bobby Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Debbie Meek, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, Norm West, Larry Wilmoth
- We would be peacemakers: not contentious or eager for a fight and quick to make peace with others, to apologize to those we've offended, and to overlook offenses committed against us.
- 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 Rick Wheeler and the congregation at **Trinity Presbyterian Church**, 651 Great Falls Highway, Chester, SC 29706, (803) 385-5724.