



# Bethel

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

*Timeless Truths for our  
Changing Community*

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*Organized 1764*

## Our Vision

Joyfully obeying the Great Commandments  
by obediently living the Great Commission.

## Welcome to Bethel!

*We must do whatever we can to respect God's image  
in even the most broken and twisted lives,  
whether already born or still in the womb.  
Even the least of these carries intrinsic dignity and worth.*

***Michael Beates***

***The LORD's Day  
Reformation Sunday, October 26, 2025***

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

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

*Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!*

***Psalm 150:6***

Preparation

**The Prelude**

**The Welcome and Announcements**

**The Silent Meditation and Prayer**

Revelation 1:5b-6 ESV

*To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

Adoration

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

Psalm 46:1-7 ESV

*Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*

**People: Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.**

*Pastor: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.*

**People: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

***All: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.***

*Pastor: Come, behold the works of the LORD, how he has brought desolations on the earth.*

**People: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the chariots with fire.**

***All: "Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.***

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
his craft and pow'r are great; and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing;  
were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he,  
Lord Sabaoth his name, from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us.  
The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure, for lo! his doom is sure;  
one little word shall fell him.

That Word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill: God's truth abideth still;  
his kingdom is forever.

**\*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>14</sup>Therefore hear the word of the Lord, you scoffers, who rule this people in Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup>Because you have said, “We have made a covenant with death, and with Sheol we have an agreement, when the overwhelming whip passes through it will not come to us, for we have made lies our refuge, and in falsehood we have taken shelter”;

<sup>16</sup>therefore thus says the Lord God, “Behold, I am the one who has laid as a foundation in Zion, a stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, of a sure foundation: ‘Whoever believes will not be in haste.’

<sup>17</sup>And I will make justice the line, and righteousness the plumb line; and hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and waters will overwhelm the shelter.”

<sup>18</sup>Then your covenant with death will be annulled, and your agreement with Sheol will not stand; when the overwhelming scourge passes through, you will be beaten down by it.

<sup>19</sup>As often as it passes through it will take you; for morning by morning it will pass through, by day and by night; and it will be sheer terror to understand the message.

<sup>20</sup>For the bed is too short to stretch oneself on, and the covering too narrow to wrap oneself in.

<sup>21</sup>For the Lord will rise up as on Mount Perazim; as in the Valley of Gibeon he will be roused; to do his deed—strange is his deed! and to work his work—alien is his work!

<sup>22</sup>Now therefore do not scoff, lest your bonds be made strong; for I have heard a decree of destruction from the Lord God of hosts against the whole land.

## Confession

### **The Call to Confession**

Psalm 51:15-17 ESV

*O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For You will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; You will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise. Trusting ourselves to the grace of God, let us confess our corporate sins before Him and one another.*

### **The Corporate Confession of Sin**

*Our Father in Heaven, we call to you and name you as everlasting, omnipresent, and infinite in love. Yet there are times, O Lord, when we fail to recognize your presence in the bustle of our day. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us shrink back, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hearts, and we damage our wisdom.*

*Holy God, in the daily round from sunrise to sunset, remind us again of your holy presence dwelling near us and in us. Free us from shame and self-doubt. Help us to see you in the moment-by-moment possibilities to live honestly, to act courageously, and to speak from our wisdom. Amen.*

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

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

Psalm 85:1-3 ESV

*LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin. You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger. Bethel Church, receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.*

Love of God, revealed in wonder by the works of a Maker's hand;  
Seas that roar with thund'rous splendor, fields that whisper at His command.  
All the joys of life we cherish are God's gracious sign:  
We are children of His promise, heirs of mercy and grace divine.  
*Unfailing love from Heaven's throne, that sought me out and brought me home;  
My song of praise shall ever be: the Father's love for me.*

Love of God, revealed in frailty through the gift of a servant King;  
Joy of Heaven robed in humility, Prince of Peace crowned with suffering.  
Oh what grace, that calls humanity to kneel at the cross  
And exchange our sin's futility for the joy of a Father's love.  
*Unfailing love from Heaven's throne, that sought me out and brought me home;  
My song of praise shall ever be: the Father's love for me.*

Love of God, what priceless treasure over all this world affords;  
To be His and His forever - this my glory and my reward!  
May this love beyond all knowing, so capture my soul  
That I'm filled to overflowing with a passion for Him alone!  
*Unfailing love from Heaven's throne, that sought me out and brought me home;  
My song of praise shall ever be: the Father's love for me.*

## **\*The Confession of Faith**

Westminster Confession of Faith

Chapter 21:2,3 Concerning Religious Worship and the Sabbath Day

*We believe that religious worship is to be given to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and to him alone, not to angels, saints, or to any other creature. Also, since the fall of mankind, worship cannot occur without a mediator, nor in the mediation of anyone other than Christ alone.*

*Prayer with thanksgiving is one part of religious worship and is required by God from all men. In order for prayer to be accepted, it must be made in the name of Jesus, by the help of the Spirit, according to His will, with understanding, reverence, humility, fervor, faith, love, and perseverance, and, if vocal, in a known tongue.*

### Collection

## **\*The Offertory Scripture**

Revelation 5:11-12 ESV

*Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, saying with a loud voice, "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"*

## **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**

1 Peter 2:4-10 ESV  
(Pew Bible p. 1204)

I. The \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 4-6)

A. As Christians, our lives are \_\_\_\_\_ on Christ. While others may despise us, we have been chosen by God and will enjoy His \_\_\_\_\_ one day.

B. The house is \_\_\_\_\_ because it is animated and indwelt by the \_\_\_\_\_.

C. Jesus Christ is God's chosen and honored \_\_\_\_\_ from which the entire church takes its \_\_\_\_\_.

II. The \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 7-8)

A. Just as Christ was \_\_\_\_\_ by the Father at the resurrection, those who trust in Him will be honored at the \_\_\_\_\_.

B. Sadly, some people \_\_\_\_\_ because of rebellion, refusing to submit to God's lordship, which leaves them fully responsible for their ultimate \_\_\_\_\_.

III. The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 9-10)

A. Believers are \_\_\_\_\_ among God's people because they have been elected, chosen by Him for \_\_\_\_\_.



B. As the Lord's people, we are to \_\_\_\_\_ His praise through both  
worship and evangelism, spreading the gospel of God's saving \_\_\_\_\_  
to all nations, tribes, and tongues.

**Sermon Notes:**

**Answer Key:** grace, declare, life, eternal, counted, God, people, condemnation, stumble, coming, second, honored, unbelievers, shape, cornerstone, Spirit, Holy, spiritual, vindication, patterned, stone, living.

The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;  
she is his new creation by water and the Word:  
from heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;  
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;  
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder men see her sore oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

The church shall never perish! Her dear Lord to defend,  
to guide, sustain, and cherish, is with her to the end;  
though there be those that hate her, and false sons in her pale,  
against or foe or traitor she ever shall prevail.

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with 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.*

|                  | <b>Infants (0-2)</b>                | <b>Toddlers (2-4)</b>       | <b>Worship Training (5-7)</b>  |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Today</b>     | Douglas McCarter and Laura Clinton  | Drew and Morgan Brown       | Abby Chidester and Jenni Quinn |
| <b>Next Week</b> | Jennifer Forrest and Brittany Neely | Cullie Mounts and Ann Falls | Grace Benes 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 Grayson Love! Happy birthday this week to Jessica McMullan on 10/28 and Tom Love on 10/31.*

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

Bethel family, for those of you who are interested, copies of the third quarter financial reports are available for you in the vestibule/narthex. If you have any questions, please get in touch with your shepherding elder or the church treasurer, DN Ken Long.

#### **This Week at Bethel**

##### **Sunday:**

**Called Session Meeting:** 2:00 pm

**Reformation Party:** 5:00 pm, FLC. If you plan to attend, please bring a pickup-type dish to share. There will be a pumpkin bake-off contest. Youth group families are asked to bring candy for the children.

##### **Tuesday:**

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

##### **Wednesday:**

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

**Senior Citizens Lunch:** 12:00 pm, FLC

**GriefShare:** 1:00-3:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

##### **Thursday:**

**Mentors & Moms:** 9:30 am, Education Building

#### **Next Week at Bethel**

**Youth Committee Meeting:** Sunday, November 2, 4:00 pm, basement

**Kids' Quest:** Sunday, November 2, 5:00 pm, wear blue night

**Youth:** Sunday, November 2, 5:00 pm

**Christmas Play Practice:** Sunday, November 2, 5:15 pm, Sanctuary

**Young Adult Community Group:** Sunday, November 2, see Matt Clay for more info

**Men of the Covenant:** Monday, November 3, 6:30 pm, FLC

**Circle #1:** Tuesday, November 4, 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor

**GriefShare:** Tuesday, November 4, 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

**Diaconate Meeting:** Tuesday, November 4, 7:00 pm

**Men's Bible Study:** Wednesday, November 5, 6:00 am, Conference Room

**GriefShare:** Wednesday, November 5, 1:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

**Mentors & Moms:** Thursday, November 6, 9:30 am, Education Building

#### **Upcoming Events at Bethel**

**Wedding Shower:** WIC is hosting a drop-in wedding shower for Rebecca Forrest Gilbert and her husband, Trent, on Sunday, November 9, from 2:00 to 3:30 pm, in the FLC. Her wedding registry is on Amazon.

**QR Code for Giving**



#### **Prayer requests:**

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Helen Bean, Laverne Beard, Tammy Carrick, Betsy Clinton, Shirley Coker, Deke Cox, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Bill Keller, Willie Keller, Joe Le Moyne, Barbara Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Eck Miller, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace, Larry Wilmoth, Diane Wyatt.
- Spiritual revival: the Holy Spirit would bestow a growing spiritual hunger in His people, and He would draw us into a season of fervent intercession for our lost neighbors and family members.
- Women's Ministry: the Lord would use the WIC program, Mentors and moms, community groups, discipleship groups, and the circle ministry to build strong, loving relationships between the women of this congregation; that the women of Bethel would feel the loving embrace of Almighty God and find places of service in our congregation and community.
- Pastor Michael Lee and core group at **Indian Land Presbyterian Church - Mission**, 6549 Gopher Road, Lancaster, SC 29720, (803) 370-9953.