



Bethel

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

*Timeless Truths for our
Changing Community*

Organized 1764

Our Vision

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

Welcome to Bethel!

*The Christian life is a race that will have an end.
One day we'll be complete in glory and with Christ.
We'll receive a prize when this race is finished.
But until that time, we must learn to run, endure, persevere, and finish.*

Trillia Newbell

The LORD'S Day
Sunday, November 2, 2025

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!

Psalm 66:1-2

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Silent Meditation and Prayer

Romans 13:14 ESV

But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Adoration

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

Psalm 66:1-5, 8-9, 16 ESV

Pastor: Shout for joy to God, all the earth; sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!

People: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! So great is Your power that Your enemies come cringing to you. All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name."

Pastor: Come and see what God has done: He is awesome in His deeds toward the children of man.

People: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sounds of His praise be heard, Who has kept our soul among the living and has not our feet slip.

All: Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what He has done for my soul.

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.*

¹Who is like the wise? And who knows the interpretation of a thing? A man's wisdom makes his face shine, and the hardness of his face is changed.

²I say: Keep the king's command, because of God's oath to him.

³Be not hasty to go from his presence. Do not take your stand in an evil cause, for he does whatever he pleases.

⁴For the word of the king is supreme, and who may say to him, "What are you doing?"

⁵Whoever keeps a command will know no evil thing, and the wise heart will know the proper time and the just way.

⁶For there is a time and a way for everything, although man's trouble lies heavy on him.

⁷For he does not know what is to be, for who can tell him how it will be?

⁸No man has power to retain the spirit, or power over the day of death. There is no discharge from war, nor will wickedness deliver those who are given to it.

⁹All this I observed while applying my heart to all that is done under the sun, when man had power over man to his hurt.

Confession

The Call to Confession

Jonah 2:8 ESV

Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love. Bethel Church, trusting ourselves to the grace of God, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

The Responsive Confession of Sin

Pastor: Our lips are ready to confess,

People: But our hearts are slow to feel, and our wills are reluctant to repent.

Pastor: We bring our entire selves to You, this morning –

People: Bend us, wound us, and, if necessary, break us.

Pastor: We have seen the purity of Your perfect word, the happiness of those in whose heart it reigns, the calm dignity of the walk to which it calls –

People: Yet we daily violate its precepts.

Pastor: Your loving Spirit strives within us, brings us Scripture warnings, speaks in startling providences, allures by secret whispers –

People: Yet we make shameful choices that grieve Him and quench His influence.

Pastor: We mourn and lament these sins, crying to You for pardon.

People: Grant that through the tears of repentance we may see more clearly the goodness and glory of our Savior and His cross.

The Silent Confession of Sin

***The Assurance of Forgiveness**

Isaiah 1:8 ESV

“Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord, though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.”

Children of God, receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

In Christ alone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when strivings
cease! My comforter, my all in all, here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone who took on flesh, fullness of God in helpless Babe!
This gift of love and righteousness, scorned by the ones He came to save.
'Til on the cross as Jesus died, the wrath of God was satisfied –
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid; here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then, bursting forth in glorious day, up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory, sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine, bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ever pluck me from His hand:
'Til He returns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

***The Confession of Faith**

Westminster Confession of Faith Chapter 13:1-2 Concerning Sanctification

We believe that those who are effectually called and regenerated have a new heart and a new spirit created in them. They are additionally sanctified, actually and personally, by the power of Christ's death and resurrection and by His Word and Spirit dwelling in them. The power of sin ruling over the whole body is destroyed, and the desires of the old self are more and more weakened and killed. At the same time the ability to practice true holiness, without which no one will see the Lord, is brought to life and strengthened by all the saving graces.

This sanctification is throughout the whole person, yet imperfect in this life, because some remnants of corruption still remain in every part of the person, from which a continual and irreconcilable war arises, the flesh lusting against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh.

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Acts 20:35 ESV

"In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

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 2:11-17 ESV
(Pew Bible p. 1204)

- I. An appeal to live as a godly _____ (v. 11-12)
- A. When Peter refers to _____ as “sojourners and exiles,” he means that we are never fully at home in this _____.
- B. The _____ of the flesh which Peter mentions are the natural, fallen desires that human beings have _____ from the work of God the Spirit
- C. Despite injustice, the _____ of the Christian witness will not be lost as the surrounding world sees the _____ of Jesus’ disciples.
- II. A command to live as a godly _____ (v. 13-17)
- A. Christ’s followers are to _____ to governing authorities because of our relationship to the Lord, for in obeying the _____ we obey God’s will.
- B. By submitting to government, believers _____ that we are good citizens, not rebels, thereby extinguishing the _____ of our ignorant neighbors.
- C. As Christians, we are _____ from sin, from the curse of the law, and from death, but our freedom is no _____ for insubordination.

D. While we have _____ to the state, our responsibilities to each other
and to the Lord are more _____.

Sermon Notes:

Answer Key: apart, Christians, citizen, criticisms, deeds, demonstrate, excuse, free, good, government, impact, important, obligations, passions, pilgrim, submit, world.

***The Closing Hymn**

“And Can It Be That I Should Gain”

Trinity Hymnal #455

And can it be that I should gain an int'rest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain? For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

Refrain:

Amazing love! How can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?

'Tis myst'ry all! Th'Immortal dies: who can explore his strange design?
In vain the firstborn seraph tries to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore, let angel minds inquire no more. [*Refrain*]

He left his Father's throne above (so free, so infinite his grace!),
humbled himself (so great his love!) and bled for all his chosen race!
'Tis mercy all, immense and free, for, O my God, it found out me! [*Refrain*]

Long my imprisoned spirit lay fast bound in sin and nature's night;
thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray; I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
my chains fell off, my heart was free; I rose, went forth, and followed thee. [*Refrain*]

No condemnation now I dread; Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head, and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach th'eternal throne, and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.
[*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	Jennifer Forrest and Brittany Neely	Cullie Mounts and Ann Falls	Grace Benes and Ilse Wallace
Next Week	Kim Britt and Cheri Jackson	Kathy Donnelly and Lee Coble	Danielle Austin and Amanda Brummett

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 Ethan Coble! Happy birthday this week to Lisa Allen on 11/5, Georgia Brown on 11/6, and Hamp Stowe on 11/7.

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 important ministry to those in need in our congregation and community.

Thank you, Bethel Church family, for your many cards and gifts in honor of pastor appreciation month. It is a true blessing and absolute privilege to serve such a loving congregation. Blessings in Christ, the pastoral staff.

The Session of Bethel Presbyterian Church has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, November 16, 2025, following morning worship, for the purpose of presenting the 2026 operating budget and voting on officer candidates. Having successfully completed 11 weeks of training, a written and verbal Session examination, the following candidates were unanimously approved to stand for election:
Ruling Elder class of 2029: Sean Carrick, Tim Marsh
Deacon class of 2027: Paul D. Robinson (currently open spot)
Deacon class of 2029: Stewart McCall

This Week at Bethel

Sunday:

Youth Committee Meeting: 4:00 pm, basement

Kids' Quest: 5:00 pm, wear blue night

Youth: 5:00 pm

Young Adult Community Group: 6:00 pm, Kozaks' home

Monday:

Men of the Covenant: 6:30 pm, FLC

Tuesday:

Circle #1: 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor

GriefShare: 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Diaconate Meeting: 7:00 pm

Wednesday:

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

GriefShare: 1:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

Thursday:

Mentors & Moms: 9:30 am, Education Building

Next Week at Bethel

Session Meeting: Sunday, November 9, 2:00 pm

Wedding Shower: Sunday, November 9, drop-in 2:00-3:30 pm, FLC, for Trent and Rebecca Gilbert, registry on Amazon

Circle #2: Sunday, November 9, 3:30 pm, Ladies SS Classroom

Middle School Girls Discipleship Group: Sunday, November 9, 4:00 pm, basement

Kids' Quest: Sunday, November 9, 5:00 pm, favorite character night

Youth: Sunday, November 9, 5:00 pm

Circle #3: Monday, November 10, 7:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

GriefShare: Tuesday, November 11, 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Men's Bible Study: Wednesday, November 12, 6:00 am, Conference Room

Colleen Riddle Circle: Wednesday, November 12, 11:00 am, Education Building

Mentors & Moms: Thursday, November 12, 9:30 am, Education Building

GriefShare: Thursday, November 12, 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom, "Surviving the Holidays"

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.
- Pray that we would be self-controlled people: our pride would be tempered by a sobering awareness of our remaining sin and personal frailty; we would demonstrate thoughtful restraint and modesty in all areas of our lives.
- Families and marriages: that the Lord would help us to show His mercy and grace to our spouse and children each time they need it and not bring up past hurts or failures.
- Pastor Chip McArthur, the staff, session, and congregation at **Olivet Presbyterian Church**, 159 Church Street, McConnells, SC 29726, (803) 693-4040.