



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 best sermon ever preached is a holy life.
The best music ever chanted is a consistent walk.
If you want others to serve God, serve him yourself.*

DeWitt Talmage

*The LORD'S Day
Sunday, September 14, 2025*

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

Psalm 95:6

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Silent Meditation and Prayer on Romans 12:1

I appeal to you, therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Adoration

***The Call to Worship**

Psalm 28:1-9 ESV

Pastor: To you, O LORD, I call; my rock, be not deaf to me, lest, if you be silent to me, I become like those who go down to the pit.

People: Hear the voice of my pleas for mercy, when I cry to you for help, when I lift up my hands toward your most holy sanctuary. Do not drag me off with the wicked, with the workers of evil, who speak peace with their neighbors while evil is in their hearts.

Pastor: Give to them according to their work and according to the evil of their deeds; give to them according to the work of their hands; render them their due reward. Because they do not regard the works of the LORD or the work of his hands, he will tear them down and build them up no more.

People: Blessed be the LORD! For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy. The LORD is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts, and I am helped; my heart exults, and with my song I give thanks to him.

All: The LORD is the strength of his people; he is the saving refuge of his anointed. Oh, save your people and bless your heritage! Be their shepherd and carry them forever.

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 will 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 will 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 will ever be: the Father's love for me.*

***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.*

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!”

⁴ And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

⁸ And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” Then I said, “Here I am! Send me.” ⁹ And he said,

“Go, and say to this people: ‘Keep on hearing, but do not understand; keep on seeing, but do not perceive.’ ¹⁰ Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.”

¹¹ Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said:

“Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is a desolate waste, ¹² and the Lord removes people far away, and the forsaken places are many in the midst of the land. ¹³ And though a tenth remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak, whose stump remains when it is felled.” The holy seed is its stump.

Confession

The Call to Confession

2 Samuel 24:14 ESV

Then David said to Gad, "I am in great distress. Let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is great; but let me not fall into the hand of man. Therefore, adopted children of God, let us confess our sins to our Heavenly Father.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

Almighty God, rich in mercy to those who call upon You, hear us as we come to You humbly confessing our sins and imploring Your mercy and forgiveness. We have broken Your holy laws by our deeds, by our words, and by our sinful affections of our hearts. Have mercy on us, most merciful Father, and grant that we hereafter may serve and please You through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

***The Assurance of Forgiveness**

Romans 8:10-11 ESV

But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. Bethel Church, receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see:

all I have needed thy hand hath provided -

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. [*Refrain*]

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! [*Refrain*]

***The Confession of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended to heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Galatians 6:9-10 ESV

And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

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 1:13-17 ESV
(Pew Bible p. 1203)

The Sermon

Obedient Children

Pastor Chris Donnelly

- I. The habit of _____ (v. 13)
 - A. Peter is _____ us to ready our minds for strenuous mental _____.
 - B. The Apostle is _____ us that we can't expose ourselves to that which is spiritually toxic without it _____ us.
 - C. When Jesus _____ at the Second Coming, He will bring us as His disciples the fulfillment of our _____.
- II. The habit of _____ (v. 14-16)
 - A. Children of obedience are those who _____ the ways of the world and live in compliance with God's _____.
 - B. As Christians, we are called to steer clear of the sinful _____ in which we participated before becoming _____.
 - C. Holiness _____ on God flows out of a transformed _____.
- III. The habit of _____ (v. 17)
 - A. As disciples of Christ, we are to _____ ourselves with fear as long as we are _____ here on earth.
 - B. Knowing God is _____ unbiased judge and loving Father should drive us to live in a healthy fear and _____ of him.

Sermon Notes:

Answer Key: reject, encouraging, word, hope, behaviors, activity, believers, holiness, patterned, corrupting, heart, fearing, conduct, returns, alive, both, God, awe, salvation, warning.

***The Closing Hymn**

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

Trinity Hymnal #599

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare:
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine; do thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray:
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, let us early turn to thee;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, let us early turn to thee.

Early let us seek thy favor; early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill:
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still,
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

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	Abby Chidester and Kimberly Richards	Jessica McMullen and Sylvia Price	Danielle Austin and Amanda Brummett
Next Week	Isle Wallace and Savannah McCall	Judi and Ross Love	Lindsey Hall and Ruth McCormick

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 Travis Quinn! Happy birthday this week to Grace Benes on 9/16; Jessica Culbertson, and Kristen Meek on 9/17; Benjamin McCall on 9/18; and Brittany Neely on 9/19.

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

Men's Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 17, 2025, from 6:00 to 7:00 am in the FLC Conference Room. We will be studying Paul's letter to the Romans. If you are interested in joining the study, please get in touch with Pastor Chris.

One of the ways we celebrate our membership in this special family is by doing life together. Our Community Groups are a multiplying and maturing ministry that fosters hospitality and spirituality by sharing our highs and lows. If you are not currently involved in a group, you are missing this vital piece of the puzzle that God has given us to grow in grace, so please check out the available groups on the website, contact the leader, and get involved today.

This Week at Bethel

Sunday:

Session Meeting: 2:00 pm

Circle #2: 3:30 pm, Ladies Sunday School classroom

Middle School Girls Discipleship Group: 4:00 pm, basement. We are studying the book of James.

Youth: 5:00 pm

Kids' Quest: 5:00 pm, favorite team night

Tuesday:

GriefShare: 6:30-8:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Wednesday:

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

Colleen Riddle Circle: 11:00 am, FLC

Next Week at Bethel

Youth: Sunday, September 21, 5:00 pm

Kids' Quest: Sunday, September 21, 5:00 pm, canned goods donation night

GriefShare: Tuesday, September 23, 6:30-8:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Senior Citizens Lunch: Wednesday, September 24, 12:00 pm, FLC. We will have a covered dish meal.

GriefShare: Wednesday, September 24, 1:00-3:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

Mentors & Mom: Wednesday, September 25, 9:30 am, location TBD

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, Don Johnson, Bill Keller, Willie Keller, Barbara Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Eck Miller, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace, Diane Wyatt.
- God's discernment and understanding: as we seek His will moving forward as a congregation about how to reach Clover and York County with the good news of Jesus Christ.
- Families and marriages: that the Lord would give us the strength to honor Him through our bodies, as they are the temple of the Lord, and wisdom to continuously build a healthy spiritual life and marriage with Him at the center.
- Pastor Greg Marshall, the session, and congregation at **Temple Presbyterian Church**, 1105 N. Beersheba Road, Clover, SC 29745-0733, (478) 365-4032.