



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!

*If men do not understand the law, they will not feel
that they are sinners. And if they are not consciously sinners,
they will never value the sin offering. There is no healing a man
till the law has wounded him, no making him alive
till the law has slain him.*

Charles Spurgeon

***The LORD'S Day
Sunday, September 28, 2025***

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering and come before him!
Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness!*

1 Chronicles 16:29

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Silent Meditation and Prayer

Proverbs 22:4 ESV

The reward for humility and fear of the LORD is riches and honor and life.

Adoration

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

Psalm 99:1-5 ESV

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

People: The LORD is great in Zion; He is exalted over all the peoples.

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

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

All: Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool! Holy is He!

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 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.*

¹³And the Lord said: “Because this people draw near with their mouth and honor me with their lips, while their hearts are far from me, and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,

¹⁴therefore, behold, I will again do wonderful things with this people, with wonder upon wonder; and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden.”

¹⁵Ah, you who hide deep from the Lord your counsel, whose deeds are in the dark, and who say, “Who sees us? Who knows us?”

¹⁶You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, “He did not make me”; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, “He has no understanding?”

¹⁷Is it not yet a very little while until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field, and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

¹⁸In that day the deaf shall hear the words of a book, and out of their gloom and darkness the eyes of the blind shall see.

¹⁹The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the Lord, and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

²⁰For the ruthless shall come to nothing and the scoffer cease, and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off,

²¹who by a word make a man out to be an offender, and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right.

²²Therefore thus says the Lord, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob: “Jacob shall no more be ashamed, no more shall his face grow pale.

²³For when he sees his children, the work of my hands, in his midst, they will sanctify my name; they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob and will stand in awe of the God of Israel.

²⁴And those who go astray in spirit will come to understanding, and those who murmur will accept instruction.”

Confession

The Call to Confession

Hebrews 2:18 ESV

For because He himself has suffered when tempted, He is able to help those who are being tempted. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

Psalms 51:7-15 ESV

Our Father in Heaven, purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow. Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us. Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us. Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. O Lord, open our lips, and our mouths will declare your praise. Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

The Assurance of Forgiveness

Lamentations 3:25-26 ESV

The LORD is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. Saints, receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

The Sacrament of Baptism

(from Book of Church Order 56-5)

Griffin and Julie Marsh present their daughter, Morris Leland, for the sacrament of baptism.

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises in her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for her salvation, as you do for your own?
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before her a godly example, that you will pray with and for her, that you will teach her the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord?

To the congregation:

Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting the parents in the Christian nurture of these children?

The Congregational Commitment

In the presence of God, the Author and Giver of life, we, the Body of Christ in this place will pray for you parents, in the great and joyful responsibility God has entrusted to you.

As individuals, we will pray that as you grow in Christ, you may bear the fruit of wisdom and godliness day by day.

As a church, we promise to fulfill our responsibility to you and your children in teaching, serving and loving them, that from their earliest days of memory, they may see the face of Jesus mirrored in us.

We pledge this in the name of Jesus, who became a child that we might become the children of God.

To God be the glory, great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
and opened the life-gate that we may go in.

Refrain:

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father thro’ Jesus the Son,
and give him the glory, great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;
the vilest offender who truly believes,
that moment from Jesus forgiveness receives. (*Refrain*)

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
but purer and higher and greater will be
our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. (*Refrain*)

***The Confession of Faith**

The Heidelberg Catechism
Q & A 33, 34

Q 33: Why is Jesus called God's “only Son” when we are also God's children?

A: Because Christ alone is the eternal, natural Son of God. We, however, are adopted children of God – adopted by grace through Christ.

Q 34: Why do you call him “our Lord?”

A: Because – not with gold or silver, but with His precious blood – He has set us free from sin and from the tyranny of the devil, and has bought us, body and soul, to be His very own.

Collection

***The Offertory Scripture**

Romans 8:31-32 ESV

"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?"

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 1:17-21 ESV
(Pew Bible p. 1203)

The Sermon

Coram Deo

Pastor Chris Donnelly

I. _____ (v. 17)

A. One of the _____ of those in Christ is that we habitually call on
God for _____.

B. As Christians, we should constantly _____ that we are living in the
presence of God, under the authority of God, and for the _____ of
God.

II. _____ (v 18-19)

A. To _____ simply means to purchase someone's freedom from bondage by the _____ of a ransom.

B. Because of the _____ work of Christ, we've been set free from the inherited sinful _____ of our earthly parents.

C. Like Israel during the _____, we've been set free from our slavery by the shed _____ of our Passover lamb.

III. _____ (v. 20)

A. Before God created _____, His plan for the salvation of His chosen people through Christ was already _____.

"For herein shines forth more fully the unspeakable goodness of God, that He anticipated our disease by the remedy of His grace, and provided restoration to life before the first man had fallen into death." - John Calvin, Commentary on the First Epistle of Peter

B. Through miraculous _____ and birth, God the Son took on flesh and entered this _____ world.

IV. _____ (v. 21)

A. Our saving _____ has come to us as a gift from _____.

B. The _____ of our faith is the resurrection of _____.

1 Corinthians 15:13-14 *But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.*

Sermon Notes:

Answer Key: payment, marks, Christ, saving, resurrection, basis, patterns, help, Exodus, revelation, blood, Jesus, remember, anything, redemption, finalized, glory, conception, reverent, fallen, redeem, faith, fear

Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what thou art;
I am finding out the greatness of thy loving heart.
Thou hast bid me gaze upon thee, as thy beauty fills my soul,
for by thy transforming power, thou hast made me whole.

Refrain:

*Jesus, I am resting, resting in the joy of what thou art;
I am finding out the greatness of thy loving heart.*

O how great thy loving-kindness, vaster, broader than the sea!
O how marvelous thy goodness lavished all on me!
Yes, I rest in thee, Beloved, know what wealth of grace is thine,
know thy certainty of promise and have made it mine. [*Refrain*]

Simply trusting thee, Lord Jesus, I behold thee as thou art,
and thy love, so pure, so changeless, satisfies my heart;
satisfies its deepest longings, meets, supplies its ev'ry need,
compasseth me round with blessings: thine is love indeed. [*Refrain*]

Ever lift thy face upon me as I work and wait for thee;
resting 'neath thy smile, Lord Jesus, earth's dark shadows flee.
Brightness of my Father's glory, sunshine of my Father's face,
keep me ever trusting, resting, fill me with thy grace. [*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	Ann Carol Love and Cindy Love	Laura, Brent, and Macie Clinton	Peggy and David Long
Next Week	Cathy Robinson and Ann Marsh	Amanda and Miller Brummett	Johna Griesman and Cullie Mounts

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 Hollis Bourque and Jenni Quinn!
Happy birthday this week to Kim Deal on 10/1; Brenda Gess, Callie Smith, and Micah McKinnon on 10/2;
and Sam Griffin 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:

Middle School Girls Discipleship Group: 4:00 pm, basement

Youth: 5:00 pm

Kids' Quest: 5:00 pm, hat night

Tuesday:

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

Wednesday:

Men's Bible Study: 6:00-7:00 am, Conference Room in FLC. All men are invited!

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

Thursday:

Mentors & Moms: 9:30 am, Education Building

Next Week at Bethel

Youth Committee Meeting: Sunday, October 5, 4:00 pm

Youth: Sunday, October 5, 5:00 pm

Young Adult Community Group: Sunday, October 5, Ross and Judy Love's home. For more information, see Matt Clay.

Circle #1: Tuesday, October 7, 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor

GriefShare: Tuesday, October 7, 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

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

Men's Bible Study: Wednesday, October 8, 6:00-7:00 am, Conference Room in FLC. All men are invited!

GriefShare: Wednesday, October 8, 1:00 pm, Covenant Classroom

Upcoming Events at Bethel

Men of the Covenant: Fellowship Presbytery MOC meeting will be held at Bethel on October 23 at 6:30 pm. The guest speaker will be Dr. Dean Faulkner, Lead Pastor at South Charlotte Presbyterian Church and the Director of RTS Charlotte's Center for Church Planting. Let James Long (803-627-3128 or jlong611@bellsouth.net) know by October 9 if you plan to attend. The cost is \$15 per person, which should be paid by October 23rd.

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, Larry Wilmoth, Diane Wyatt.
- Spiritual revival: an outpouring of God the Spirit would occur in our congregation and community; the Holy Spirit would inspire new zeal and commitment to sharing the gospel.
- Clover Area Assistance Center (CAAC): a local organization that provides a range of services to those in need. CAAC compassionately assists disadvantaged individuals living within the boundaries of the Clover School District in varying degrees of need with food, financial assistance, health services, and education.
- Pastor Al Ward and the congregation at **Zion Presbyterian Church**, 219 The Avenue, Chester, SC 29706, (803) 581-6071.