



# 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!**

*Prayer to God is not only the place for divulging our heart,  
but also developing our desires. There is power here.*

*Prayer changes our hearts like nothing else—  
perhaps especially when we follow the prayers of the Bible.*

***David Mathis***

**The LORD'S Day  
Sunday, April 19, 2026**

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

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

*Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,*

***Psalm 66:8***

Preparation

**The Prelude**

**The Welcome and Announcements**

**The Silent Meditation and Prayer on Isaiah 40:8**

*The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Adoration

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

Psalm 107:1-9 ESV

*Pastor: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!*

**People: Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**

*Pastor: Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.*

**People: Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.**

*All: Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.*

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Thee will I cherish, thee will I honor,  
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
and all the twinkling, starry host:  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels heav'n can boast.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations!  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration,  
now and for evermore be thine.

**\*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>1</sup>“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

<sup>2</sup>“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

<sup>3</sup>But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

<sup>4</sup>so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>“And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.

<sup>6</sup>But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>7</sup>“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

<sup>9</sup>Pray then like this:

“Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

<sup>10</sup>Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

<sup>11</sup>Give us this day our daily bread,

<sup>12</sup>and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

<sup>13</sup>And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

<sup>14</sup>For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you,  
<sup>15</sup>but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

## Confession

### **The Call to Confession**

James 4:8-10 ESV

*Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Almighty God.*

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

**O Lord, what evil have we not done? Or if there is evil that we have not done, what evil is there that we have not spoken? If there is any that we have not spoken, what evil is there that we have not thought to do? But you, O Lord, are good. You are merciful. You saw how deep we were sunk in death, and it was your power that drained dry the well of corruption in the depths of our hearts. All that You have asked of us was to deny our own wills and accept yours. Forgive us for every failure to do so and help us to follow You in every way and always, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

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

### **The Assurance of Forgiveness**

1 Corinthians 1:28-31 ESV

*God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord." Receive the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.*

**\*The Song of Thanks**

“How Deep the Father’s Love”

*Townend*

How deep the Father’s love for us, how vast beyond all measure,  
That He should give His only Son to make a wretch His treasure.  
How great the pain of searing loss. The Father turns His face away,  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One bring many sons to glory.

Behold the man upon the cross, my sin upon His shoulders;  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice call out among the scoffers.  
It was my sin that held Him there until it was accomplished;  
His dying breath has brought me life. I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything: no gifts, no pow’r, no wisdom;  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ: His death and resurrection.  
Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer.  
But this I know with all my heart: His wounds have paid my ransom.

**\*The Confession of Faith**

*The Westminster Larger Catechism  
Q & A 188, 189*

*Q. Of how many parts does the Lord’s Prayer consist?*

**A. The Lord’s Prayer consists of three parts; a preface, petitions, and a conclusion.**

*Q. What does the preface of the Lord’s Prayer teach us?*

**A. The preface of the Lord’s Prayer (contained in these words, Our Father who art in heaven), teaches us, when we pray, to draw near to God with confidence in His fatherly goodness, and our interest therein; with reverence, and all other childlike dispositions, heavenly affections, and due apprehensions of His sovereign power, majesty, and gracious condescension: as also, to pray with and for others.**

Collection

**\*The Offertory Scripture**

Romans 12:1 ESV

*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.*

**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 1:1-11 ESV  
(Pew Bible p. 468)

**The Sermon**

*Meeting Nehemiah*

Pastor Chris Donnelly

- I. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Nehemiah's prayer (v. 1-2a)
  - A. As the \_\_\_\_\_ month of the Jewish calendar, Chislev \_\_\_\_\_ parts of November and December.
  - B. Susa was the winter \_\_\_\_\_ of the Persian monarchs.
  - C. In spite of the fact that this word can be used for \_\_\_\_\_ or fellow Jew, it is likely that Hanani was an actual \_\_\_\_\_ of Nehemiah.
- II. The \_\_\_\_\_ behind Nehemiah's prayer (v. 2b-4)
  - A. Nehemiah's life was \_\_\_\_\_ with God's people.
  - B. In spite of his lofty position, Nehemiah demonstrated true \_\_\_\_\_.

*Philippians 2:5-8* Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

C. As Christians, our \_\_\_\_\_ ought to reflect the same burden of Nehemiah's \_\_\_\_\_.

III. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Nehemiah's prayer (v.5-11)

A. How does Nehemiah begin his prayer? With \_\_\_\_\_.

B. In his \_\_\_\_\_, Nehemiah notes his shared responsibility for the \_\_\_\_\_ of God's people.

C. Nehemiah \_\_\_\_\_ for God to make Artaxerxes' heart tender to his \_\_\_\_\_.

**Sermon Notes:**

**Answer Key:** request, praise, stimulus, residence, identified, spans, structure, humility, kinsman, actions, ninth, confession, heart, sins, sibling, prayed, setting.

Amazing grace! – how sweet the sound –  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!

Thro' many dangers, toils and snares,  
I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,  
his Word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be,  
as long as life endures.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail,  
and mortal life shall cease,  
I shall possess within the veil  
a life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we've first begun.

**\*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.*

	<i>Infants (0-2)</i>	<i>Toddlers (2-4)</i>	<i>Worship Training (5-7)</i>
<b>Today</b>	Beth Stowe and Danielle Austin	Peggy & David Long and Jenifer Riddle	Amanda Brummett and Abby Chidester
<b>Next Week</b>	Jackie & Albert Krashner and Debra Kozak	Sheridan & Carter Miller and Jane McCall	Ilse Wallace and Kristine DeRousse

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 this week to Ann Carol Love and Susan Long on 4/20, Sara Ann McMullan on 4/21, and Glenn Jackson on 4/24.

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 interested, copies of the financial report 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.

Do you have a child interested in becoming a communicant member at Bethel? An 8-week communicants class is planned to begin on Sunday, May 17, during the Sunday school hour. If interested, please contact Pastor Chris with the child's name.

### **This Week at Bethel**

#### **Sunday**

Girls Discipleship Group: 4:00 pm, Picnic Shelter

Talent Show: 5:00 pm

Youth: 5:00 pm

### **Wednesday**

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

### **Thursday**

Mentors & Moms: 9:30 am, Education Building

### **Next Week at Bethel**

**Youth:** Sunday, April 26, 5:00 pm

**Senior Citizen's Lunch:** Wednesday, April 29, 12:00 pm, FLC

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

### **Upcoming Events at Bethel**

**Congregational Luncheon:** Sunday, May 3, immediately following the worship service, FLC

### **Prayer requests:**

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Helen Bean, Tammy Carrick, Betsy Clinton, Shirley Coker, Deke Cox, Matt Falls, Linda Ferster, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Volney Jerome, Willie Keller, Joe LeMoyne, Barbara Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Debbie Meek, Eck Miller, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace, Norm West, Larry Wilmoth.
- Pray that we would be people who are respected by others: we would be known and respected by outsiders for our godly conduct and consistency of life, have a good reputation with neighbors, relatives, and colleagues, and be submissive to God's appointed authority.
- Fellowship Presbytery: Pray for April 25th Stated Meeting. Pray for unity, clarity, and that the work and the decisions made would glorify the Lord.
- The session and congregation at **Salem Presbyterian Church**, 1907 Hickory Grove Road, Gaffney, SC 29340, (706) 881-0192.