



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!

*It is not the disappearance of our anxieties
that makes us most fully human;
it is that we call out to the Lord
on good days and bad days.*

Ed Welch

**The LORD'S Day
Sunday, May 24, 2026**

www.BethelChurchPCA.com

~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

*Let them give thanks the LORD for his steadfast love,
for his wondrous works to the children of man!*

Psalm 107:15

Preparation

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introduction of New Members

The Silent Meditation and Prayer on Psalm 115:1

*Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory, for the sake of your steadfast love
and your faithfulness!*

Adoration

***The Call to Worship**

1 Chronicles 16:8-13 ESV

⁸ *Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon his name;*

make known his deeds among the peoples!

⁹ *Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works!*

¹⁰ *Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice!*

¹¹ *Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually!*

¹² *Remember the wondrous works that he has done,*

his miracles and the judgments he uttered,

¹³ *O offspring of Israel his servant, children of Jacob, his chosen ones!*

Praise him! praise him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Sing, O earth, his wonderful love proclaim!
Hail him! hail him! highest archangels in glory;
strength and honor give to his holy name!
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard his children,
in his arms he carries them all day long:
*Praise him! praise him! tell of his excellent greatness;
praise him! praise Him! ever in joyful song!*

Praise him! praise him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
For our sins he suffered and bled and died;
he our Rock, our hope of eternal salvation,
hail him! hail him! Jesus the Crucified.
Sound his praises! Jesus who bore our sorrows,
love unbounded, wonderful, deep, and strong:
*Praise him! praise him! tell of his excellent greatness;
praise him! praise Him! ever in joyful song!*

Praise him! praise him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Heav'nly portals loud with hosannas ring!
Jesus, Savior, reigneth forever and ever;
crown him! crown him! Prophet and Priest and King!
Christ is coming! over the world victorious,
pow'r and glory unto the Lord belong:
*Praise him! praise him! tell of his excellent greatness;
praise him! praise Him! ever in joyful song!*

***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.*

²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?”

²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin,

²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

³¹Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’

³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.

³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴“Therefore, do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

Confession

The Call to Confession

1 Peter 5:6-8 ESV

⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

Bethel Church, let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

The Corporate Confession of Sin

Adapted from Psalm 25

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls; in you we trust, O our God. No one whose hope is in you will ever be put to shame.

Show us your ways, O Lord, teach us your paths; guide us in your truth and teach us, for you are God our Savior, and our hope is in you all day long. Remember, O Lord, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. Remember not the sins of our youth and our rebellious ways; according to your love remember us, for you are good, O Lord.

For the sake of your name, O Lord, forgive our iniquity, for it is great. Look upon our affliction and our distress and take away all our sins. Guard our lives and rescue us; let us not be put to shame for we take refuge in you.

May integrity and uprightness protect us, because our hope is in you. Amen.

The Silent Confession of Sin

***The Assurance of Forgiveness**

Isaiah 1:18 ESV

¹⁸“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.

***The Song of Thanks “My Heart Is Filled With Thankfulness”**

Getty & Townend

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace and gave me life again.
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness and clothed me in His light
And wrote His law of righteousness with pow’r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength and causes fears to fly.
Whose every promise is enough for every step I take;
Sustaining me with arms of love and crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness to Him who reigns above;
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace, whose every thought is love.
For every day I have on earth is given by the King.
So, I will give my life, my all, to love and follow Him.

***The Confession of Faith**

The Heidelberg Catechism
Q & A 1

Q. 1. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. 1. That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death— to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

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 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 4:1-12 ESV
(Pew Bible p. 470)

The Sermon

Building Opposition

Pastor Chris Donnelly

I. Struggle is _____ (v. 1-3)

A. Anger will often be the world's _____ to the Lord's work because it questions priorities and _____.

B. Sanballat's whispering _____ was designed to undermine their confidence and _____ the Jew's problems.

II. Prayer is _____ (v. 4-6)

A. Rather than a last _____, as followers of Christ prayer is our primary _____ against opposition.

B. Nehemiah asks the Lord to _____ the weakening effects of Sanballat's _____.

Psalm 139:21-22 Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? I hate them with complete hatred; I count them my enemies.

C. Sanballat's emotional pressure came to _____ because God intervened, filling the people's hearts with both energy and a commitment to _____ the wall.

III. Scheming is _____ (v. 7-9)

A. Now the opponents of the Jews threatened _____ against the workers hoping this might stop the _____.

B. Again, the people responded to the threat with _____.

IV. Pessimism is _____ (v. 10-12)

A. Several weeks into the effort, the workers were _____.

B. The _____ of the wall destroyed by the Babylonians made the rebuilding effort more difficult.

C. The _____ were aggressively seeking ways to bring an end to the _____.

Sermon Notes:

Answer Key: exhausted, weapon, reaction, counter, understandable, words, remains, principles, nothing, predictable, work, rebuild, campaign, violence, critical, rebuilding, magnify, prayer, opponents, inevitable, resort.

***The Closing Hymn**

“All the Way My Savior Leads Me”

Trinity Hymnal #605

All the way my Savior leads me; what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt his tender mercy, who through life has been my guide?
Heav'nly peace, divinest comfort, here by faith in him to dwell;
for I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well;
for I know, whate'er befall me, Jesus doeth all things well.

All the way my Savior leads me, cheers each winding path I tread,
gives me grace for ev'ry trial, feeds me with the living bread.
Though my weary steps may falter, and my soul a-thirst may be,
gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see;
gushing from the rock before me, lo, a spring of joy I see!

All the way my Savior leads me - O the fullness of his love!
perfect rest to me is promised in my Father's house above:
when my spirit, clothed, immortal, wings its flight to realms of day,
this my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way;
this my song through endless ages: Jesus led me all the way!

***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>
Today	Cathy Robinson and Lindsay Hoffman	Harper Harvell and Jenifer Riddle	Amanda Brummett and Becky Adams
Next Week	Stacie Brackett and Kyla Ferguson	Debra Kozak and Beth Stowe	Jenni Quinn 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 today to Noah Neely! Happy birthday this week to Calvin Reese and Jim Jackson on 5/25; Bobby Meek and Todd Meek on 5/26; Rae Jackson on 5/27; Ainsley Miller and Bill Johnson on 5/28; Volney Jerome on 5/29; and Virginia Johnson on 5/30.

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

We want to extend our deepest condolences to James Weatherby and his family on the recent passing of his father. Please know that we are praying for you.

Thank you to Craig Adams, Anne Adams, Bill Boyd, Bill Johnson, Ethan Wallace, Lessie Wallace, Bobby Wallace, Floyd Neal, and Cary Grant for helping put American flags on veterans' graves for Memorial Day.

This Week at Bethel

Sunday

Youth: 5:00 pm

Monday

Memorial Day: Church office closed

Tuesday

GriefShare: 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Wednesday

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

Next Week at Bethel

Rally Day: Sunday, May 31, during Sunday School

Youth: Sunday, May 31, 5:00 pm

Circle #1: Tuesday, June 2, 10:30 am, Ladies Parlor

GriefShare: Tuesday, June 2, 6:30 pm, Covenant Classroom

Diaconate Meeting: Tuesday, June 2, 7:00 pm, Conference Room

Upcoming Events at Bethel

Homecoming: Sunday, June 7, covered-dish meal immediately following morning worship.

Good Samaritans: Thursday, June 11, 5:00 pm, FLC

VBS: June 15-18, 8:45-11:45 am. Registration is open.

Prayer requests:

- Recovery, healing, and strength: Helen Bean, Betsy Clinton, Shirley Coker, Deke Cox, Matt Falls, Linda Ferster, Cary Grant, Charlotte Jackson, Volney Jerome, Willie Keller, Joe LeMoyné, Barbara Love, Mary Love, Joy McCarter, Maxie McCarter, Debbie Meek, Jenny Richards, Jackie Schropp, Kay Stewart, Scott Wallace, Norm West, Larry Wilmoth.
- 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.
- Families and marriages: those relationships all around us that are stressed; our marriages to be characterized by unity, intimacy, and honesty.
- Pastor Mike Honeycutt, the session, staff, and congregation at **Westminster Presbyterian Church**, 1320 India Hook Road, Rock Hill, SC 29732, (803) 366-3107.