

Sermon Notes

Boldly Standing in the Gap

Ezekiel 22:30; Joshua 1:1-9

NOTES:

Welcome! Thank you for worshipping with us! Your being here is a sweet offering to the Lord. Our prayer has been that you know the good news of Jesus’ love as a result of your worship. If you have prayer concerns, questions about faith, or would like to inquire about making Bethel Church your spiritual home please indicate this in the pew pad or speak with one of the pastors or elders following the service.

For families with infants, toddlers, and preschool children: Safe childcare with trained volunteers is available during our worship service. We also offer age appropriate Sunday school classes for ages 2-4. All of our early childhood ministries are designed to help your children learn more about Jesus and His love for them. Guests, please let us assist you in registering your children.

Attendance for last week: Sunday School: 139; Sanctuary—272, Worship Café—81, Worship Total: 353

Elder: Jane Oglesby
Deacons: Donna Black, Kathy Butterfield, Don Jennings, Jason Kraus, Al Mazza, Keith Miller, Dale Robbins (lead), Daphne Towsey, Linda Wooldridge
Media Team: Bill Weatherington, Sloane Adler, Ken Dresser, Margie Persons, Ryan Whittington

Vision Statement	
Reflecting the Love and Truth of Christ to Transform Lives.	
Mission Statement	
A Community of Christ Followers making disciples by:	
WORSHIPING the living God	
TEACHING the truth of Scripture	
CARING for others	
SERVING with the compassion of Christ	
ALL TO THE GLORY OF GOD	
Staff	Sunday Schedule
Rev. Dr. Thomas J. Boone, III..... <i>Senior Pastor</i>	Sunday School 9:15 am
Rev. Mark Moss..... <i>Assistant Pastor</i>	Worship 10:30 am
Jan Boswell..... <i>Christian Education Director</i>	Bethel Youth 5:30 pm
Jeremy Churchill..... <i>Director, Youth Ministries</i>	
Susan O’Keefe..... <i>Interim Director of Choirs</i>	Office Hours
Beth Moss..... <i>Parish Nurse</i>	Mon-Thurs 9am - 4pm;
Teresa Hewitt..... <i>Organist</i>	Fri 9am – 2pm
Lisa Weber..... <i>Office Administrator</i>	
Beth Bynum.... <i>Dir. Of Comm. & Volunteer Support</i>	Contact Us
Allen Hauser..... <i>Financial Administrator</i>	19920 Bethel Church Road
Teresa Hall..... <i>Bookkeeper</i>	Cornelius, NC 28031
Bobby Waugh..... <i>Facilities Manager</i>	704-892-0546
Walker Burton..... <i>Assistant Facilities Manager</i>	or www.bethel-pc.org
Michelle Koslick..... <i>Weekday Preschool Director</i>	CCLI# 945092



Bethel Presbyterian Church

A Beacon of Christ’s Love

April 15, 2018

(WN) Worship Notes: At Bethel Church we know that people come from a variety of faith and worship backgrounds. So, we have provided "Worship Notes (WN)" as an explanation of different parts of the service. Understanding what we do and why we do it helps to make worship more meaningful and engaging.

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Dale Overcash

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE "Psalm XIX" *Benedetto Marcello*

(WN) Music awakens the spirit! The Prelude has been selected to develop today's scripture. Make the transition from getting here to being here in our Lord's presence. Take this moment of music to quiet yourselves, focus your mind, and awaken your spirit.

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

(WN) Our worship service begins with the playing of the chimes of the Trinity, which is a musical reminder that we worship One God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP "Still" *Trio: Faith, Hope and Grace*

WELCOME AND LIFE AT BETHEL *Susan O’Keefe*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

(WN) We gather for worship because God calls us to glorify His Name, because Jesus has made right worship possible, and because the Spirit prompts us to praise. Scripture marks the service's beginning, center, and end.

* **OPENING HYMN #345** "Blessed Assurance"

1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
 Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
 Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
 Born of His Spirit, washed in His blood.

Refrain:
 This is my story, this is my song,
 Praising my Savior all the day long;
 This is my story, this is my song,
 Praising my Savior all the day long.

2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels, descending, bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

[Refrain]

3 Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with His goodness, lost in His love.

[Refrain]

WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION *Victor Petrenko*

(WN) Reformed worship moves quickly to confession because each of us has fallen short of God's glory and ought to bring our brokenness to Him before hearing scripture. The prayers in this section of worship are designed to fit today's scripture, the needs of the world and ourselves. They give voice to the voiceless, and enlarge our vision for God's kingdom.

Heavenly Father, Your love for us is so very evident. Everywhere we look, we see tangible proof of Your great care for us. Yet, when it comes to following You, we confess that we often don't surrender our entire selves. We hold back portions of our lives that we would rather control instead of releasing them to Your loving care. Have mercy upon us, Lord. Forgive us our timid faith. Make us willing to suffer for the cause of Christ, knowing full well that You will never leave us or forsake us. Now hear us as we bring to You our confessions in silence...

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON *Victor Petrenko*

Leader: Scripture assures us that God is slow to anger and full of compassion. He forgives all who humbly repent and trust in his Son as Savior and Lord. There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Exodus 34:6-7; Romans 8:1). Friends, hear and believe the good news.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

* GLORIA PATRI

* STATEMENT OF OUR COMMON FAITH

(WN) The ECO is a member of the Reformed tradition, which helps us to express our common faith through creeds and confessions.

For the several weeks following Easter, we will explore the history of our primary creeds (Nicene and Apostles'). They flow out of what the apostles themselves maintained to be the absolute core of Christian faith, which we find in the New Testament. These credal statements defined what set Christians apart from Judaism

and other religions at that time. These are the earliest credal statements the church has. Try to commit these to memory!

Leader: What do we believe about Almighty God and Jesus?

People: "for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist" (1 Cor 8:6).

Leader: And what did Paul say the earliest followers believed about Jesus' death and resurrection?

People: "For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve" (1 Cor 15:3-6).

Leader: Finally, how did Jesus' earliest disciples summarize Jesus' work?

People: They said, "Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of our religion: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed on in the world, and taken up in glory" (1 Tim 3:16).

MESSAGE TO THE CHILDREN (Children in grades Preschool - 3rd may leave for Children's Worship)

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

HIS TITHE AND OUR OFFERINGS

(WN) One of the ways that we worship God is through giving. God has given us all we have and we are stewards of it. By returning to God His tithe and our offering, we surrender the first portion of what we have. With these offerings Bethel supports outreach ministries to the Charlotte region, international mission, and helps to connect children, youth, and adults to Jesus.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

"He Leadeth Me" Trio: Faith, Hope and Grace

* THE DOXOLOGY

* THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

Victor Petrenko

WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 22:30; Joshua 1:1-9

(WN) The scripture and sermon are the centerpieces of the worship service. The word "sermon" comes from Latin "sermo" for "talk." This teaching helps us both to understand scripture's meaning and to apply its meaning today.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"In Christ Alone"

Mark Hayes

SERMON

Boldly Standing in the Gap

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

FROM WORSHIP INTO SERVICE

* CLOSING HYMN #293

"Rise Up, O Church of God"

1 Rise up, O Church of God!
Have done with lesser things.
give heart and mind and soul and strength
to serve the King of kings.

2 Rise up, O Church of God!
His kingdom tarries long.
bring in the day of brotherhood
and end the night of wrong.

3 Rise up, O sons of God!
The church for you doth wait,
her strength unequal to her task;
rise up, and make her great.

4 Lift high the cross of Christ;
tread where His feet have trod;
As followers of the Son of Man
rise up, O Church of God.

* CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP AND BENEDICTION

(WN) We move from this worship service to a life of discipleship. God is with us, helping us to make an impact for Him through our daily rhythms.

POSTLUDE *Rondeau from "Symphonies pour de Roi"*

Jean Joseph Mouret

Thanks to our guest trio today: Janelle Masters, Felicia Davis, Anna Drury.