

GIVING GOD OUR OFFERING

Offertory

Doxology (*sung*)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

O God, We offer ourselves with our gifts, recognizing that all we have is yours. Use them and us to fulfill your purposes. May our offerings do far more than we can imagine. In the spirit of Christ, we pray. Amen.

HYMN #332

"Live Into Hope"
(The Presbyterian Hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

HYMN

"As We Go"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Annual Church Meeting [Members please remain seated. Visitors may leave at this time.]

† † † † †

CCLI License #11234266.

Our Visitors

We welcome you to worship today. If you are visiting with us please feel free to speak to the pastor or one of our greeters if you have questions or want more information about Bethpage.

Bethpage is a church committed to children and families and their needs. We have a nursery for infants through three-year-olds and Kids of the Kingdom for four-year-olds through first grade. There are activity sheets and children's Bibles for older children. Feel free to keep your child with you in worship through the Time With Children if that works for your family. Our nursery caregiver is Stephanie Pritchard. Stephanie will text you if your child needs you during worship.

Welcome to Bethpage Presbyterian Church!

*"A family of faith in Jesus
Christ, yesterday, today,
and tomorrow."*

**March 22, 2026
10:00 AM**



GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND GREETING

OPENING MUSIC #2274 *"Come All You People"*
(sing two times, Sing the Faith Hymnal)

CALL TO WORSHIP

And God created the heavens and the earth.

And gave them to us to use and enjoy.

And God breathed life into each of us, and set us upon the earth.

And God sent Jesus Christ to save us from the pull of death.

Everything that fills our souls with gladness and our lives with light is a gift from the loving creator.

We have been entrusted with unfathomable riches. For all this, our God is to be praised.

HYMN #288

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"
(The Presbyterian Hymnal)

LITANY OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we remember that Jesus taught us to pray saying, "Our Father . . ."

You created us, you made this world, and you called your creation very good. Yet often we forget that you are our loving Parent who continues to bless your world.

Jesus told us that you are " . . . in heaven . . ."

Yet we fail to live in awe of you. We take you for granted, and we don't see the awesome beauty of the world you have made.

We pray, "Hallowed be your name . . ."

We confess that our reverence for you does not always lead us to care reverently for your earth, sky and sea.

We pray, "Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven . . ."

We confess that we often put our own interests first — exploiting your creation, and living for our own convenience and self-interest.

We pray, "Give us today our daily bread."

We confess that we consume more than our share of the world's resources, while billions go hungry every day and your whole creation suffers.

We pray, "Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

We confess that we see these words only in spiritual terms, while the Bible is filled with teachings about economic justice and creation care.

We pray, "Save us from the time of trial."

Help us to resist the temptations of spending more, using more, acquiring more, and wasting more.

We pray, "Deliver us from evil . . ."

Free us from greed and self-centeredness that separate us from you and others.

We pray, "For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever."

Help us to know that in caring for your wonderful world, we are working for your kingdom, being good stewards of your creative power, and giving you glory.

We pray, "Amen."

We end our prayers with "Amen," a word that means "let it be so." We know we can be faithful disciples by your grace. Amen!

RESPONSE #2025

"As The Deer"
(Sing the Faith Hymnal)

GOD'S GRACE AND PROMISE

Through God's powerful love and gracious salvation, we are forgiven and renewed.

We are given the chance to begin again.

Know that the God of grace is with us today and always.

We will live as a people drenched in grace, forgiven, and renewed. Alleluia! Amen.

RESPONSE

"Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

TIME WITH CHILDREN

ANTHEM

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35:5-7 (GNT)

RESPONSE #339

"Be Thou My Vision"
(verse 3 only, The Presbyterian Hymnal)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Matthew 9:32-34 (CEB)

SERMON

"Biased Perceptions" Valerie Hicks

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, Fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.