

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

**GIVING GOD'S TITHES & OUR OFFERINGS**

- 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

**THE SENDING**

\***HYMN #425** "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"  
(“Hymns of Grace” Hymnal)

\***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

\***POSTLUDE**

† † † † †

\*An asterisk indicates that all who are able may stand.

**TO OUR VISITORS**

We welcome you to our worship. We hope that you will return to worship with us again! We have a nursery lovingly and carefully attended by church members.

**MEMBERSHIP**

We welcome into membership all who love Jesus Christ, accept him as Lord of all life, and seek to serve him as part of his body in the church. We invite you to speak to one of our elders, greeting you at the door as you leave the worship service.

**THIS WEEK AT BPC**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

The Cabarrus County LunchPlus Club for Seniors provides a Drive Thru Lunch Pickup at BPC Fellowship Hall, Monday – Friday, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM.

**Sunday, August 29**  
9:00 AM – Sunday School in the BPC Fellowship Hall  
10:00 AM – Worship Service

**Sunday, September 5**  
10¢-A-Meal Offering to be received  
9:00 AM – Sunday School in the BPC Fellowship Hall  
10:00 AM – Worship Service

**Monday, September 6**  
Labor Day Holiday – Church office closed  
No LunchPlus Club Meal Pickup today!

**Tuesday, September 7**  
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Quilting 101 in BPC Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, September 8**  
7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, September 9**  
6:30 PM – Personnel Committee

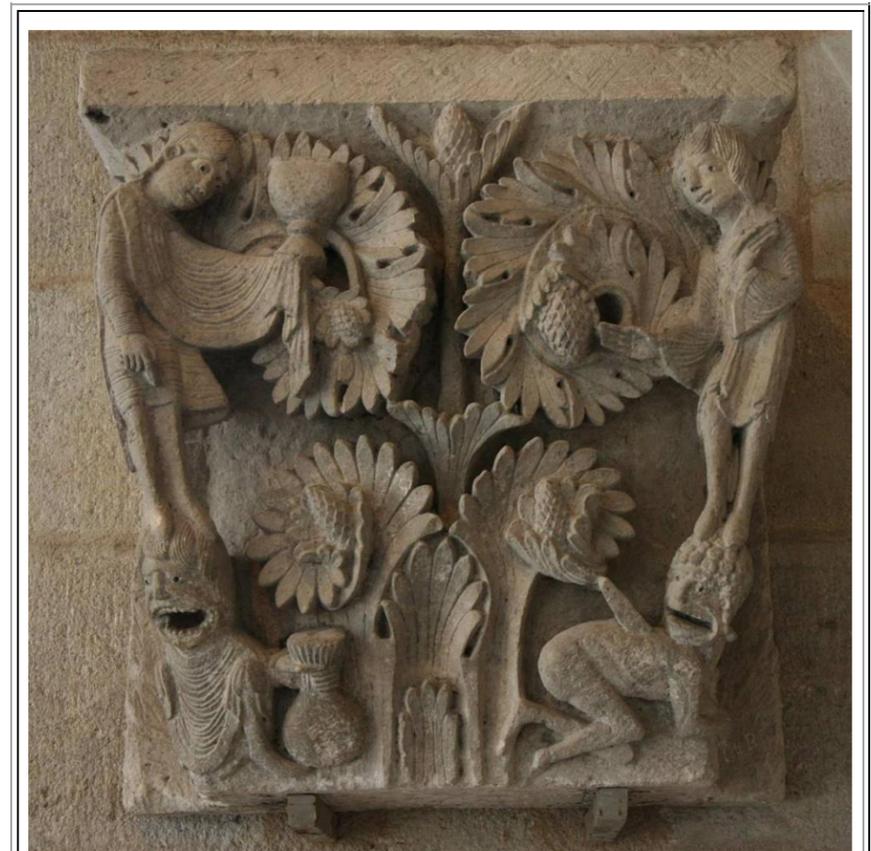
**Sunday, September 12**  
9:00 AM – Sunday School in the BPC Fellowship Hall  
10:00 AM – Worship Service with Communion

| THE SESSION OF OUR CHURCH   | CLASS OF 2022  |
|---|--|
| Sherry Shifflett, <i>Clerk</i><br>Jenny Linebarrier, <i>Asst. Treasurer</i>                                 | Connie Goodman, <i>Worship</i><br>Christel Josey, <i>Property</i><br>Dougie Kirkman, <i>Property</i>                     |
| CLASS OF 2023   | CLASS OF 2024  |
| Richie Goodman, <i>Stewardship</i><br>Ed Kuser, <i>Nurture</i><br>Carrie Paxton, <i>Christian Education</i> | Chris Ferguson, <i>Mission/Evangelism</i><br>Hannah Jackson, <i>Communications</i><br>Sherry Shifflett, <i>Personnel</i> |



6020 Mooresville Road • Kannapolis NC 28081  
704-933-2209

website: [www.bethpagechurch.org](http://www.bethpagechurch.org)  
e-mail: [info@bethpagechurch.org](mailto:info@bethpagechurch.org)



Jesus dares to correct the Pharisees. His explanation of the commandments presents the audience with stricter guidelines for communal living. Though he does not use these terms, Jesus wants the Pharisees and the disciples to start thinking about vices and virtues. These vices and virtues, everyday emotions and actions, are what the commandments are concerned with because they are what can foster or breakdown communities.

One of the capitals in the Cathedral of St. Lazarus in Burgundy, France, depicts a triumphant image of (left) Charity defeating Greed and (right) Patience conquering Wrath. Such a carving would remind parishioners that evil intentions must be overcome if purity of heart and life is to prevail. (Reflect on how the virtues resemble angelic looking humans and the vices resemble demonic like creatures.) As Jesus explains, it is what comes “out” of us, words and deeds, which ultimately matter. Only right actions can overpower evil intentions and prevent defilement. The result of such true words and deeds is the fostering of kind and genuine relationships. Jesus warns them; saying, “This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me” (7:6). Vices create fractures between the offender and God, and the offender and others. When virtue wins, its effect transforms not only the individual, but the community one is a member of. The pair on the right have also been interrupted as Self-Control overcoming Gluttony. -- Blair Tolbert

Capital: Virtues and Vices, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.  
<https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=54155>  
[retrieved August 26, 2021]. Original source:  
[http://www.flickr.com/photos/sacred\\_destinations/2559997147/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/sacred_destinations/2559997147/).

**Welcome to Bethpage Presbyterian Church!**  
**August 29, 2021**

*We are excited that you have joined us in worshipping God today. Whether you are just visiting, looking to stay or have worshipped here your whole life, it is great to worship the Lord together this day!*

| DAILY LECTIONARY   |  |  |  |   |   |   |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|---|
| Sunday, August 29  | Monday, August 30  | Tuesday, August 31   | Wednesday, September 1   | Thursday, September 2   | Friday, September 3   | Saturday, September 4   |
| <i>Morning:</i> Ps. 108; 150<br><i>1st Read:</i> 1 Kings 8:22-30 (31-40)<br><i>2nd Read:</i> 1 Timothy 4:7b-16<br><i>Gospel:</i> John 8:47-59<br><i>Evening:</i> Psalms 66; 23 | <i>Morning:</i> Ps. 62; 145<br><i>1st Read:</i> 2 Chronicles 6:32-7:7<br><i>2nd Read:</i> Jas. 2:1-13<br><i>Gospel:</i> Mk. 14:53-65<br><i>Evening:</i> Psalms 73; 9 | <i>Morning:</i> Ps. 12; 146<br><i>1st Read:</i> Kings 8:65-9:9<br><i>2nd Read:</i> James 2:14-26<br><i>Gospel:</i> Mark 14:66-72<br><i>Evening:</i> Psalms 36; 7 | <i>Morning:</i> Ps. 96; 147:1-11<br><i>1st Read:</i> 1 Kings 9:24-10:13<br><i>2nd Read:</i> James 3:1-12<br><i>Gospel:</i> Mark 15:1-11<br><i>Evening:</i> Psalms 132; 134 | <i>Morning:</i> Psalms 116; 147:12-20<br><i>1st Read:</i> 1 Kings 11:1-13<br><i>2nd Read:</i> James 3:13-4:12<br><i>Gospel:</i> Mark 15:12-21<br><i>Evening:</i> Psalms 26; 130 | <i>Morning:</i> Ps. 84; 148<br><i>1st Read:</i> 1 Kings 11:26-43<br><i>2nd Read:</i> Jas. 4:13-5:6<br><i>Gospel:</i> Mark 15:22-32<br><i>Evening:</i> Psalms 25; 40 | <i>Morning:</i> Psalms 63; 149<br><i>1st Read:</i> 1 Kings 12:1-20<br><i>2nd Read:</i> James 5:7-20<br><i>Gospel:</i> Mark 15:33-39<br><i>Evening:</i> Psalms 125; 90 |

# The Service for the Lord's Day

## Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021

10:00 A.M.

### THE GATHERING

#### PRELUDE

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### TRINITY CHIMES

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

(Psalm 46:1-3)

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: God is our refuge and strength,

**People: a present help in trouble.**

Leader: Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,

**People: though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

Leader: though its waters roar and foam,

**People: though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

#### \*HYMN #36

*"Immortal, Invisible"*  
(“Hymns of Grace” Hymnal)

#### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(from *A Brief Statement of Faith* of the PCUSA)

God our creator, In sovereign love you created the world good and made everyone equally in your image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against you; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring your commandments, we violate the image of you in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve your condemnation. Yet you act with justice and mercy to redeem creation. Amen. *(Please take a moment for silent confession.)*

#### \*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: . . . Sisters and brothers, believe the good news of the Gospel:

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

#### \*RESPONSE OF PRAISE *(sung)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

### THE WORD

#### TIME WITH YOUNGER CHRISTIANS

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Marcia Graybeal

#### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Song of Solomon 2:8-13 (Pew Bible, OT, p. 623)

<sup>8</sup>The voice of my beloved! Look, he comes, leaping upon the mountains, bounding over the hills. <sup>9</sup>My beloved is like a gazelle or a young stag. Look, there he stands behind our wall, gazing in at the windows, looking through the lattice. <sup>10</sup>My beloved speaks and says to me: “Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away; <sup>11</sup>for now the winter is past, the rain is over and gone. <sup>12</sup>The flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. <sup>13</sup>The fig tree puts forth its figs, and the vines are in blossom; they give forth fragrance. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.”

#### SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

James 1:17-27 (Pew Bible, NT, p. 229)

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

#### ANTHEM

*"Blest Are They"*

David Haas

#### GOSPEL READING

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 (Pew Bible, NT, p. 42)

<sup>7:1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

“This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

<sup>21</sup>For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

#### SERMON

*"Moods of Life"*

Rev. Matt Samson

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Philippians 2:5-11)

**Christ Jesus, though in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form Jesus humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.**

**Therefore God highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

#### \*HYMN #375

*"Take My Life and Let It Be"*  
(“Hymns of Grace” Hymnal)