

PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

[If you have a prayer concern or joy to share during the week, please email Rev. Ellen at ellen@bethpagechurch.org.]

September 11

Joys: Bless the teacher supplies, CCM

Concerns: Janice Morgan – death of her brother-in-law, Steve’s brother (Jenny Linebarrier)

SERMON NOTES

THIS WEEK AT BPC

Sunday, September 18

8:45 – 9:00 AM – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
 9:00 AM – Sunday School
 9:55 AM – Worship Service
 10:00 – 11:00 AM – LMCS Bible Study - Rm 201
 11:20 AM – 1:30 PM – LMCS Worship in Sanctuary
 1:00 – 4:00 PM – LMCS in BPC Fellowship Hall & Pavilion

Monday, September 19

7:00 PM – Session Meeting

Wednesday, September 21

5:45 PM – Supper
 6:20 PM – G.I.F.T. Program
 7:15 PM – Choir

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, September 25

8:45 – 9:00 AM – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
 9:00 AM – Sunday School
 9:55 AM – Worship Service
 10:00 – 11:00 AM – LMCS Bible Study - Rm 201
 11:20 AM – 1:30 PM – LMCS Worship in Sanctuary
 1:00 – 4:00 PM – LMCS in BPC Fellowship Hall & Pavilion

Tuesday, September 27

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Quilting 101 in BPC Fellowship Hall
 9:00 AM – Sunshine Group
 7:00 PM – Prayer Shawl Ministry

Wednesday, September 28

5:45 PM – Supper
 6:20 PM – G.I.F.T. Program
 7:15 PM – Choir

Sunday, October 2

World Communion Sunday
 10¢-A-Meal Offering to be received
 8:45 – 9:00 AM – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
 9:00 AM – Sunday School
 9:55 AM – Worship Service with Communion
 10:00 – 11:00 AM – LMCS Bible Study - Rm 201
 11:20 AM – Bethpage Visioning in BPC Fellowship Hall
 11:20 AM – 1:30 PM – LMCS Worship in Sanctuary
 1:00 – 4:00 PM – LMCS in BPC Fellowship Hall & Pavilion
 6:00 PM – Young Adults Small Group at the Paxton’s



Generosity
 Responding to God's Radical Grace in
 Community!
Week 2
 Generosity and Relationship

Welcome to Bethpage Presbyterian Church!

September 18, 2016

**“A family of faith
 yesterday, today, and tomorrow.”**

We are excited that you have joined us in worshipping God today. If you are a visitor, please pick up a church information brochure, found in the pew holders. Please, let us get to know you a little better by filling out the information card, inside the brochure. You can drop it in the offering plate. 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!



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Church office hours: 8:30 AM -3:30 PM, M-F

Rev. Ellen Campbell Gardner:
 704-431-3700 (cell) 704-934-3457 (home)

DAILY LECTIONARY

Sunday, September 18	Monday, September 19	Tuesday, September 20	Wednesday, September 21	Thursday, September 22	Friday, September 23	Saturday, September 24
Morning: Psalms 67; 150 1 st Reading: Esther 3:1-4:3 2 nd Reading: Jas. 1:19-27 Gospel: Mt. 6:1-6, 16-18 Evening: Psalms 46; 93	Morning: Psalms 57; 145 1 st Reading: Esther 4:4-17 2 nd Reading: Acts 18:1-11 Gospel: Lk. 1:1-4, 3:1-14 Evening: Psalms 85; 47	Morning: Psalms 54; 146 1 st Reading: Esther 5:1-14 2 nd Reading: Acts 18:12-28 Gospel: Luke 3:15-22 Evening: Psalms 28; 99	Morning: Ps. 65; 147:1-11 1 st Reading: Esther 6:1-14 2 nd Reading: Acts 19:1-10 Gospel: Luke 4:1-13 Evening: Psalms 125; 91	Morning: Ps. 143; 147:12-20 1 st Reading: Esther 7:1-10 2 nd Reading: Acts 19:11-20 Gospel: Luke 4:14-30 Evening: Psalms 81; 116	Morning: Psalms 88; 148 1 st Reading: Esther 8:1-8, 15-17 2 nd Reading: Acts 19:21-41 Gospel: Luke 4:31-37 Evening: Psalms 6; 20	Morning: Psalms 122; 149 1 st Reading: Esther 9:1-32 2 nd Reading: Acts 20:1-16 Gospel: Luke 4:38-44 Evening: Psalms 100; 63

The Service for the Lord's Day
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2016

9:55 A.M.

THE GATHERING

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
(RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP/PRAYER CARDS)**

***WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE**

TRINITY CHIMES

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Lord, we know that to be a servant of Christ is a high calling. We also know that the highest service is to worship and adore you. Help us to put aside anything that might vie for our allegiance. Free us, together, to serve you alone in our worship together. Amen..

PRELUDE "Prelude on Brother James's Air" Searle Wright

***CALL TO WORSHIP** -adapted from 1 Peter 2:9- the Message

Leader: We are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work . . .

People: We are the ones chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him in life and worship . . .

ALL: We are the ones to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for us — from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted. Chosen, loved and radically accepted, let us worship God!

***HYMN 455** "All Creatures of Our God and King" LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)** -When We Gather

O God, who by your Spirit can rekindle the embers of faith, purge us of all sin and make us obedient servants. We are guilty of pushing you to life's periphery. We serve only when it seems convenient. We follow the Christ when it is to our benefit. We call on the Spirit when our own efforts fail. Remake us in your image of righteousness, and teach us the meaning of discipleship. Amen. (Please, take a moment for silent confession.)

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN 579**
"Glory to the Father" GLORIA PATRI
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, Amen.

THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNGER CHRISTIANS

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Ed Kusper

OLD TESTAMENT READING Leviticus 19:17-18 (Bible, OT p. 106)
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

NEW TESTAMENT READING Luke 17:3-10 (Bible, NT p. 80)
This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God!

SERMON "Generosity: Where Two or More Are . . ." Rev. Ellen Campbell Gardner

***HYMN 358** "Help Us Accept Each Other" BARONITA

***ASSURANCE OF FAITH** from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments. We violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

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 "Prelude # 5" Louis Vierne
*Doxology 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

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 372** "Lord, I Want to Be a Christian" I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

***POSTLUDE** St. Anne Fugue "O God, Our Help" J.S. Bach

† † † † †

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

TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome you to our worship, and we ask that you sign our Ritual of Friendship as it is passed along the pew. We hope that you will return to worship with us again! We have a nursery lovingly and carefully attended by church members. After the Time with Younger Christians, children ages 3 to 8 years old, are invited to exit through the doors at the back of the sanctuary to attend Children's Worship. Parents may meet their children after worship by waiting outside Room 112 in the basement.

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.

PASTORAL COUNSELING

Presbyterian Psychological Services is an integrated, interdisciplinary center for psychiatry, psychology, pastoral counseling, career counseling, and community education. We are committed to empowering all individuals, couples, and families in our community to heal and grow in an atmosphere of safety and clinical expertise. Contact info: 704-554-9900 or www.presbypsych.org.

THE SESSION OF OUR CHURCH	USHERS
Rev. Ellen Campbell Gardner, <i>Moderator</i> Roger Hamilton, <i>Clerk of Session</i> Dennis Graybeal, <i>Treasurer</i>	HEAD USHER Christel Josey
CLASS OF 2017	USHERS Larry & Nelda Riggs Jenny Linebarrier Macky Petrea
Steve Gaskey, <i>Fellowship</i> Kim Gibson, <i>Stewardship</i> Carrie Paxton, <i>Christian Education</i>	LECTOR
CLASS OF 2018	Ed Kusper
Sherry Childers, <i>Personnel</i> Dougie Kirkman, <i>Mission/Evangelism</i> Eric McKnight, <i>Communications</i>	CHILDREN'S NURSERY (Worship only)
CLASS OF 2019	Linda VanPelt & Peggy Overcash
Connie Goodman, <i>Worship</i> Mark Gurley, <i>Property</i> Christel Josey, <i>Nurture</i>	CHILDREN'S WORSHIP
	Diane Mullinax & Marsha Johnson