

Order For the Public Worship of God

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God. John 1:1

* If you are able, please stand in body or spirit for these acts of worship.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & GREETING Rev. Brent Kendall

ORGAN PRELUDE “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty” arr. Paul Manz

CHORAL INTROIT “Great and Marvelous are Thy Works” Dickinson

*CALL TO WORSHIP Romans 11:33-36

Leader: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

People: How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

Leader: “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor?”

People: “Or who has given a gift to Him that he might be repaid?”

Leader: For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

*GATHERING PRAYER

*OPENING HYMN NO. 1 “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”

WORSHIP OF GOD

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Dear Heavenly Father, we lower our heads before You and we confess that we have too often forgotten that we are Yours. Sometimes we carry on our lives as if there was no God and we fall short of being a credible witness to You. For these things we ask . Your forgiveness and we also ask for Your strength. Give us clear minds and open hearts so we may witness to You in our world. Remind us to be who You would have us to be regardless of what we are doing or who we are with. Hold us to You and build our relationship with You and with those You have given us on earth.

MOMENT FOR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Inspired by John 6:51-58

Leader: Brothers and sisters, God does not leave us in our distress.

People: He does not abandon us to our devilish decisions. While we choose to starve ourselves on a diet of our own making and choosing that leads to spiritual atrophy and deterioration, God provides us with the Bread of Life.

Leader: Pursuing us, those who have rejected the wisdom of God, Jesus declares of himself in John 6:51, “I am the living bread that came down from heaven.

People: If anyone eats of this bread, they will live forever.”

Leader: The bread that He gives is for the life of the world, for you and me.

People: It is His very body pierced and broken which reunites us to the wisdom, truth, life and light of God. In Him and through Him, we are forgiven. Amen. *Scott Bullock*

* 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

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Ms. Caroline Woolard
(Children 3K through 2nd grade may leave for Children’s Worship Service. McArn Building, Room 40.)

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN NO. 316

“More About Jesus Would I Know”

PASTORAL PRAYER

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

TITHES & OFFERINGS

Invitation

Offertory Anthem “Thanks Be to God Forever” Hayden/Hopson

*The Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav’nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen**

*Prayer of Dedication

PROCLAMATION OF GOD’S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 1:1-3
(NT Page 102, Pew Bible)

Leader: These are the words of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON The Birth of the Lord’s Church: “Why Stand Strong?”

Rev. Mike Kelly

* THE APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost; born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SENDING OF GOD’S PEOPLE

*HYMN OF DEPARTURE NO. 320

“I Am Thine, O Lord”

*THE BENEDICTION

*THE GREETING OF PEACE

Leader: May the peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you!

*POSTLUDE

PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS: Bennie and Susan Marshall, Betty Coombs, Mel Pearson, Joe Denton, Charles Cottingham, Helen White, Betty Coffee, Lee Sheorn, Baynard Boykin, Carol Meckstroth, Judy Martin, Dickie Tiller, Jennifer Barfield

FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Lyn Neil (Jan Massalon’s cousin), Clara Fife (Lisa McCaskill’s mother), Anna Vaughn Manly (cousin of the Thomas’), Judy McAbee (Lisa Woolard’s mother), Barbara Cecil(Carolyn Drake’s sister), Pat Ratteree (Susan Marshall’s mother), Christy Brazell (friend of Karen Lindsay), Patricia McCaskill (Brian McCaskill’s mother), Thomas Johnson (cousin of the Thomas’), Myrtle Jordan (Linda Parnell’s mother), Brian Blick (Lisa Woolards’ cousin), Fannie Bodford (Debbie Herman’s aunt), Diane Alexander (friend of Mike Eddings), Aaron Price (son-in-law of Ken & Sybil Carson), Clint Baxley (Stephanie Batten’s brother), Betty Carges (family friend of Jim & Jo McLeod), Mary Wannamaker Hendrix, Billy Young (Helen Young’s son), Lannie Clayton (Jimmy & Rebecca Stokes’ cousin)

PRAY FOR OUR VBS: “Dear God, thank you for going before us as we prepare for VBS. Help us meet any need of supplies, decorations, and volunteers we may have. Provide the opportunity for families far and wide to attend VBS. Thank you for the opportunity to pour into the lives of these kids in deep and meaningful ways. We pray that above all else you are glorified in our VBS.”

Congregational Calendar & Events

SUNDAY	9:15 AM	RISE
	10:00 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Worship Service
	5:00 PM	Social Media Plan
	5:30 PM	Youth-lake party
MONDAY	10:00 AM	VBS Workday
WEDNESDAY	7:00 PM	Adult Choir

KERSHAW COUNTY COMMUNITY CHOIR

KCCC will present their spring program of sacred and secular choral music this afternoon at 4:00pm in John Knox Hall. The public is cordially invited.

GAME DAY

Join us for bingo and prizes! Tuesday, May 30th at 10:00am in McArn Hall. Bring a friend!!!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL- SAVE THE DATE!

June 26-30 – register on our website: www.bethesdapresbyterianchurch.org or call the church office at 803-432-4593. **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!**

WORKDAYS- Mondays from 10am-4pm except May 29th (Memorial Day).

VBS WISHLIST

Old CD's/DVD's
Paper grocery bags
Clear iridescent cellophane (Dollar Tree)
Empty toilet paper rolls

A nursery is available during the worship service in the McArn Building, Rm 38



Facebook: [facebook.com/BethesdaPresbyterianCamden](https://www.facebook.com/BethesdaPresbyterianCamden)
Instagram: [@BethesdaPresbyterianCamden](https://www.instagram.com/BethesdaPresbyterianCamden)
YouTube: [youtube.com/c/BethesdaPresbyterianCamden](https://www.youtube.com/c/BethesdaPresbyterianCamden)
#BethesdaCamden

Welcome to Bethesda

We the people of Bethesda Presbyterian Church extend our cordial greetings to all who are visiting us today. It is our hope that you return and join us for worship and connect with our many daily ministries and activities.

The church sanctuary was designed by Robert Mills, first Federal architect, who also designed the Washington Monument. It stands restored as originally constructed in 1822. It was dedicated as a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service Division of the U.S. Department of Interior in 1985.

Bethesda Presbyterian Church Members are its ministers.

The Session

Christian Ed. – John Stephenson '23, Cathy Floyd, Clerk '24, Annah Deal '25
Nurture & Fellowship – Betsy McLeod '23, Fred Myers '24, Joan Corbin '25
Property & Tech – Art Maxwell '23, Cheryl Kelly '24, Andrew Batten '25
Resources & LRP – Marc Jones '24, Roland Windham '24, Larry Gibbes '25
Worship & Evangelism – Ian Wilcox '23, Lindsay Guy '23, Bill Nettles '25

Ministry Staff

Rev. Dr. Mike Kelly, Interim Pastor
Rev. Brent Kendall, Director of Christian Education
Mr. & Mrs. John H. Dickinson, Directors of Music
Mrs. Meghan Wright, Director of Bethesda Christian School
Mr. Johnny Deal, Media Ministry Specialist
Mrs. Lisa Woolard, Moderator, Presbyterian Women
Mr. Tom Hoke, Facilities Manager
Mrs. Clara Fenton, Office Manager
Ms. Holley Ham, Staff Assistant
Ms. Caroline Woolard, Coordinator of Children and Youth Ministries
Mrs. Debbie Herman, Faith Community Nurse

Elders Emeriti

Betty Coombs Art Delperdang
Larry and Joy Parrott Fred and Carol Rogers

For more information or if you have questions, please contact us at:

Church Office: (803) 432-4593

Church Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9am-4pm; Friday Closed

Church Email: bethesda@bethesdapresbyterianchurch.org

Bethesda Christian School: (803) 425-0080

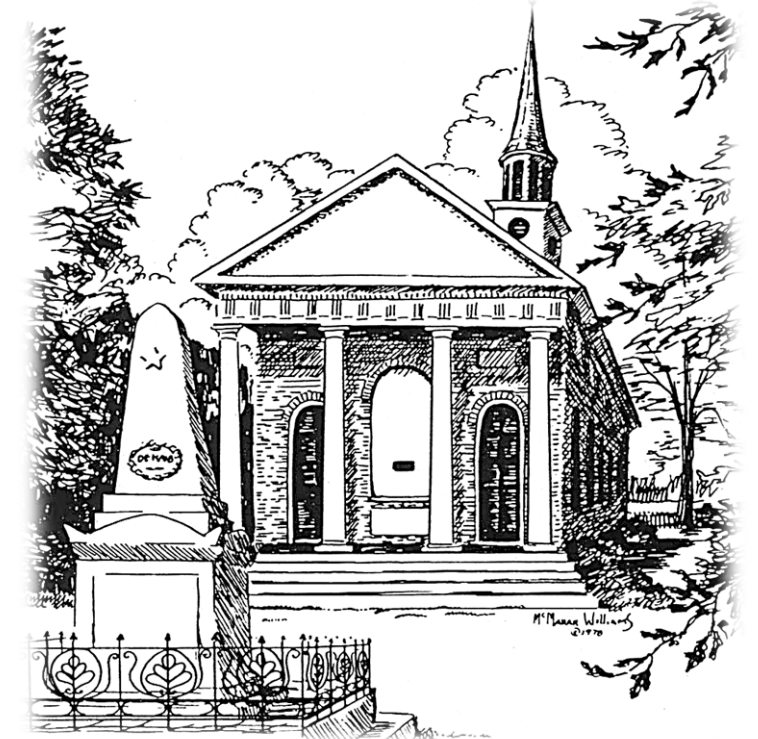
Bethesda Christian School Email: BCS@bethesdapresbyterianchurch.org

Bethesda Presbyterian Church

502 East DeKalb Street

Camden, South Carolina

Est. 1822



Lord's Day, May 21, 2023

Seventh Sunday of Easter

11:00 AM

Our mission at Bethesda Presbyterian Church:
“To know, love, glorify, and serve our Lord God.”