

The text "Jesus loves me" is written in a large, black, cursive script. The word "Jesus" is on the top line, "loves" is on the second line, and "me" is on the third line. The word "loves" is flanked by two heart symbols. A decorative flourish resembling a leafy branch is positioned above the "J" and "e" in "Jesus". A curved arrow with a feathered tail points from the "e" in "loves" towards the "e" in "me".

**Bethesda Presbyterian Church**  
**Aberdeen, North Carolina**  
**Founded 1788**

*“Glorifying God by proclaiming the gospel of  
Jesus Christ through love, faith, prayer, and service.”*

# Service for the Lord's Day

April 28, 2024, 11 o'clock

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

*Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Devoutly. Leave Gratefully. Serve Faithfully.*

## Gathering Music

## Welcome & Announcements

## Chiming of the Trinity

## Prelude

*The Gift to Be Simple*

Wood

**Bringing in the Light of Christ**

## †Call to Worship

Psalm 96:1,2

One: O sing to the Lord a new song;

**All: sing to the Lord, all the earth.**

One: Sing, and give praise to God's name;

**All: tell the glad news of salvation from day to day.**

## †Opening Hymn #462

*I Love to Tell the Story*

## Call to Confession

## Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

## †Sharing of the Peace

## †Congregational Response *Glory to God*

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. (2x)*

## A Moment with Young Disciples

**Prayer of Illumination**

**Psalm**

Psalm 119:97-112

**First New Testament Reading**

Hebrews 4:12-16

**Anthem** *You Are My All in All/Fairest Lord Jesus* Jernigan/Shackley

**Second New Testament Reading**

Acts 8:26-39

**Sermon**

*“For the Bible Tells Me So”*

Kay Mack

†**Congregational Hymn #188** *Jesus Loves Me*

†**Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived

by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(\*In this context, the word catholic is defined as the universal Christian church)

†**Prayers of the People**

One: Almighty God, you have promised to hear when we pray in the name of your Son. Therefore in confidence and trust we pray for the church. O God, enliven the church for its mission

**All: that we may be salt of the earth and light to the world.**

One: Breathe fresh life into your people.

**All: Give us the power to reveal Christ in word and action.**

One: We pray for the world. Creator of all, lead us and every people into ways of justice and peace,

**All: That we may respect on another in freedom and truth.**

One: Awaken in us a sense of wonder for the earth and all that is in it.

**All: Teach us to care creatively for its resources.**

One: We pray for the community. God of truth, inspire with your wisdom those whose decisions affect the lives of others,

**All: that all may act with integrity and courage.**

One: Give us grace to all whose lives are linked with ours.

**All: May we serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.**

One: We pray for those in need. God of hope, comfort and restore all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.

**All: May they know the power of your healing love.**

One: Make us willing agents of your compassion.

**All: Strengthen us as we share in making people whole.**

One: We remember those who have died and those who mourn. We remember with thanksgiving those who have died in the faith of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone.

**All: Loving God, into your hands we commend them.**

One: Give comfort to those who mourn.

**All: Fill the emptiness of their loss with your never-ending peace.**

One: We praise you for all your saints who have entered your eternal glory.

**All: May their example inspire and encourage us.**

One: We pray for ourselves and our ministries. Lord, you have called us to serve you.

**All: Grant that we may minister in your name, with your love in our hearts, your truth in our minds, your strength in our wills; until, at the end of our journey, we know the joy of our homecoming and the welcome of your embrace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Offertory** *Little Prelude in C Major* Bach

†**Offering Response Hymn** *Doxology*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,*

*Praise him all creatures here below, Praise him above ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

†**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

† **Closing Hymn #547 v.1-2**

*Go, My Children, With My Blessing*

† **Charge and Benediction**

† **Choral Benediction #547 v.3**

**Taking the light of Christ into the world**

**Postlude**

*Head of the Church Triumphant*

Colvin

† Please stand as you are able.

We welcome children with all the energy, enthusiasm, wisdom, and vocalization they bring to worship.

**Announcements**

**Flowers today** are given to the glory of God in honor of all the April birthdays from Nancy Clark.

**Thank you** to Kay Mack for providing the message for today. Additional thanks to everyone who participated in leading the service.

The **Elder of the Month** for April is Jamie Clarke.

Pastor David will be on work-study through April 30; contact the church office or the elder on call for assistance.

**Men of the Church** will meet Thursday May 2 from 6-7:30. **Auction Planning Meeting** will be Thursday May 2 at 6:30 in the Seekers Classroom. **The Fellowship Committee** will meet next Sunday after worship in the Jesse Wimberly Room. **Family Fun Night** is next Sunday at 4:30 pm. **Friendship Circle's** last circle meeting before summer break will be May 6.

**Ascension Service** will be on Thursday, May 9, at 6 pm.

**Campus Cleanup** We need you! Please join us for Bethesda's Spring Cleaning Day on Saturday, May 18 from 9-11 a.m. To volunteer, you can email Laura Hill at lauramdhill@gmail.com or sign-up after church on May 5th or 12th. Nursery will be available for parents who wish to help on this day. Remember...."many hands make light work."

**Youth Sunday** is on Pentecost, May 19. We will be recognizing our graduates. If you (or your child) will be graduating from high school, university, or post-graduate work, please let the office know. All high school seniors are welcome to do a "Senior Moment." If you'd like to participate, please indicate that as well.



Bill Kay (Debbie Pace's brother-in-law)  
 Kelsi (friend of Carolyn Burns)  
 Christina King and Family (friends of Bethesda)  
 The Family of David Kuzminski (son of Kitty Kuzminski)  
 Millie Langenfeld (Nancy Dearborn's aunt)  
 Timothy Liles (friend of Leigh Baggs)  
 Carol and Alan Monroe (friends of Bethesda)  
**Kacey McDonald (cousin of Al McDonald)**  
 Patrick McLaughlin (son of Pat and Sandy McLaughlin)  
 Judy and Mike Melendez (friends of Chuck and Nancy Dearborn)  
 Mike Palmer (Betsy Mofield's son-in-law)  
 Betty Parke (Bill Parke's sister)  
 Carrie Peterson (friend of the Noyes family)  
 Vickie Pinkston (friend of Gloria Crane)  
 Jennifer Pinkston (Gloria Crane's daughter)  
 Tom Pinkston (Gloria Crane's son)  
 Linda and Sylvia Porter (community people in need)  
 Alexander Deaton Riley (Great-grandson of Kitty Kuzminski)  
 Betty Ann Shaw (mother of Mary Ann Ward)  
 Denise Schuch (daughter-in-law of Ron Schuch and Connie Atwell)  
 Savannah and Deone (friends of Amy Hand)  
 Ed and Linda Stallings (friends of Jane McInnis)  
 Floyd Strupe (Mary Katherine's father)  
 The Family of Evelyn Terry (friends of Mary Ann Ward)  
 Doris Tulloch & daughters Rebecca and Sarah (friends of John McInnis)  
 Angie and Abby Underhill (friends of Bethesda and Merry Hearts)  
 The Family of Freddie Upchurch (friends of Mary Ann Ward)  
 Kathy Walker (friend of Kitty Kuzminski)  
 Kathy and Dale Weston (Nancy Dearborn's cousins)

### May Birthdays

1 Dell Crumpton	15 Amelia Driggers
Alan Moon	16 Julian Wilson
Nicole Williams	17 Mary Wilkinson
2 Kitty Kuzminski	19 Jakob Gorba
Ian Blue	Alyssa Ferguson
Mary Lawrie	21 Lisa McDonald
4 Cindy Kane	23 Jimmy Gorba
7 Michael Bean	26 Chuck Dearborn
9 Ayla Jacobs	Trinity Andersen
10 Logan Cunningham	28 Jackson Smith
11 Georgia Proctor	David J. Keith
Ron Schuch	29 Sam Smithson
12 Tammy Clarke	30 Mike Pace
14 Tom Blue	31 Michael Miller



## **STAFF**

Pastor  
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Julie Formanski                      bethesdapres@ncrrbiz.com              phone: 944-1319

Music Director & Organist  
Earlene McLamb                      velmc49@yahoo.com              phone: 281-3231

Merry Hearts Preschool Director  
Scarlett Roth                      scarlett@merryheartspreschool.com              phone: 944-1319

Grounds Matt Harris              Nursery Rebecca Dunn              Custodian King Chavis

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 am–2:00 pm  
Friday, 9:00 am–12 noon

Bethesda Presbyterian Church  
1002 N Sandhills Blvd.  
Aberdeen, NC 28315  
910-944-1319





# Devotional Invitation

The Session invites you to participate in developing an Advent Devotional Series for the 2024 season. After prayerful consideration, if you accept this invitation, you will be assigned scripture passages and given guidelines in early June. This will give you time to consider the passages and write a short devotion for one day of the Advent Season. This is a beautiful opportunity for you to share and nourish others with the help of the Holy Spirit. Your participation will be a wonderful experience for you and our family of fellowship. Anyone is welcome to contribute.

## Timeline

April 28-June 2	Invitation offered/individuals commit to participate
June 2	Basic guidelines given and scriptures assigned
June 2-End of August	Time to consider scriptures
End of August	Support workshop offered
September 29	Deadline to submit your devotion

---

I wish to participate in the 2024 Advent Devotional creation.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place this paper in the offering plate or return it to the church office. You may also call or email the church office to indicate your willingness to participate.

Gagaball

West Community

Disc Golf

FAMILY  
FUN DAY

Mini-Golf

Zipline Open

Cornhole

Sunday, May 19 – 3:30 to 6:30

Families & Children of All Ages are invited to Enjoy Pentecost Sunday Afternoon at Camp Monroe! The POOL will be open!

Recreation time

Dinner (no charge, donations)

Vespers Music & Reflection

24501 Camp Rd., Laurel Hill, NC

Please reply by the 13th

**Camp Monroe Family Fun Day May 19:** Families & Youth Groups are invited to Family Fun Day hosted by the West Community of our Presbytery. This will be at Camp Monroe on Pentecost Sunday, May 19. The fun begins at 3:30 PM with many options, including swimming in the pool, 6 holes of Disc Golf, Playing Gagaball, Cornhole, ZIPLINE (release form required), Mini-golf (Putt Putt), and more. Following the recreation time, there will be dinner then Vespers. Everything will wrap up at about 6:30. If you can come, please let us know. There is no charge for dinner but they want to have enough! So please reply by Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> at [presbycc.org/2024/family-fun-day-24/](https://presbycc.org/2024/family-fun-day-24/) The camp is located at 24501 Camp Rd., Laurel Hill, NC. All are invited to attend and bring friends!



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