

Bethel Presbyterian Church

March 1, 2026

An inclusive place of worship, moving on in 2026.



Black History is American

COMMUNION: THE 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT YEAR (A)

Liturgist: Elder, Fredrica Williams; **Spiritual Leader:** Ruling Elder, Hernel Braham; **The Word:** Rev Tene Howard, Elder David Roebuck; **Organist:** Elder, Dollie Lowe; **Pianist:** open; **Scripture Reader:** Brother, Jim Howard, Brother, Marcus McArthur; **The Offering:** Deacon Babatunde Ayroinde, Elder Michael Lawrence, Brother Richard Wright

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

Liturgist

The Call to Worship: Psalm 121

The Lord God keeps us, saves us, and protects us in times of trouble.

Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Even when fear strikes us, we know that we are safe, for we belong to God.

We shall never be shaken or moved, for we are shadowed by God's almighty hand.

We lift our voices together in thanks and praise.

Welcome: Greeting.....

Thank you for coming we invite you to come again and if you are looking for a church home, join us. You are invited to stand in body or spirit. Bring your bible follow along as the scriptures are read, the hymnals are located on the back pew to sing along. Please mute your electronic devices and let us make a joyful noise in the name of our Lord and Savior. Hallelujah!!!

Opening Hymn: GG#310

"I love thy kingdom Lord"

Call to Confession:

(I John 1:8,9)

Liturgist

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just. He will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God. Please pause in silent reflection asking God forgiveness of our sin. You may be seated.

Assurance of Pardon:

Elder David Roebuck

Hymn: AA#652

"Gloria Patria"

Passing of The Peace:

Hymn: AA#498

"Let There Be Peace On Earth"

Prayer for Illumination & Scripture Readings: Bro. James Howard & Bro. Marcus McArthur

Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word through these forty days, and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored, and renewed; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. **Amen.**

Today's scriptures Revised Common Lectionary (Year A)

Reader 1: First Reading:

Genesis 12:1-4a

Reader 2: Gospel:

John 3:1-17

Hymn of Preparation: GG#215

“What wondrous love is this”

Elder Hernel Braham

Introduction of the Messenger:

Bro. James Howard

The Word

Scripture

Sermon

Elder David Roebuck

The Opportunity

COMMUNION

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Affirmation of Faith

Apostle Creed

Liturgist believe in

God, the Father All Mighty, 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, Ashe’

CHILDREN CIRCLE:

Liturgist

Hymn: AA#549

“THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE”

Let Us Offer Our Gifts to God

Elder Mike Lawrence, Brother Richard Wright 2nd, Deacon

Babatunde

[Bethel Online Giving](#)

Prayer of Dedication

Dear God. Please Accept our gifts as signs of gratitude. Bless our work on behalf of Your risen son Christ Jesus. May we use these gifts to carry out the work you would have us to do. Thanks be to God.

DOXOLOGY: AA#651

“Praise God”

Hymn of Comfort: AA#449

“Have thine own way Lord”

Elder Braham

Prayer List:

Lifting up in Prayer: Rev. Jessie Jackson family, the man of Hope servant of the Lord and his people. Elder Nick Stevens, Elder James Plummer, Elder, Hernel Braham, Elder, David Roebuck, Rev. T. Howard, Rev. Dr. Leonard Bethel, Rev. Fonda Dortch-Taylor, Elder Charlotte Wright, Yvonne Rutty, Sister Veronica Bethel, Pearl Lowe, Elaine Young, Minette Braham, Brother Stevie and Doshia McArthur, George Bowen, Brother John & Donna Cheatwood, Gus Spruill, Cedric Mitchell, Pius, Cory, Fred Cook, Claudine , the Caretakers, others whose names not called, the hungry, homeless, victims of violence, in homes, war, our cities and elsewhere...Lord have mercy on the innocent!

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

“THE LORD’S PRAYER”

Acknowledgement:

Moment in History I want to take a moment to recognize legendary school teacher Othel J. Miller, whose story has yet to be told. Othel transitioned this life far too soon unexpectedly to answer the call home to be with the Lord. He was highly regarded in the Arts, teaching, acting at the PAIS school in Plainfield NJ. Othel was a giant of a man and will be remembered in history for his genuine love of humanity and mankind. His unconditional love, compassion and caring spirit for his students and others to believe in themselves was unwavering. He’d coach, demonstrate and nurture elevating them to new heights beyond their wildest dreams. His talents poetry, the spoken word, acting, and so much more inspires and motivates us all. “Poetry, like human tears, is tremendously therapeutic! It offers an outlet to acknowledge, explore and express a diversity of thoughts and emotions. However, poetry, much like male tears, is very often misunderstood, underappreciated, and therefore underutilized.” Othell J. Miller shares his tears with us while he walked this earth through his poems, writings contained in his first book collection. **The Tears of a Man.** RIP, rest in power my brother your legacy and the seeds you sowed lives on. We will miss you.

Announcements:

Liturgist

- Bible Study Online ZOOM every Thursday at 7PM. Rev Tene Howard & Elder Hanel Braham co-leaders. Please make time for a healthy dose of scripture learning and prayer. It will revive the spirit in the middle of the week.
- Following Study, around 7:30pm the planned discussion regarding defining the qualifications for a Pastoral Shepard to lead the new BPC. Presbytery leaders Rev. Jeremy Campbell and Rev. Steve Huston were invited and joined the conversation adding their input and thoughts on resources that The Presbytery might offer. Honorary Presbyterian, Rev. Tene Howard did an excellent job of preparing the BPC group and also keeping everyone focused and on point. When the conversation seems to drift into looking back at the negative she expertly pulls out her teacher's card and regained control. It was a very productive meeting and we invite you to let your voice be heard.
- BPC community outreach Soup kitchen program open every 2nd Saturday of the month. Hot soup.....Help make feeding the hungry a signature program again for BPC. Thanks to Mari Wright and the whole staff for their commitment to serve. Contact Elder Charlotte Wright or Elder Michael Lawrence.
- BPC Fish fry is back! March 7 Saturday 12pm until sold out. Whiting Sandwiches \$10, Dinners with sides \$16, \$18, \$25. Pre order with Mari at 908-670-1923. See the flyer for details.
- Black History is American History. The history series with special speakers paying tribute to known & unknown heroes, she roes & events is a big hit and very informative.
- We are in the beginning of the Lenten season, a 40-day period of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for Christians, preparing for Easter Sunday on April 5th. War is upon us again during this Holy season, let us pray for the end of this violence.
- As we travel through our Lenten journey in prayer we are grateful for speakers of the word; Your presence is a blessing. March 1st, Sunday, Elder David Roebuck:] Mar 8th, Elder Hanel Braham:] Mar 15th Brother Marcus McArthur:] Mar 22nd Minister Theo Boler:] Mar 29th Palm Sunday, Elder David Roebuck:] Apr. 5th, Resurrection Sunday, TBD:] Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn: AA#193

“Soon and very soon”

Elder Braham

BENEDICTION:

Elder David Roebuck

Amen, Amen, Amen

The coffee hour

“Let's talk about it”

Host Elder, Eric Williams and Brother Jim Howard