

Bethel Presbyterian Church

June 29, 2025



ORDER OF SERVICE

Liturgist: Elder Fredrica Williams

Spiritual Leader: Elder Hernel Braham

The Word: Rev. Tene Howard

The Offering: Deacon Babatunde & R. Wright

Organist: Sister Dollie Lowe

Pianist: Brother Jarel Pellew

Scripture Reader 1: Brother Jim Howard

WELCOME:

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP 1 Chronicles 16:8-12;23

Please stand

L. Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

A. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

L. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

A. Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

L. Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,

A. Sing to the LORD, all the earth; proclaim his salvation day after day. AMEN.

Opening Hymn: AA#508

"Blessed Assurance"

Call to Confession:

Please remain standing

Let us confess our sin *together with the*

Prayer of Confession:

A. Holy Father, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; we have not loved you with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength; we have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us for the wrong we have done, and the good we have left undone. Lord forgive us of our sins.,

L. Please pause 30 seconds in silent reflection with God. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Gloria Patria:

Passing of The Peace: "Peace Be with You"

Prayer for Illumination:

Bro. James Howard

"God All Mighty, shine your light through the darkness of this world into every corner of our hearts. As we read the many words of Scripture, may we recognize the presence of your one true Word, Jesus Christ, who bears your love into the world. Amen". Ashe'

Scriptures: Revised Common Lectionary; The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

First Reading; 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

1Now when the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. 2Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

6Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. 7Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. 8Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up, and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

9When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." 10He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." 11As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. 12Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. 13He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. 14He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" When he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

51When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. 52And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; 53but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. 54When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" 55But he turned and rebuked them. 56Then they went on to another village.

57As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." 58And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." 59To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." 60But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." 61Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home." 62Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

Hymn of Preparation: AA#382

"Jesus is all the World to Me"

The Word Scripture	Sermon	Rev. Tene Howard Invitation
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Affirmation of Faith

Apostle Creed

Liturgist

I 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

Messenger: Amen, Ashe'

HYMN: AA#549

"THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE"

Tribute:

Let Us Offer Our Gifts to God

Deacon Babatunde & Brother R. Wright

GIVE

Prayer of Dedication

Deacon Babatunde

Dear God. Please Accept these gifts as signs of our 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"

Announcements:

Bible Study Online 7PM every Thursday Rev Tene Howard & Elder Hernel Braham co-leaders

Join the Zoom Meeting by clicking the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88149636199?pwd=4kOkhRiOxJi3IVM6kZ9pB8UPBddQn.1>

Meeting ID: 881 4963 6199

Passcode: 384421

For Audio and standard phone. Call the local number 646 558 8656 US (New York) enter the meeting id and passcode above.

- The BPC Soup Kitchen team continues to plant the seeds of hope reaching those in need. Well done! Thanks to Volunteers, and food providers. Donations, etc. are always welcome. Moving forward a team meeting is being scheduled to review lessons learned and to make appropriate adjustments as needed. Please contact Elder Charlotte Wright for more information.
- The primary election has been settled, now preparation for the November election picks up steam. Get informed about the candidates and be prepared to VOTE.
- Sincere condolences to the family and friends of Sister Judith Horne Johnson. Sister Judith earthly sojourn came to a peaceful close on June 12, 2025. On Friday June 27th the home going service held at Bethel Presbyterian Church Plainfield NJ exceeded expectations. Overflow seating was required in the Sanctuary and the online streaming service was well attended. The Rev. Norman Dowe presided over the services. Many long-time friends and associates spoke fondly about their memories of Judy and the impact that she had on their lives. We were graced with a spiritual violin selection from "The Violin Diva", Charisa Dowe-Rouse; a touching selection by our own Rev. Tene and Brother Hernel; the service was concluded by a moving rendition of "I'm Going Up Yonder" by soloist Jean Avery. All and all the service was most fitting for our beloved sister Dorothy Judith Horne Johnson. The repast was hosted by a loving team of her friends.
- Streaming services for Sister Dorothy Judith Horne Johnson is in the care of Browns Funeral Home of Plainfield NJ. <https://www.brownsfuneralhome.net/obituaries/Dorothy-Judith-Horne-Johnson?obId=43017297> - /obituaryInfo

Final resting place for Dorothy Judith Horne-Johnson

Woodbridge Memorial Gardens

US Highway 1 North

Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Prayer List:

Elder Braham

Lifting up in Prayer: Note the '*' represents the need for special prayer, only God knows each and everyone's need.....

Holy Father we lift up, the sick, grief stricken, homeless, lost jobs, health care workers, disrupted immigrant families, names we have not called on this list you know their needs Lord. You know all the many conditions effecting our lives we lift up in prayer to You Holy Father. *Judith Horne-Johnson family and friends, Elder David Roebuck, Rev. Tene Howard, *Elder Charlotte Wright, *Yvonne Rutty, *Veronica Bethel, Frank McArthur, Pearl Lowe, Rev. *Dr. Leonard Bethel, Cory, Pius Family, *Rev. Fonda, Tony McArthur, Kevin McArthur, Cousin Janice, , Brenda McArthur-Puckett, *Elaine Young, *Waverly Gaither, *Minette Braham, *Vincent Cookie McArthur, Elder Fredrica family, *Iberia Randolph Family, *Brother Stevie and Dosha McArthur, The Caretakers, Iglesia Christina Manantial de Vida partners in Christ

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

"THE LORD'S PRAYER"

Closing Hymn: GG# 297

“Take the Name Jesus with You”

BENEDICTION:

Rev Tene Howard

The coffee hour

Host Brother Eric Williams and Brother Jim Howard