

Bethel Presbyterian Church
300 East Fifth Street,

April 27, 2025, 10am, est.



Plainfield, New Jersey 07060

PRESIDING

Minister of the Word:
Liturgist:
Music Ministry:
Pianist / Organist

Rev. Tene Howard
Elder Fredrica Williams
Elder Hernel Braham
Brother Jarel Pellew; Sister Dollie Lowe

10:01am Praise and Worship:
10:07am The Welcome:

Elder Braham & Friends
Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand

Liturgist

Psalm 150 Let everything praise the Lord!

- 1 Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty firmament!
- 2 **Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness!**
- 3 Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
- 4 **Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!**
- 5 Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
- 6 **Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

AMEN.

OPENING HYMN: GG#610

“O For a Thousands Tongues to Sing”

Elder Hernel Braham

Call to Confession:

Please Stand

Liturgist

Let each of us confess our sin to God. Please pause in silent reflection with God.....*Pray together the*

Prayer of Confession:

Liturgist

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., Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Rev. Tene Howard

Gloria Patria

Organist

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

Greet your neighbor,

Liturgist

Hymn: AA: 498

“Let There Be Peace On Earth”

Organist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION:

Bro: James Howard

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Enlighten our minds and kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Amen. - Ashe'

SELECTED SCRIPTURES: Readers: Brother James Howard, Marcus McArthur

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for Sunday, April 27, 2025, the Second Sunday of Easter (Year C)

First Reading Acts 5:27-32

27When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, 28saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." 29But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. 30The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. 31God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. 32And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Gospel John 20:19-31

19When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 20After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." 22When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." 24But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. 25So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." 26A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." 27Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." 28Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." 30Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. 31But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Hymn of Preparation: AA #500

"Glory, Glory, Hallelujah"

Elder Braham

Preaching Time--The Word:

Rev Tene Howard

Scripture reading: ""

The Sermon: ""

The Invitation:

Special Selection: Negro Spiritual Collection "Down by the Riverside"

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'

Let Us Offer Our Gifts to God

Deacon Babatunde & Brother R. Wright

This is the season of giving, so give what's in your heart in the name of Jesus.

Mail your check to the church, drop it in the plate or mailbox, use the online Give button highlighted on the program email. Make a donation using your iPad, computer or cellphone. Pause for the collection
GIVE

[Bethel Online Giving](#)

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

Congregation

Organist

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

Announcements:

Liturgist

- The BPC Bible Study program co-leaders Rev. Tene Howard & Elder Hernel Braham request your attendance on Zoom every Thursday night @7pm. The study hour is open to everyone focusing on "Deepening Your Prayer Life". The zoom link is attached to your email.
- **Soup Kitchen News: Elder Charlotte Wright on behalf of the Bethel Church family and friends Thank you all once again for the support. Without you the success of the event would not have been possible. Please provide your feedback and suggestions to Elder C. Wright in preparation for the Soup kitchen 2nd coming on May 10th, 11:30am-1:30-pm. A glorious time, is in the air with God's blessings "all things are possible". THANK YOU, THANK YOU, to God be the Glory.**
- Covid watch caution; when in doubt mask up, test yourself, still in doubt visit your primary care or Med-Emerge.
- Thanks to Iglesia Manatial, Cesar's mens group for the spring clean-up of the lot. Gracias mucho.

CHILDREN CIRCLE: "Teach a Child, and Transform the World"

Liturgist

Messenger: Let us remind ourselves that it takes a village to raise a child to compassion, competence, and character. We celebrate their gifts and strengths. We pray for them. Lord, help us to hear the dreams, and concerns of the children and to never give up on them. Amen,,, Ashe'

HYMN: #AA616

"JESUS LOVES THE LITTLE CHILDREN"

ORGANIST

PRAYER LIST:

Brother Marcus McArthur

"Heavenly Father, we come to you in prayer thanking you for the opportunity to lift up those in need around the world, suffering from war, hunger, shelter, sickness, uncertain times...., asking for your loving presence to surround them in their struggles. Let it be your will to grant strength, comfort, and hope. Lord we pray for physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, that you guide them towards the healing and support they require. May your compassion shine through each one of us, enabling us to be instruments of your love.

Dear God we lift in prayer, families impacted by fires, storms, airplane crashes, job loss and all other events causing harm and grief. We lift in prayer Elder David Roebuck, Rev. Tene Howard, Elder Charlotte Wright, Sister Yvonne Ruddy, Sister Veronica Bethel. Brother, Frank McArthur, Sister Pearl Lowe, Rev. Dr Bethel. Also we lift up brother Cory, Brother Pius. We lift up Rev. Fonda, Bro. Plummer, Tony McArthur, Kevin McArthur, Cousin Janice, Sister Judith Horne-Johnson, sister Brenda McArthur-Puckett, also in Arista-Care and lonely sister Elaine Young missing her son Derrick, Brother Waverly Gaither battling a major health crisis's also we lift up the caretakers that assist with care and compassion.

Merciful God we lift up names not called out today. You have them on Your list, some are grieving today, some in this congregation now in recovery, comfort them; We are sick, lonely, tired and troubled; but we know trouble don't last always.

Amen-

THE HYMN OF COMFORT:

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ELDER BRAHAM

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ELDER BRAHAM

Closing Hymn: AA:301

"There is Something About that Name"

ALL/ Elder Braham

BENEDICTION:

Rev Tene Howard

THE Coffee HOUR hosts

BROTHER James H& Eric W

PAUSE FOR A SHORT Break

Down By The Riverside

Song by Louis Armstrong

I'm gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,

Down by the riverside, down by the riverside

I'm gonna lay down my burden, down by the riverside,

I'm gonna study war no more

I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more

I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more

I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more

Well, I'm gonna put on my long white robe, (Where?) down by the riverside (Oh)
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside
I'm gonna put on my long white robe, (Where?) down by the riverside
I'm gonna study war no more
I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more
I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more
I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more
Well, I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield, (Where?) down by the riverside
Down by the riverside, down by the riverside
I'm gonna lay down my sword and shield, (A-ha) down by the riverside
I'm gonna study war no more
I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more
I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more
I ain't a gonna study war no more, I ain't a gonna study war no more