FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Summer Worship
The First Sunday After Pentecost

May 26, 2024

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Build My Life — Matt Redman
Contemporary Ensemble

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN — #339
Be Thou My Vision — SLANE

1 Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art--
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

3 Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

EMBODIED CONFESSON

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE
We Are One in the Spirit — THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS
Verse 1, From Glory to God (*on back page*)

*Please stand if you are able.

WE LISTEN

SCRIPTURE Acts 2:41-47 Liz Mountain

Leader: The word of the Lord;
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON The Rev. J.C. Austin

"The Great Ends of the Church 2:
The Shelter, Nurture, and Spiritual Fellowship of the Children of God"
AKA "There's a Place for Us"

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

*SERMON HYMN #436
We Are Your People (Verses 1, 2, 3 & 5) WHITFIELD

1 We are your people: Lord, by Your grace,
You dare to make us Christ to our neighbors
of every nation and race.

2 Called to portray You, help us to live
Closer than neighbors, open to strangers,
able to clash and forgive.

3 Glad of tradition, help us to see
In all life's changing where You are leading,
Where our best efforts should be.

5 Lord, as we minister in different ways,
May all we're doing show that you're living,
meeting Your love with our praise.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory Elevation — Leon Boellman

*DOXOLOGY — #414

As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought (Verse 3) — FOREST GREEN

3 With gratitude and humble trust we bring our best to You,
Not just to serve Your cause, but share Your love with neighbors too.
O God who gave Yourself to us in Jesus Christ Your Son,
Help us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.

*Prayer of Dedication

*SENDING HYMN — #276

Great is Thy Faithfulness — FAITHFULNESS

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever will be.

Refrain:
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
(Refrain)

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
(Refrain)

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Rondo-Fanfare — Jean-Joseph Mouret/ arr. Thomas Murray

We Are One in the Spirit 300
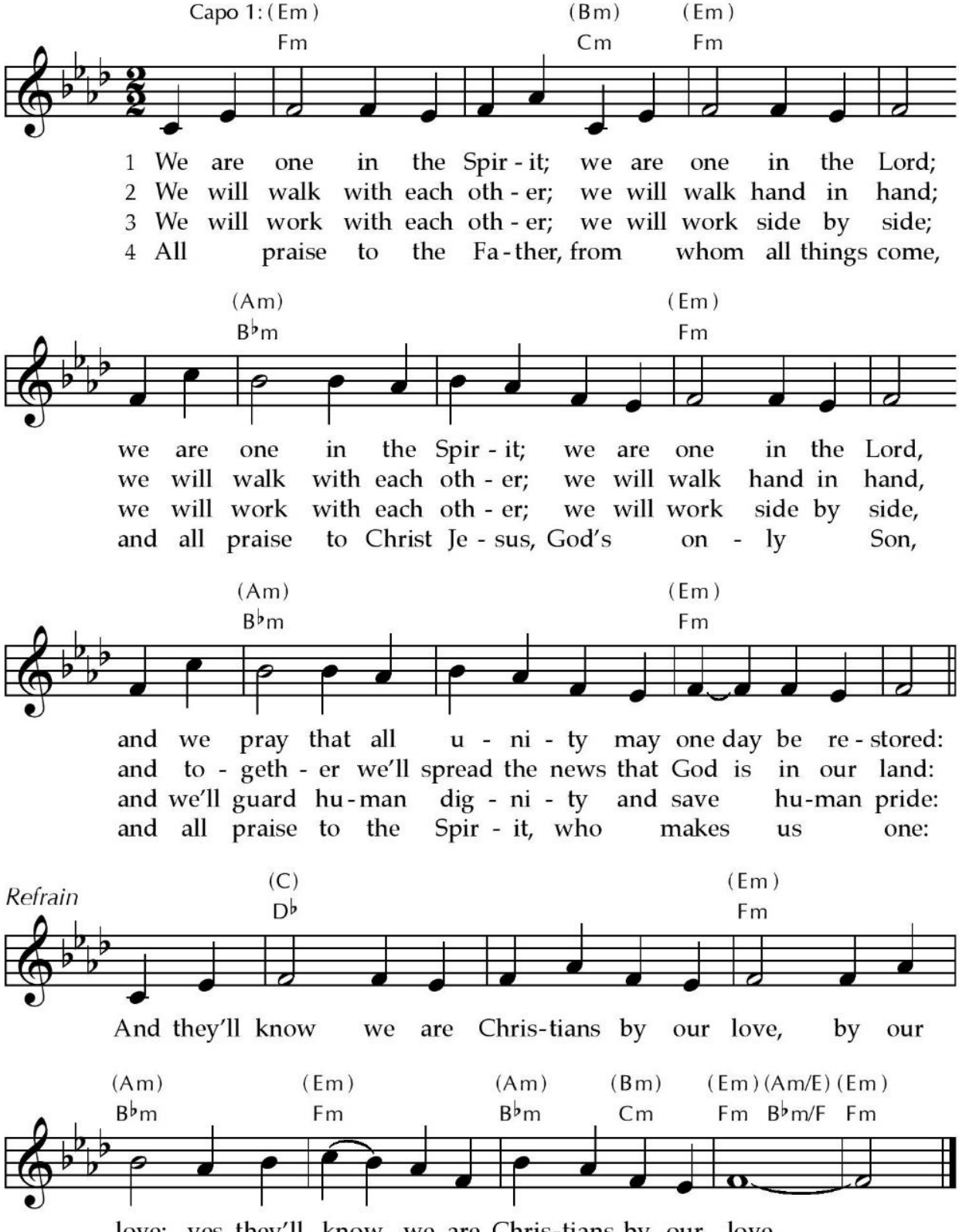
They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

