FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Traditional Worship Service
The Third Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2026

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Prelude, Fugue, and Chaconne — Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us to move
But we fear the unknown.
God calls us to move
But movement can be uncomfortable.
God calls us to move
So we move, trusting that God goes with us preparing the way.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN — #363
I Want Jesus to Walk with Me — SOJOURNER

WE CONFESS

CALL TO CONFESSON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, you call us again and again to leave our comfort zones and follow where you lead. Too often, we resist out of uncertainty and fear because the outcome seems uncertain. We become stuck, paralyzed by the unknown before us. Help us to hear your voice still speaking, help us to see you at work in the world. Grant us courage to trust your promises and the faith to know you keep them. Grant us the boldness to serve how you call us to serve. Walk beside us as we journey in faith to encourage and strengthen us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*Please stand if you are able.

WE LISTEN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE — Al Philpotts
Psalm: Psalm 121
Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 12:1-9

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

SERMON — Rev. Karen Kinney

"Promises Made, Promises Kept?"

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

How do you react to Abram's call by God to leave all that is familiar, all that is home and go to wherever God will show him? What do the promises of making Abram a great nation and a blessing mean to you? Are the promises made kept?

*SERMON HYMN — #488
The God of Abraham Praise — LEONI

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (adapted from *The Confession of 1967, 9.22)*

New life in Christ takes shape in a community in which people know that God loves and accepts them in spite of what they are. They therefore accept themselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand, except God's grace.

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.

MINUTE FOR MISSION AND OFFERING

Call to Give
Offertory Adoration — Florence Price

*Doxology — #592
Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow — OLD HUNDREDTH

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 DEDICATION

*SENDING HYMN #429

Lord, You Give the Great Commission ABBOT'S LEIGH

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Trumpet Voluntary in D John Stanley

You're welcome to stay and enjoy the Postlude or to depart while the music is played.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!