FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Summer Worship Service
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24, 2025

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Elegy — George Thalben-Ball

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN — #293
This is My Father's World — TERRA BEATA

WE CONFESS

*EMBODIED CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE
We Are One in the Spirit (verse 1 and Chorus) — Peter Scholtes

Verse 1
We are One in The Spirit,
We are One in The Lord.
We are One in The Spirit,
We are One in The Lord.
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored

Chorus
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
By our Love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Please stand if you are able

SCRIPTURE

Gospel: John 12:30-32

Book of Revelation: Revelation 13:1-18 Judy Smullen

SERMON Rev. Karen Kinney

Resistance is Futile – Or Is It?

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

When thinking about stressful situations, have you ever heard yourself thinking or saying to God: How long, O Lord, how long? How has your faith sustained you in those times, or not sustained you?

*SERMON HYMN #298

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy IN BABILONE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives. We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image to live as one community. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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: Gratitude Brandon Lake
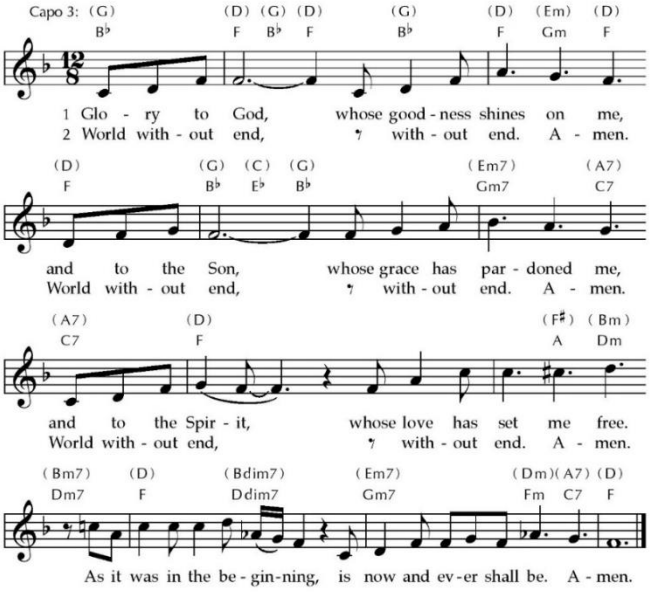
Contemporary Ensemble

*DOXOLOGY

Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (from *Glory to God)* GLORY TO GOD

SERVICE MUSIC

582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me



*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*SENDING HYMN #388

O Jesus, I Have Promised ANGEL'S STORY

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE House of the Lord Phil Wickham

Contemporary Ensemble

Flowers given by Judy Smullen to the memory of Bob and Judith Eisenhart

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!