



Summer Worship Service
The Fourteenth Sunday after
Pentecost

August 30, 2026

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Let the Praises Ring

Lincoln Brewster

Contemporary Ensemble

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We are pulled in many directions.

Many duties and tasks seek to lay claim on our lives.

This day, in this place, let service to God be your choice.

This day, in this place, we open our hearts and spirits to God.

Blessed be the God of creation who has called us here.

Praise be to God who sustains and nurtures our lives. Amen.

— written by Nancy C. Townley, and posted on the [Worship Connection](#) page of the Ministry Matters website

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***GATHERING HYMN**

#376

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

HYFRYDOL

WE CONFESS

***EMBODIED CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (from *Glory to God* – see addendum)

Let Us Build a House – Verse 1 only

TWO OAKS

**Please stand as you are able.*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Laura Huffard

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Judy Smullen

Hebrew Scriptures: Proverbs 1:1-7
Joshua 1:1-9

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Karen Kinney

“Rooted in Reverence: Leading from the Heart of God”

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

How does a leader balance the need for strong direction (like Joshua) with a humble, teachable heart (like a seeker of wisdom in proverbs)? What is one practical way you can draw closer to God this week to improve how you serve and lead the people around you?

*SERMON HYMN

#391

Take My Life (verses 1-4)

HENDON

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Adapted from the *Confession of 1967. 9.15*)

God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God’s love.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 Unfailing Love

Carie Pierce

Contemporary Ensemble

*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

#476

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

LYONS

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE God be with you till we meet again

arr. J. Bert Carlson

Flowers given by Judy Smullen in loving memory of her parents, Judith and Bob 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!*

Let Us Build a House

VERSE 1 ONLY

All Are Welcome

Capo 3: (A7) (D) (A) (D) (G) (A) (Bm)
C7 F C F B^b C Dm



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can
2 Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter,
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and

(D) (A) (D) (Bm7) (Em) (A)
F C F Dm7 Gm C



safe - ly live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell
strong and true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek
wine, and wheat; a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground
wood and stone to heal and strength-en, serve and teach,
vi - sions heard and loved and trea-sured, taught and claimed

(Em) (A7) (G) (D) (F#m) (Bm)
Gm C7 B^b F Am Dm



how hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
to dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
and live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
as words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and

(Em) (A) (D) (G)
Gm C F B^b



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace; let this

Refrain

(D) (G) (F#7) (Bm) (Em) (Bm)
F B^b A7 Dm Gm Dm



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
share in Christ the feast that frees us: all are wel - come;
bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
house pro-claim from floor to raf - ter:

(F#m) (Em) (D) (Em) (A7) (D) (G) (D) (A7)
Am Gm F Gm C7 F B^b F C7



all are wel - come; all are wel - come in this place.

COMMUNITY LIFE – ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUG. 30, 2026

If you are new to our church, welcome! Please complete a **“Connect Card,”** available in the Narthex.

For today: Following our service you have two opportunities to connect. We have tables set up in the Narthex for anyone who would like to **discuss the morning’s sermon** and service. We also offer the **Lemonade on the Lawn** social time on the West Lawn (otherwise in the North Link). Thanks to all who hosted this summer!

We are planning – weather permitting! – to **resume our two Sunday services schedule** on Sunday, Sept. 13. Follow the newsletter and Community Life Announcements for any updates. Hearts N Minds (our adult ed class) and Body N Soul (our intergenerational offering) will begin on that date as well; both meet between the 9 a.m. Holy Ground and 11:15 a.m. Traditional services.

Today is the last day to **place your orders for mums**: these beauties come in five brilliant colors and are \$9 each. Order forms are in the Narthex, and the flowers will be delivered on Tuesday, Sept. 15.

We are wrapping up the August **donations for the Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley**: they have asked specifically for **dry** dog and cat food. You can bring your donations through tomorrow to the south entrance or North Link - thanks for considering how you can help!

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Karen Kinney, Transitional Pastor; kkinney@fpc-bethlehem.org

Rev. Lindsey Altvater Clifton, Associate Pastor for Justice and Community Impact; lclifton@fpc-bethlehem.org

David Macbeth, Director of Music Ministries; dmacbeth@fpc-bethlehem.org

CARE CONCERNS

IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED: Please tell the hospital our church code is 724. Also, please call the church office at 610-867-5865 to let us know as the hospitals do not always collect this information. After hours, leave a message or call our answering service at 610-778-7003.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Send to prayer@fpc-bethlehem.org or call 610-867-5865 and leave a message.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

The church building (including the Preschool) will be closed on Monday, Sept. 7 in observance of Labor Day, reopening on Tuesday. Regular Church Office hours are Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Urgent pastoral need? Please call our answering service at 610-778-7003.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER – STAY CONNECTED!

We send an email newsletter each Friday morning; it will be emailed to those who request it: contact us at info@fpc-bethlehem.org or 610-867-5865. You can also request a printed copy be mailed to you.

First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem

2344 Center Street, Bethlehem, PA 18017

610-867-5865 · fpc-bethlehem.org

Check our online calendar for all events and activities.

Your attendance at church events constitutes permission to use your image (photos and video) in church communications.

Questions about our policy: info@fpc-bethlehem.org



Use this code to donate through our secure website.