FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF BETHLEHEM

Summer Worship Service
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 9, 2026

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE Guardian — Ben Cantelon

Contemporary Ensemble

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We lift up our souls to you, Holy God.
We trust the Lord with our past, present, and future.
Teach us, Lord, that we may know your ways.
Guide our every move, Holy One,
that we may walk in your paths of love and mercy.
Let us worship the One who leads us in what is right.
Together, let us worship God!

~ written by Amy Loving, and posted on **The Worship Closet: The Place for Creative Worship Ideas.**
http://worshipcloset.com/baptism-of-the-lord-sunday-year-b-words-for-worship/

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*GATHERING HYMN — #466

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing — AZMON

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

WE LISTEN

CHILDREN'S SERMON — Kate Arrington

*Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE James Stahl

Psalm: Psalm 25:1-9

Epistle: Philippians 2:1-13

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON Rev. Karen Kinney

"Ties of Grace"

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

What does it look like to share the same love and be of one mind with other believers? How does knowing God is at work in you change your daily attitude and actions?

*SERMON HYMN #343

Called as Partners in Christ's Service BEECHER

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Adapted from the *Confession of 1967. 9.26*)

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 A Time for All Things Douglas E. Wagner

Summer Choir

*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

We Are One in the Spirit (from *Glory to God;* see addendum) THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS

*BENEDICTION

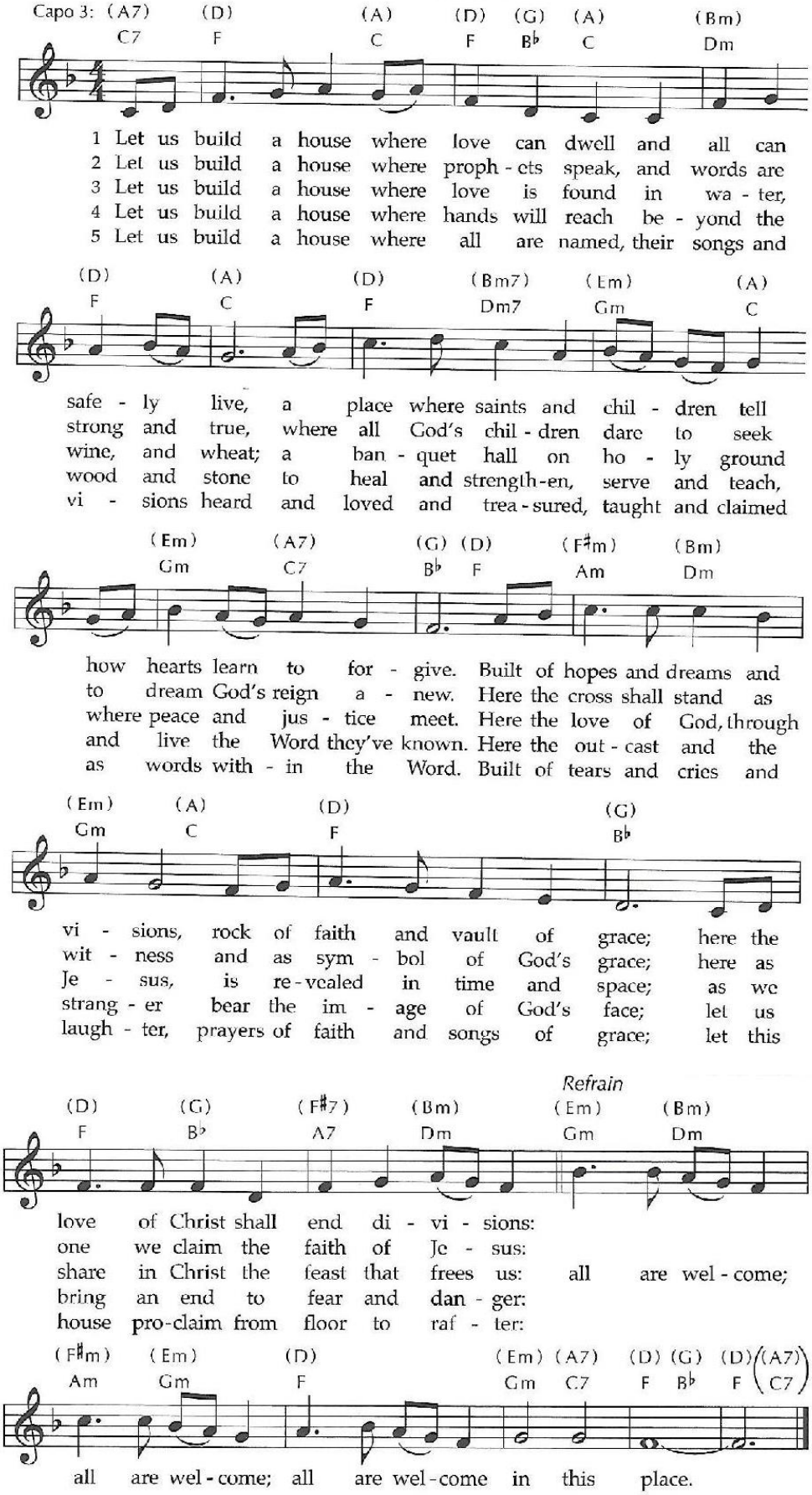
POSTLUDE Fugue No. 3 from *Six Fugues on the name of BACH*, Op. 60 Robert Schumann

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!

VERSE 1 ONLY

301 Let Us Build a House

All Are Welcome



We Are One in the Spirit 300

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love



COMMUNITY LIFE – ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR AUG. 9, 2026

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

For today: After our worship 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. You're also invited to our **Lemonade on the Lawn** social time: we'll meet on the West Lawn (otherwise in the North Link). Thank you to Jane Masters and Donna Knepp for hosting. If you'd like to host, you can sign up online (bit.ly/42TDejr) or on the paper form at the Narthex info table.

Here are your opportunities to participate in worship: you can **lead our children's sermons**, or serve as **lector** to share the scripture readings. The children's sermon sign up is at volunteersignup.org/hj4yy and the lector sign up is at bit.ly/3PQRBlq. There are also paper sign-ups for each in the Narthex.

For your calendar: **"Sitting with the Psalms"** is offered on the five Sundays in August; everyone is welcome to join the conversation from 9:00 – 9:45 a.m. in the Church Library.

For the month of August we are collecting **donations for the Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley**: they have asked specifically for **dry** dog and cat food. 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

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.