



Summer Worship Service The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 2, 2026

The Service for the Lord's Day

WE GATHER

PRELUDE "Rhosymedre" (Lovely), from *Three Preludes on Welsh Hymn Tunes*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

WELCOME AND COMMUNITY LIFE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

As we gather this day, each of us brings something to worship –

We bring the burdens of the week.

We bring prayers of hope, and prayers of anguish.

We bring our voices, and our offerings, and our questions.

We bring our faith, tattered or whole as it may be.

We bring all this to each other and to God, whom we worship today.

Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good'. Used with permission.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

***GATHERING HYMN**

O God in Whom All Life Begins (from *Glory to God* - see addendum)

NOEL

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

*Please stand as you are able.

SCRIPTURE

JoAnne Turcotte

Psalm: Psalm 31:9-16

Epistle: Philippians 1:21-30

Leader: The word of the Lord;

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Karen Kinney

“Holding Fast Together”

WE RESPOND

MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION

When have you felt worn out or broken like the psalmist, and how did you react? Why is standing together so important when a group faces outside pressure or hard times?

*SERMON HYMN

#419

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

REPTON

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

The saying is sure: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself. (2 Tim. 2:11-13)

MINUTE FOR MISSION AND OFFERING

Call to Give

Offertory All Belong Here

Hannah Rand

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

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

Words of Institution

Communion

Music during Communion: Elevation in D

Theodore Dubois

Prayer after Communion (unison): **We thank you, O God, that through your Holy Spirit you have gathered us together and fed us with Jesus Christ. Send us now into the world in peace and loving service, bearing Christ's love in ministry through our words and actions, knowing that there is nothing in heaven or earth that can separate us from your love in Jesus Christ. Even so, Lord Jesus, quickly come. Amen.**

*SENDING HYMN

#210

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

ST. ANNE

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE No Other Name

Freddy Rodriguez

Contemporary Ensemble

*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!*

O God in Whom All Life Begins 308



1 O God in whom all life be-gins, who births the seed to fruit,
 2 U - nite in mu - tual min - is - try our minds and hands and hearts
 3 Through tears and laugh-ter, grief and joy, en - large our trust and care;



be - stow your bless - ing on our lives; here let your love find root.
 that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace im - parts.
 so bind us in com - mu - ni - ty that we may risk and dare.



Bring forth in us the Spir - it's gifts of pa - tience, joy, and peace;
 So let our var - ied gifts com - bine to glo - ri - fy your Name
 Be with us when we gath - er here to wor - ship, sing, and pray;



de - liv - er us from numb - ing fear, and grant our faith in - crease.
 that in all things by word and deed we may your love pro - claim.
 then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.

Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshiping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.

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 AUGUST 2, 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 Phyllis Walker for hosting today. We’re in need of a host for next week (Aug. 9) and Aug. 23; you can sign up online (bit.ly/42TDejr) or on the paper form at the Narthex info table.

A weekly series, **“Sitting with the Psalms”** returns on all Sundays in August; meet from 9-9:45 a.m. in the Library for a guided discussion – all are welcome.

Here are your opportunities to participate in worship: you can **lead our children's sermons**, or serve as **lector** to share the scripture readings on Aug. 30. The children’s sermon sign up is at volunteersignup.org/hj4yy and the lector sign up is at bit.ly/3PQRB1q. There are also paper sign-ups for each in the Narthex.

“Sharing our Bounty” – bring your extra harvest to share at a table at Lemonade on the Lawn. Available for others to take, no charge! Anything left over will be donated to New Bethany, along with other produce harvested from the COMMUNITY Garden located on our campus.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Karen Kinney, Transitional Pastor; kinney@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



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