

Go in peace to
LOVE & SERVE
the Lord

Chester Bethel UMC

March 8, 2026

9:30 AM

Sharing in Worship Leadership this morning:

Organist: Carmella Lynch
Bell Choir Director: Pam Manocchio
Preacher: Rev. Kelly Conner
Special Music: Shannon O'Connell
Greeter: Polly Brown
Usher: Carol Williamson
Worship Leader: Polly Brown

Prayer Joys and Concerns:

H=Health; L=Loss; LT=Long Term; O=Other

Betsey Taylor (L);Phyllis King (H);Lorraine MacMillan (H); David D. (H); Dom D.(H); Millie Burke (H); Janet Canavan (H); Keith Saulsbury (H); Steve Schellberg (H); Donna (H); Joseph Glasgow (H); Bill Hazel (H); Linda Lyons (H); Jean Andrews (H); Andrew R.(O); Bill and Doreen Jones (H); Mary Ann Box (H); Ramona Harlow (LT); Holly Dorner (H); Donna McCormick (H); DeBrock Family (O); Kim Nally; Gail Kracyla (H); Dominic King (LT); Jill Brownback (LT); Nancy Walker (LT); MaryAnn Rumford (LT); Rick Browne (LT); all peoples impacted by war (LT)

Please add prayer requests and updates to the list in the Narthex



2619 Foulk Rd., Wilmington, DE 19810
302-475-3549 <http://www.chesterbethel.org>
Service Live-Streamed on Facebook

Office Admin, Beth Burnam: Tues, Thurs, Fri, 9 AM – 1 PM;
secretarychesterbethel@gmail.com

Reverend Kelly Conner
revkellyconner@gmail.com / Cell: 302-249-6157

Announcements

- **Lenten Bible Study** will begin on Feb 10 at 7 PM (zoom) and Feb. 19, at 10 AM in person. The link and chapter assignments will be emailed the week prior; please let the office know if you would like to receive these notices.
- From January through June your financial mission giving will go to:
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - The Salvation Army
 - Food Bank of DelawarePlease continue with your generosity; we are helping many in need.
- The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on March 28th from 11:30-1. Your help is much appreciated!

Dates To Remember

March 10 – Zoom Bible Study

March 11 – Admin. Council at 6 pm

March 12 – In person Bible Study

March 26 – Trustees Meeting at 4:30 pm

March 28 – Easter Egg Hunt 11:30-1:00

March 8, 2026
3rd Sunday in Lent

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 95)

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

Leader: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

People: **In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.**

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

All: **For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.**

*OPENING HYMN – “Gather Us In” vv. 1-3 TFWS #2236

OPENING PRAYER – for mid-Lent

Lord, as I stand at the midpoint of this Lenten journey, I feel the fatigue of the desert road. I come before you to renew my commitment to this season of reflection and sacrifice. Where my focus has wandered, draw me back. Where I have grown weary, grant me your strength. Transform my fasting into generosity and my silence into listening. As I continue toward the cross, help me to fix my gaze on the hope of resurrection. Give me a clean heart and a renewed spirit to love and serve you more fully. Amen.¹

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by

¹ The Episcopal *Book of Common Prayer*.

the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he arose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,² the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.³

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 17:1-7
NEW TESTAMENT READING Romans 5:1-11

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC

*HYMN OF RESPONSE – “The King of Love, My Shepherd Is”
vv. 1-3 UMH #138

THANKSGIVINGS AND INTERCESSIONS

PASTORAL PRAYER
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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

You may place your cash or check offering into the plates we pass

around at this time or mail your tithes and offerings to the church office. Thank you for working as Christ’s hands and feet in the world!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH #94

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise Him all creatures here below! Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise Him, the source of all our gifts; praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*CLOSING HYMN – “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
UMH #299

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**Standing in body or in spirit*

Music licensing CCLI #1642131, Streaming license CCLI #20705544

² “Catholic” in this instance means “universal.”

³<https://www.caldwellpresby.org/docs/resources/Prayers%20for%20Illumination.pdf>