



Chester Bethel UMC

August 24, 2025

9:30 AM

Sharing in Worship Leadership this morning:

Guest Preacher: Rev. Megan Shitama Weston

Organist: Christian Lyons

Bell Choir Director: Pam Manochio

Special Music: Pam and Christian

Greeter: Bill White

Usher: Sylvia Illuzzi

Worship Leader: Rich Kuc

*Flowers are given
to the glory of God*

Prayer Joys and Concerns:

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

Steve Schellberg (H); Dave McFarlan (LT); Maria (H); Brione (H); Donna (H); Ken Donahoe (H); Joseph Glasgow (H); Bill Hazel (H); Linda Lyons (H); KFK (O); Jean Andrews (H); Andrew R.(O); Bill and Doreen Jones (H); Mary Ann Box (H); Ramona Harlow (LT); Holly Dornier (H); Donna McCormick (H); DeBrock Family (O); Allison (H); Kim Nally; Amy (H); 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



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302-475-3549 <http://www.chesterbethel.org>

Service Live-Streamed on Facebook

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

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

Announcements

- We welcome **Rev. Megan Shitama Weston** today as our guest preacher. Rev. Weston is a Deacon in The United Methodist Church, commissioned in 2012 and ordained in 2014. A graduate of University of Maryland, College Park and Wesley Theological Seminary, she served for 16 years at Pecometh Camp & Retreat Ministries. Her ministry focus is spiritual formation across all stages of life and faith. She lives in Cecil County, Maryland with her husband Phil and sons Thomas (7) and Milo (4).
- On August 31, we will host a ***Gathering & Grill*** cookout and joint worship service with Mt. Lebanon **and** our neighbors. Please invite any and all our neighbors to join in either or both! The church will provide the grilled items, buns & condiments; sides are potluck.
- Please attend Sept. 3rd's **Preschool Open House** to see the new classrooms and what the church, with generous help from the Grahams, has done to share our space with the preschool.
- **Fall Bible study** will begin Sept. 9 with "Acts: Catching Up with the Spirit" by Matthew L. Skinner, available online. Call office for help if needed.
- **Are you willing** to serve a few hours per month as volunteer Finance Director? If so, please speak with Pastor Kelly.

Dates To Remember

August 18-30—Pastor's 'Staycation'

August 31—Gathering and Grill Sunday—joint worship

Sept. 2—SPRC mtg at 3:30

Sept. 3—Preschool Open House 5:30-6:30-church invited too!

Sept. 7—Nominations Team Mtg @ 7 PM

Sept. 9&11—Beginning of fall Bible study

Sept. 10—Admin. Council @6 PM

Sept. 11—Trustees Meeting @6PM

August 24, 2025

9:30 AM

11th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE- *The Church of Christ, in Every Age – Green, Bristol*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 71)

Leader: In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

People: **In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me.**

Leader: Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me!

People: **Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.**

Leader: For you, O Lord, are my hope and my trust;

All: **But I will hope continually and will praise you yet more and more.**

*OPENING HYMN – "Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"

UMH # 361

OPENING PRAYER

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.¹

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH – "A Modern Affirmation"

UMH #885

Leader: **Where** the Spirit of the Lord is, there is the one true church, apostolic and universal, whose holy faith let us now declare:

¹ From the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer.

All: We believe in God the Father, infinite in wisdom, power, and love, whose mercy is over all his works, and whose will is ever directed to his children's good.

We believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Son of man, the gift of the Father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope, and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ and find strength and help in time of need.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC- *As the Deer*, arr. Joel Raney –
Pam Manocchio, flute

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Tender Shepherd: we come like sheep, dependent on your guidance, and longing to hear your voice. Speak to us a word of reassurance that, encouraged by your Word, we may be strengthened for our daily life and service. Amen.²

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 1:4-10
NEW TESTAMENT READING John 4:27-42

SERMON Rev. Megan Shitama Weston

SPECIAL MUSIC – *My Faith Looks Up to Thee* – arr. Gary Lanier

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** – “Only Trust Him” UMH # 337

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 – *God Will Take Care of You* – Martin, Martin

***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** – “Trust and Obey” UMH # 467

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE – *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus* – Arr. Jame Koerts

**Standing in body or in spirit*

Music licensing CCLI #1642131, Streaming license CCLI #20705544

²<https://peacefulpebbles.blog/tag/prayers-of-illumination/>.