



Chester Bethel UMC

February 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: Bell Choir
Greeter: Barbara Coulbourn
Usher: Bill White
Worship Leader: Yvonne Kaciuban

Prayer Joys and Concerns:

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

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

- Today is the Super Bowl! It's what we also call "**Souper Bowl Sunday**". Let's collect a lot of soup for the food pantry!
- **Lenten Bible Study** will begin on Feb 10 at 6 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.
- If you don't always receive church emails, they may be going to your SPAM—add secretarychesterbethel@gmail.com to your contacts.

Dates To Remember

Feb 8 – **Souper Bowl Sunday** food drive
Feb. 10 – Zoom Bible Study at 6 pm
Feb. 11- Administrative Council meeting at 6 pm
Feb. 19th-In-Person Bible Study at 10 am
Feb. 26 – Trustees Meeting at 6 pm

February 8, 2026

9:30 AM

5th Sunday after the Epiphany

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 112)

Leader: Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD,
who greatly delight in his commandments.

People: **Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the
generation of the upright will be blessed.**

Leader: They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they
are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

People: **It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who
conduct their affairs with justice.**

Leader: Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid; in the end
they will look in triumph on their foes.

All: **They have distributed freely, they have given to the poor;
their righteousness endures forever; their horn is
exalted in honor.**

*OPENING HYMN – “Gather Us In”

TFWS#2241

OPENING PRAYER

**Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the
liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in
your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.¹**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“The World Methodist Social Affirmation” UMH #886

**We believe in God, creator of the world and of all people; and in
Jesus Christ, incarnate among us, who died and rose again; and in
the Holy Spirit, present with us to guide, strengthen, and comfort.**

¹ The Episcopal Book of Common Prayer.

We rejoice in every sign of God's kingdom: in the upholding of human dignity and community; in every expression of love, justice, and reconciliation; in each act of self-giving on behalf of others; in the abundance of God's gifts entrusted to us that all may have enough; in responsible use of the earth's resources.

We confess our sin, individual and collective, by silence or action: through the violation of human dignity based on race, class, age, sex, nation, or faith; through the exploitation of people because of greed and indifference; through the misuse of power in personal, communal, national, and international life; through the search for security by those military and economic forces that threaten human existence; through the abuse of technology which endangers the earth and all life upon it.

We commit ourselves individually and as a community to the way of Christ: to take up the cross; to seek abundant life for all humanity; to struggle for peace with justice and freedom; to risk ourselves in faith, hope, and love, praying that God's kingdom may come on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dear Forgiving God, train us to truly listen to your teaching not only with our ears, but also with our minds, our hearts, and with our souls, so that we might reflect the glory of your Spirit, love and truth. Amen.²

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 58:1-12

NEW TESTAMENT READING 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC

***HYMN OF RESPONSE – “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”
TFWS #2241**

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 – “O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing” vv. 1-5
UMH #57

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**Standing in body or in spirit*

Music licensing CCLI #1642131, Streaming license CCLI #20705544

²Adapted from original written by Valerie Noble:
<https://worshipwords.co.uk/prayer-for-illumination-valerie-noble-uk/>.