

Go in peace to
LOVE & SERVE
the Lord

Sharing in Worship Leadership this morning:

Organist: Carmella Lynch
Bell Choir Director: Pam Manocchio
Preacher: Rev. Kelly Conner
Special Music: Bell Choir
Greeter: Bill White
Usher: Sylvia Illuzzi
Worship Leader: Rich Kuc

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

Chester Bethel UMC

February 22, 2026

9:30 AM



L E N T

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** has begun on Tuesdays at 7 pm (zoom) and in person on Thursdays at 10 am. (see *Dates*, below) The zoom link and chapter assignments will be emailed prior to the sessions.
- From January through June your financial mission giving will go to:
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - The Salvation Army
 - Food Bank of Delaware

Please continue with your generosity; we are helping many in need.

Dates To Remember

Feb. 24 – Zoom Bible Study at 7 pm

Feb. 26 – In person Bible Study at 10 am

Feb. 26 – Trustees Meeting at 6 pm

Mar 7 – New Member class, 12 PM at CBUMC

March 8 – Missions Meeting after church service

February 22, 2026
1st Sunday in Lent

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP – For the Start of Lent¹

Leader: Here, at the outer limits of Lent, we are called to walk:

People: **to the paper-thin edges which cut us to the soul;**

Leader: to the workplaces which weary us;

People: **to the people who confuse us;**

Leader: to the faith which threatens us.

People: **Here, at the corner of Steadfast Love and Faithfulness, we are called to wait.**

Leader: Here, where time is fulfilled, where God's Kingdom is as near to us as our neighbor, we begin Lent:

People: **with the Beloved, whose tears wash away our fears;**

All: **with the God who will not let go of our hands.**

*OPENING HYMN – “Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days” UMH #269

OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.²

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“The World Methodist Social Affirmation” UMH #886

¹ Adapted from original written by Rev. Thom Shuman and posted on *Lectionary Liturgies*: <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>.

² The Episcopalian *Book of Common Prayer*.

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.

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, with our hearts, and with our souls, so that we might reflect the glory of your Spirit, love, and truth. Amen.³

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Psalm 32

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 5:12-19

SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC

³Adapted from original written by Valerie Noble:
<https://worshipwords.co.uk/prayer-for-illumination-valerie-noble-uk/>.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE – “Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”**
TFWS #2112

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 – “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

UMH #140

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

**Standing in body or in spirit*