

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING SERVICES & MEETINGS

Bible Study – Wednesday – 10:00 to 11:30 AM

Craft Night - Wednesday – 7:00 PM

Sunday Morning Worship Service – September 27 – 9:00 AM

Sunday School – September 27 – 10:15 AM

Pet Fest – October 3 – 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Vince's Cheese Steak Sale – October 13 – 11:30 AM to 6:30 PM



WORSHIP STATISTICS

9/13/26

In Person Attendance – 36

Virtual Attendance (YouTube Views) –



THANK YOU TO THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP ASSISTANTS:

Greeter: Lynette Daniels & Laura Miller

Lector: LeAnne Zettlemoyer

Ushers:

Cantor:



Pastor: Rev. Robert B. Peiffer, Ph.D.

Cell Phone: 570-778-1245

Email: bobpeiffer@alumni.nd.edu

Church & Office Telephone: 610-756-6589

Email: nbckempton@gmail.com

Bulletin Secretary: Ruthann Lutz

Phone: 610-756-6489

Email: ruthann_lutz@msn.com

Newsletter Coordinator: Jon Bond

Email: bondart@ptd.net

Organist/Choir Director/Chime Choir Director –

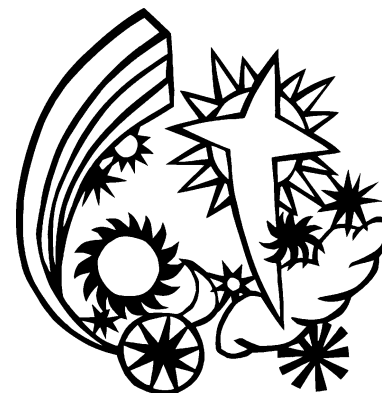
LeAnne Zettlemoyer

Email: zett113@ptd.net

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026

9:00 AM



*Thank you for worshipping with us. Our songs of
praise were more meaningful because your
voice joined with ours!
Please, come again!*

Good Morning.

We would like to welcome you to New Bethel to worship with our church family. Visitors know that it is our privilege to have you with us this morning. Please come back again soon. Upon exiting the church, take a moment to sign our Guest Register at the front doors.

SILENT MEDITATION PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of heaven and earth: you have made us in your image, met us in Jesus Christ, and gathered us by your Holy Spirit into the communion of saints. Awaken in us the faith we confess with our lips, that we may cherish your creation, follow your Son in the way of self-giving love, forgive as we have been forgiven, and live as people whose hope is in the resurrection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

PRAYER NOTES: In your conversation with GOD this morning, ask His direction for our ministry together as His church in this place.

"The best way to do satisfying work is to do it for the Lord."



ORDER OF WORSHIP



THE PRELUDE

(^ = PLEASE STAND, AS YOU ARE ABLE)

Worship Reminder: Congregational responses are to be read slowly and expressively. Thank you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

^CALL TO WORSHIP:

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

God saw all that had been made, and it was very good.

Christ died for our sins, was buried, and on the third day was raised.

In Christ, death has been defeated and life has been revealed.

The risen Christ sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

We belong to God's story and are called to live it.

Come, let us worship the God who created us, redeemed us, and gathers us as one people.

We believe. We rejoice. We worship the living God.

^PRAISE HYMNS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

PASTOR: Let us confess the ways in which our lives have failed to reflect the faith we proclaim.

Silence may be kept.

ALL: *You created the world and called it good, but we have treated your creation as our possession. You came among us in Jesus Christ, but we have neglected neighbors who needed our presence. You gathered us into the communion of saints, but we have chosen isolation, division, and self-interest. You promise forgiveness and resurrection, but we have allowed failure and fear to speak the final word.*

Have mercy on us, Lord. Forgive what we have been, renew what we are, and lead us toward what you would have us become, that we may both know your story and live your story; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON/DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:

PASTOR: Almighty God, who raised Jesus Christ from the dead, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People: *Thanks be to God. Amen.*

HEARING GOD'S WORD (OUR LESSONS FOR TODAY)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: GENESIS 1: 1-5, 26-31

¹When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humans in our image, according to our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over the cattle and over all the wild animals of the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷So God created humans in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth."

²⁹God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

RESPONSE: "Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, Oh God"

Shepherd me, O God, Beyond my wants,
Beyond my fears, From death into life.

EPISTLE LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 15: 1-8, 20-26

¹ Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures ⁴and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me.

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human, ²²for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³But each in its own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

^GLORIA PATRI: "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end." Amen.

^GOSPEL LESSON: MATTHEW 28: 16-20

¹⁶Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of

all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006412. New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

^THE APOSTLES' CREED:

***I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our LORD.***

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary.

***suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.***

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

HOMILY (SHARING GOD'S WORD WITH OUR CHILDREN)

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Robert B. Peiffer, Ph.D.

"The Apostles' Creed"

^HYMN – No. 498

"I Love To Tell the Story"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

All: 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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

^RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION:

PASTOR: Go forth as people created and beloved by God.

PEOPLE: ***We will see the world as God's gift and care for all that God has made.***

PASTOR: Go forth as members of the communion of saints.

PEOPLE: ***We will show up for one another and practice the forgiveness we have received.***

PASTOR: Go forth in the hope of Christ’s resurrection, and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

PEOPLE: *We know the story. We will live the story. Amen.*

^CLOSING HYMN – No. 733 “We’ve A Story To Tell To the Nations”

^WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

^POSTLUDE



**DURING THE WEEK PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS
THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

THOSE WHO ARE ILL OR RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS:

Dick Albright, Michael Aulenbach, Carla Bartholomew, Sandra Bauscher, Pastor Dave Blitch, Sarah Burns, Brenda Derr, Jay Drey, Donna Greenawalt, Sharon (Henry) Griffiths, Tim Haring, Felicity Herring, Tiffany Hoch, Casey Hoffman, Ernie Kanas, Bethany Keck, Emily Keck, Blair Keim, Cindy Keiser, Deb Kenney, Davis Knauer, Emma Laigaie, Peggy Light, George Megerle, Mary Beth Mogus, Andy Miller, Diane Miller, Bonnie Moll, Heather Munsey, Lloyd Pettit, Steve Schwoyer, Kevin Smith, Melanie Wessner, Cassie Wolfe, Joanne Zawada-Paskoff, Reuben Zettlemoyer, Susan Zettlemoyer, and Ben Ziehmer.

THOSE WHO ARE SHUT INS:

Forrest Graff, Pat Graff, Michael Kirkhoff, Nancy Kleinsmith, Sandy Long, Lester Lutz, Christie Ryan, Delano and Sandra Schucker.

THOSE SERVING IN OUR MILITARY:

Cooper Dunn, Amanda Kertsmar and Trista Fulmer-Smith.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

This morning, we begin our worship series “What We Believe.” The series will investigate the two questions – What do we believe? And What kind of congregation do our beliefs invite us to become? This week the series looked at the Apostles’ Creed. Join us next week as we look at the Nicene Creed.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY: The Keyston Conference of the UCC is offering a training opportunity – Lay Person Training for Care Visitation and Home Communion. It will be held virtually on September 29 from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. It is a training event designed to equip lay leaders to be involved in a very meaningful ministry of the church – visiting members in institutions and homes and extend to them the sacrament of Holy Communion. If you are interested go to the following website <https://share.google/iH2eP5gIzfzj30LGk> to register. If you have questions, speak to Pastor Bob.

OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONALS: The large print Our Daily Bread Devotionals are here. If you were looking for one, pick up your copy today!

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Join us following worship for our coffee fellowship. Enjoy the coffee and snacks and the fellowship that comes with it. If you would like to bring snacks and/or drinks for any given Sunday there is a sign-up sheet at the door to the choir room. You may also sign up to help set up before worship or clean up following coffee fellowship. Paper products and coffee are provided.

APPLE DESSERT SALE: Once again Friedens Church in Stony Run is holding their Apple Dessert Sale. This year it will be held on Saturday, September 26 with drive-thru pick up from 10:00 AM to Noon. Items offered are Apple Dumplings \$5.00; 8” Apple Tarts \$10.00; and 8x8” Apple Crisps \$12.00. If you would like to order items call 610-756-6889 today is the deadline to order anything. All items are homemade and delicious!

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY BY & FOR LAY PEOPLE: Bible Study sessions will be resuming this week on Wednesday mornings. If you would like to attend they are held from 10:00 to 11:30 AM. Come and join in – all are welcome!

PET FEST: October 3 is the date of our Pet Fest celebration. It will be held from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. There will be a Blessing of the Pets, plans for a Petting Zoo, representatives from Hawk Mountain, pet related vendors and more. Come, even if you don't have a pet, and enjoy the fun. There is a poster in the narthex for donations of food items. If you would like to help out by donating check it out and sign up for an item.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Mark your calendar for October 13 and Vince's Cheese Steaks. Vince's food truck will be set up at the Kempton Fire Company from 11:30 AM to 6:30 PM. This is to benefit our local mission fund.

PASTORAL CARE: When you are in need of pastoral care, please have a family member contact Pastor Peiffer at 570.778.1245 or call the church at 610.756.6589. If you are in the Lehigh Valley Hospital, please note that they will be phasing out the church code option.



ALBANY TOWNSHIP PANTRY

First Tuesday of each month - 2:00 to 4:00 PM
Kempton Community Center

Food pantry and social services are open to Albany Township residents and families in need. Resources are also available for those who are struggling with financial challenges (ex. Utility bills) or need help applying for food or medical assistance. If you have any questions about your options, contact Friend, Inc. at 610-683-9011.

FRIEND, INC. Food Pantry

During these times let us not forget those less fortunate than we are. If you are able, please consider donating any nonperishable items. For the month of September we will be collecting breakfast food items. In addition to food items, please consider donating personal items such as shampoo, soap, etc. and household items (laundry detergent, cleaning supplies, etc.). These last items are things that we often overlook. Friend, Inc. also collects pet food to help families in need provide for their pets. These items will be distributed by Friend, Inc.

Thank You All For Your Generosity!