

Thank you for worshipping with us this day.

If you are visiting with us today, please sign the guest book
located in the Narthex.

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### Calendar of Events

#### Happening Today!

Congregational Meeting after Worship - info page 12

**Mon. (7/28) - Thur. (7/31) 6-8 p.m. Vacation Bible School**  
**"True North" (Info page 13)**

**Sun.** VBS Closing Sunday

**8/3 8:00AM** Coffee Talk Meeting (Chapters 45-48)

**9:00AM Worship Service in the Fellowship Hall**

Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings

(Chapter 48 – Spirit of Power - Acts 4:1-31,

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, 2 Timothy 1:1-14, Ephesians 6:10-20

**Mon. (8/4) 6:30PM** Fundraising Committee Meeting

**Sun.** Holy Communion

**8/10 9:00AM Worship Service in the Sanctuary**

Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings

(Chapter 49 – Spirit of Holiness - Psalm 98, John 14:15-

18, 25-27, 15:26-27, 16:33, 1 Corinthians 3:9-15, 15:20-28)

Congregational Vote on Old Church Organ

**Sat. (8/16) 8:00AM–Noon** SV Food Pantry @Trinity Leesport

**Sun.** Bluegrass Sunday

**8/17 9:00AM Worship Service in the Grove**

Coffee Talk Adult Discussion Group Weekly Readings

(Chapter 50 – Spirit of Life - Psalm 90,

Luke 20:27-38, Philippians 1:20-30)

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Acknowledgements:

Permission by CCLI license #2391601

The Lutheran book of Worship—Augsburg Publishing, 1978

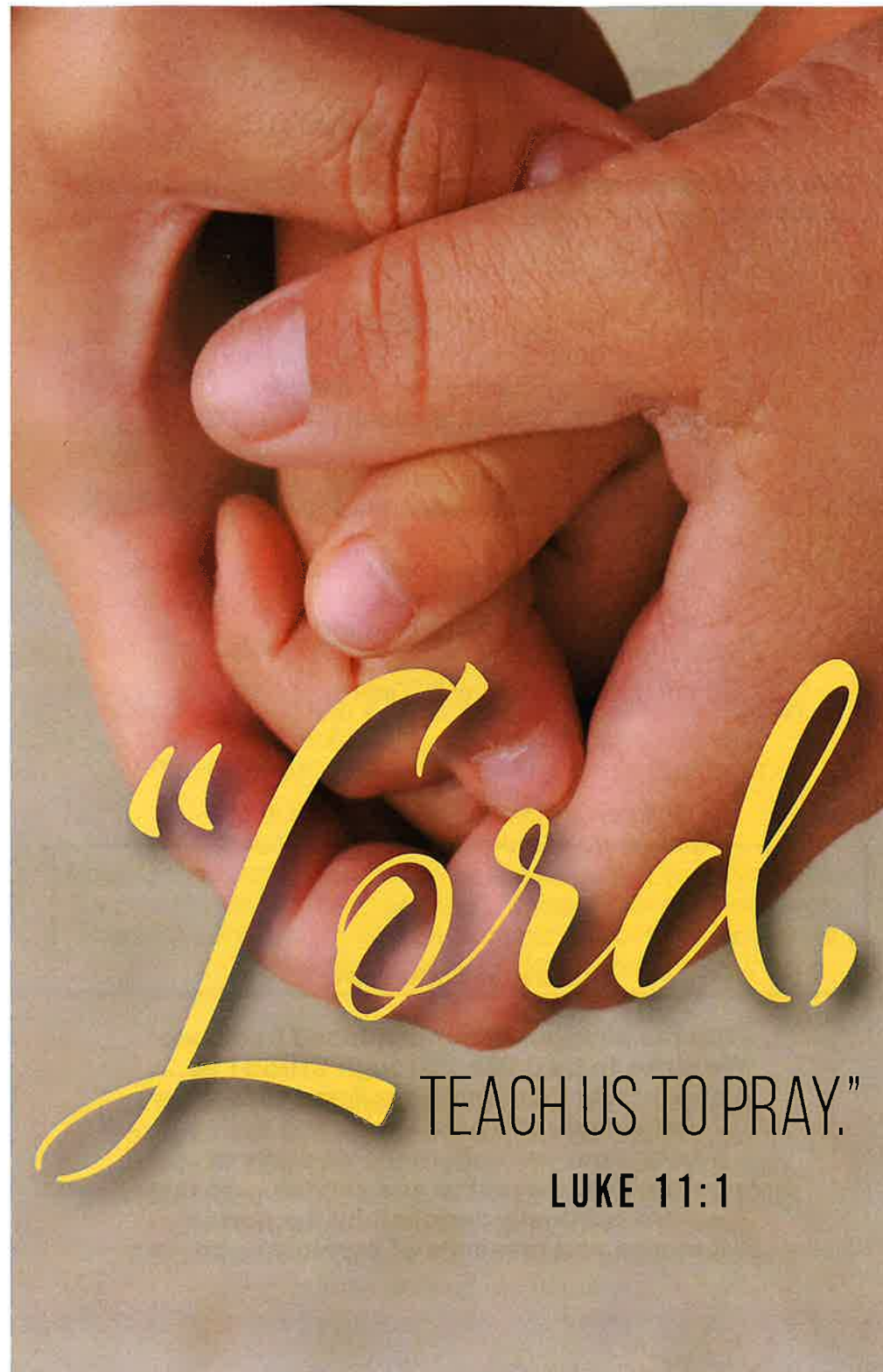
Book of Worship, United Church of Christ, Office for Church Life
and Leadership, 1986

The Worship Sourcebook of CRC Publications, 2004

www.ministrymatters.org

Scifres, Mary; Beu, B. J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2022 (p. 170).

Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.



We welcome you to Salem (Bellemans') Church.

We are a shared ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and the United Church of Christ.

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Rev. Kevin Fruchtl, Pastor  
Oliver Blatt, Director of Music Ministry  
James Fitterling, Administrator  
Joe and Bobbie Jo King, Sextons (484-671-2531)

Church email: [salembellemans@frontiernet.net](mailto:salembellemans@frontiernet.net)  
Web Site: [www.bellemanschurch.org](http://www.bellemanschurch.org)

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Church: 610-926-0461
Church Office: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Summer Sunday Worship Time is at 9:00 a.m.

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*Children's Bulletins are available in the  
pink crate in the entrance of the church.*

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Mission Statement:

**With the strength of our combined traditions
We strive to be unified through CHRIST as...
A community that reaches out and welcomes
individuals of various ages and faith
backgrounds... offering a diversity of
opportunities in worship and service... so that
we are spiritually enriched by the power,
promise and presence of the Holy Spirit.**

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

July 27, 2025

Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."

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Prelude

*Welcome and Announcements*

### *Prayers for Healing*

Mark Zipp, Lloyd and Ruth Barnett, Riley Rejniak,  
Charles Werley, Peggy Hartman, Maya Hein,  
Dorothy Dougherty, Kelly Schoellkopf, Richard Hartman,  
Matthew Machmer, Lucas Batchelor and Family,  
Ron Burkhart, Richard Bausher, Bonnie Flickinger,  
Charlie Miller

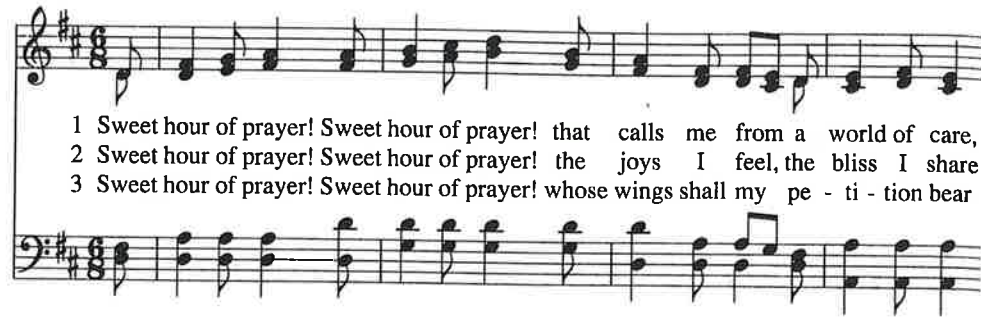
Note: Please know that not all hospitals notify the church when a parishioner has been admitted. Please make the office or Pastor Kevin aware if anyone from our Bellemans' family has been hospitalized. Thank you!

### *Military*

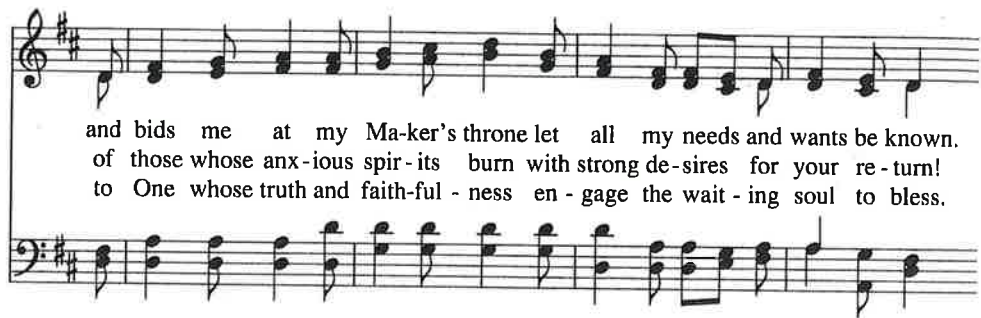
Alfred Cross, Bradley Hoppes, John R. Wesner,  
Phillip Spatz, Cydney Lawrence, CWO2 Josh Linderman,  
Andrew Cichowicz, J. Michael Fluck, David Peterman,  
MSgt Kevin Mohn, Nathan P. Stump, Andrew D. Potts,  
Anthony Butt, Alex Hoffman, Dakotah Dailey,  
SSgt. Matthew Wurster, Dustin Spatz and all men and  
women serving our country.

Please stand if you are able.

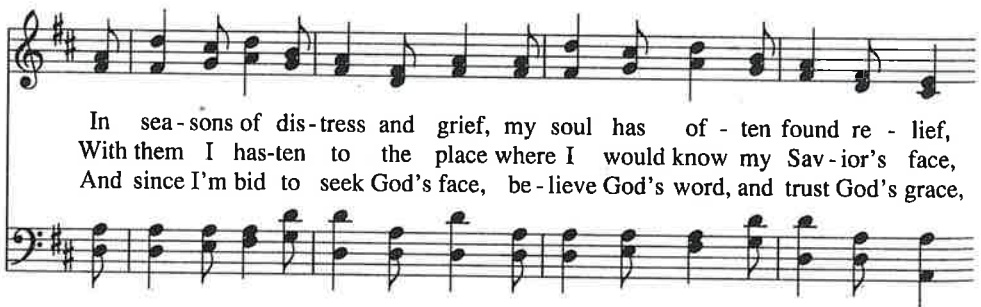
*\*Gathering Hymn*



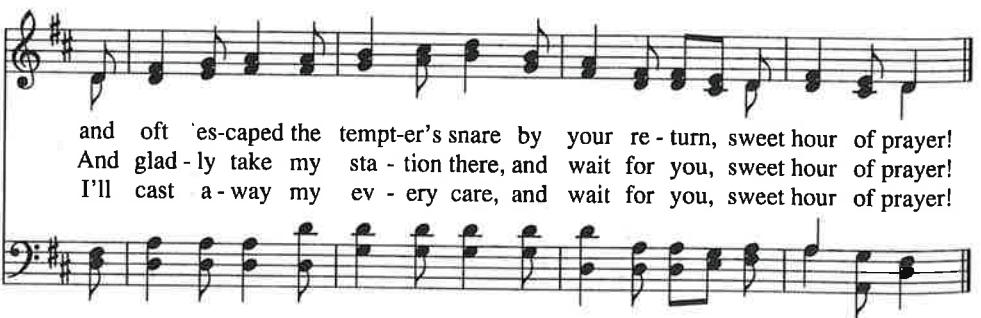
1 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! that calls me from a world of care,  
2 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! the joys I feel, the bliss I share  
3 Sweet hour of prayer! Sweet hour of prayer! whose wings shall my pe - ti - tion bear



and bids me at my Ma-ker's throne let all my needs and wants be known.  
of those whose anx-ious spir-its burn with strong de-sires for your re-turn!  
to One whose truth and faith-ful - ness en - gage the wait - ing soul to bless.



In sea - sons of dis-tress and grief, my soul has of - ten found re - lief,  
With them I has-ten to the place where I would know my Sav-ior's face,  
And since I'm bid to seek God's face, be - lieve God's word, and trust God's grace,



and oft 'es-caped the tempt-er's snare by your re - turn, sweet hour of prayer!  
And glad - ly take my sta - tion there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!  
I'll cast a - way my ev - ery care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer!

Pastor: We worship the God who inhabits our world and dwells in us.

**People: We don't need to look up to the heavens to find God.**

Pastor: We need only look around:

**People: Within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.**

Pastor: We need not listen for distant thunder to find God.

**People: We need only listen for the music of life: The words of children, the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.**

**ALL: We worship the God who inhabits our world and dwells in us.**

*Reprinted with permission from Touch Holiness by Ruth C. Duck.*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession:

**Sometimes, God, we do not expect too much from you; we expect too little. Our lives are not filled with "great expectations". Sometimes your promises seem so out-landish, so unlikely as to be laughable. We are afraid that your promises, like our promises, might be broken and we are hesitant to be so vulnerable. Or, we are afraid that your promises might be true but demand too much of us. Holy One, help us to cling to your promises and to laugh with joy when impossibilities come true through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*\*Acknowledgment of God's Forgiveness*

Praise the Lord!

**The Lord's name be praised.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

**And also with you.**

*Share a sign of God's peace with those around you!  
(The sharing of hands/hugs are optional.)*

*\*Praise Hymn (Sung)*

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given  
Jesus Christ, His Son.**

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,  
Give thanks to the Holy One,  
Give thanks because He's given  
Jesus Christ, His Son.**

**And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"  
Let the poor say "I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us."  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"  
Let the poor say "I am rich  
Because of what the Lord has done for us."  
Give thanks, give thanks.**

*\*PRAYER OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray... Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve.

**Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Proclaiming The Word*

*SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 18:20-32*

<sup>20</sup> Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin!" <sup>21</sup> I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." <sup>22</sup> So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. <sup>23</sup> Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?" <sup>24</sup> Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup> Far be it from you to do such a thing,

to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup> And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup> Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes." <sup>28</sup> Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." <sup>29</sup> Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup> Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." <sup>31</sup> He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." <sup>32</sup> Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

*RESPONSIVE READING: PSALM 138*

- <sup>1</sup> I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;
- <sup>2</sup> **I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to  
your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;  
for you have exalted your name and your word above  
everything.**
- <sup>3</sup> On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my  
strength of soul.
- <sup>4</sup> **All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of your mouth.**
- <sup>5</sup> They shall sing of the ways of the LORD, for great is the glory of  
the LORD.
- <sup>6</sup> **For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly;  
but the haughty he perceives from far away.**
- <sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies;  
you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.
- <sup>8</sup> **The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*\*Alleluia (Sung)*

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Alleluia, alleluia!**

*\*The Holy Gospel*

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 11th Chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: *Luke 11:1-13*

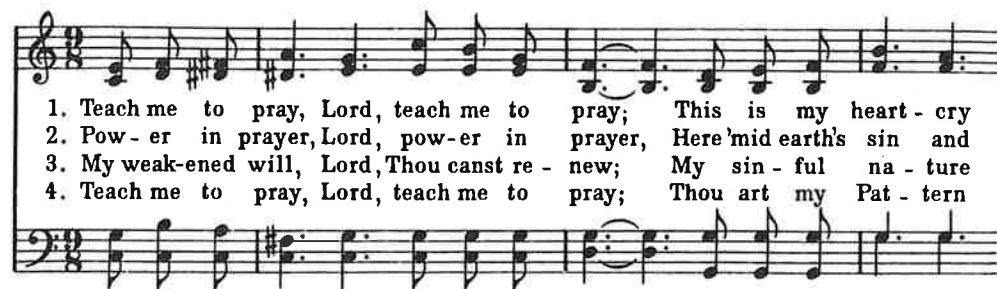
He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." <sup>2</sup> He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. <sup>3</sup> Give us each day our daily bread. <sup>4</sup> And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." <sup>5</sup> And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup> for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' <sup>7</sup> And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' <sup>8</sup> I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. <sup>9</sup> "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup> For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup> Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup> Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup> If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

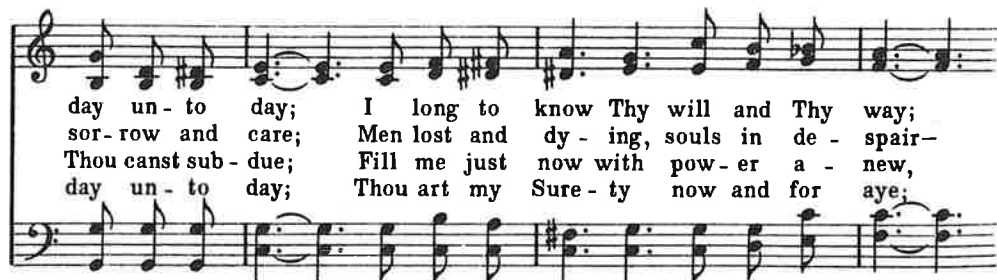
*Children's Message*

*Jingle Offering:* Pretzel City Parish - Adventure Day Camp  
Reading, PA

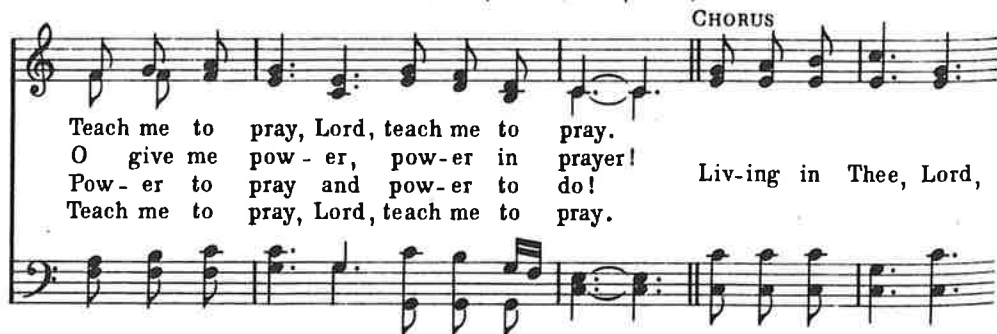
## Hymn



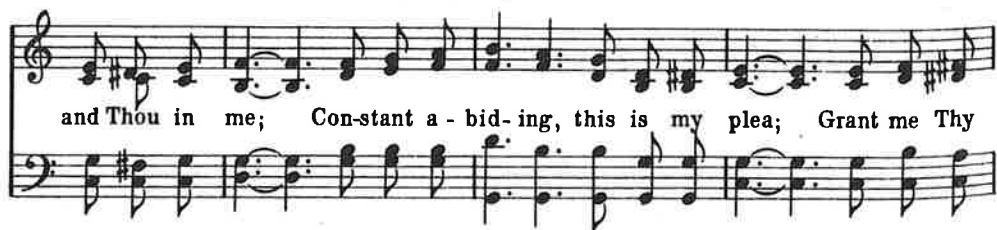
1. Teach me to pray, Lord, teach me to pray; This is my heart - cry  
2. Pow - er in prayer, Lord, pow - er in prayer, Here 'mid earth's sin and  
3. My weak - ened will, Lord, Thou canst re - new; My sin - ful na - ture  
4. Teach me to pray, Lord, teach me to pray; Thou art my Pat - tern



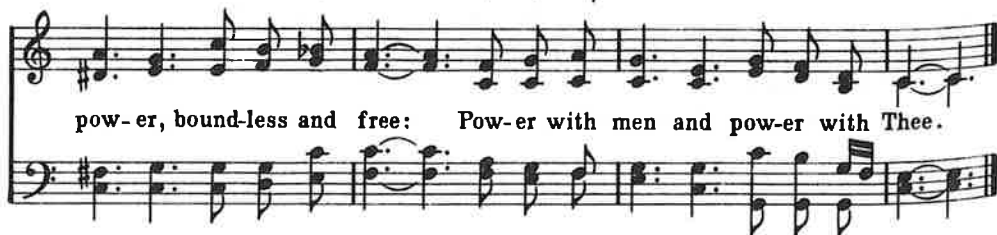
day un - to day; I long to know Thy will and Thy way;  
sor - row and care; Men lost and dy - ing, souls in de - spair -  
Thou canst sub - due; Fill me just now with pow - er a - new,  
day un - to day; Thou art my Sure - ty now and for aye;



CHORUS  
Teach me to pray, Lord, teach me to pray.  
O give me pow - er, pow - er in prayer!  
Pow - er to pray and pow - er to do! Liv - ing in Thee, Lord,  
Teach me to pray, Lord, teach me to pray.



and Thou in me; Con - stant a - bid - ing, this is my plea; Grant me Thy



pow - er, bound - less and free: Pow - er with men and pow - er with Thee.

## Sermon

*\*A New Creed—United Church of Canada*

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new,**

**who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,**

**to live with respect in Creation,**

**to love and serve others,**

**to seek justice and resist evil,**

**to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,**

**our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone. Thanks be to God.**

## Offering

### Offertory Selection

*\*Offering Response (Sung)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Him, all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;**

**Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

## Pastoral Prayer

*\*The Lord's Prayer*

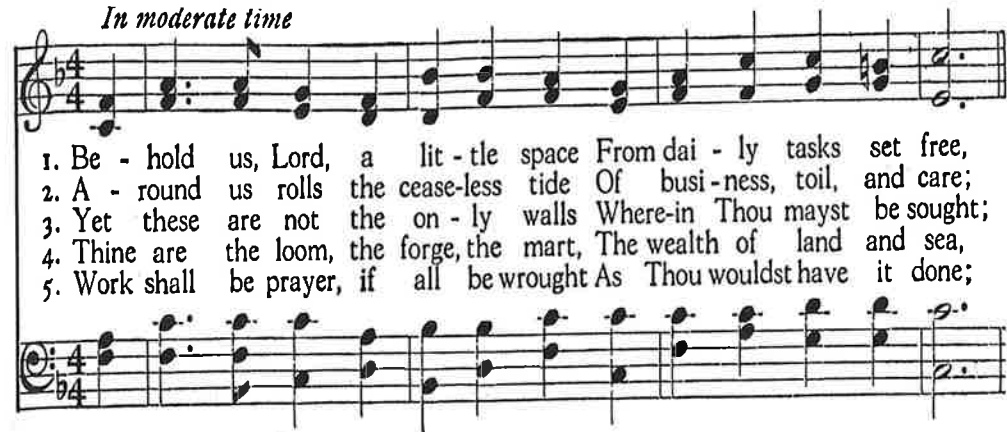
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

*\*The Benediction*

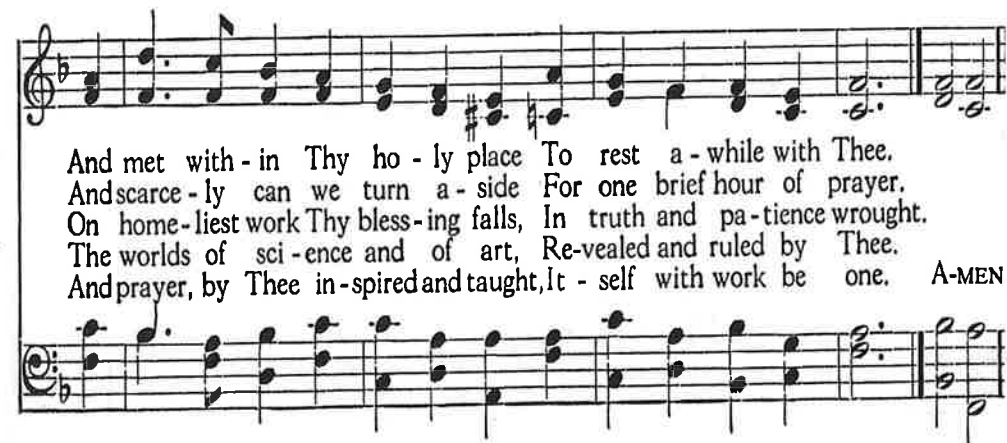
*\*3-Fold Amen (Sung)*

## \*Sending Hymn

*In moderate time*



1. Be - hold us, Lord, a lit - tle space From dai - ly tasks set free,  
2. A - round us rolls the cease-less tide Of busi-ness, toil, and care;  
3. Yet these are not the on - ly walls Where-in Thou mayst be sought;  
4. Thine are the loom, the forge, the mart, The wealth of land and sea,  
5. Work shall be prayer, if all be wrought As Thou wouldst have it done;



And met with - in Thy ho - ly place To rest a - while with Thee.  
And scarce - ly can we turn a - side For one brief hour of prayer.  
On home-liest work Thy bless-ing falls, In truth and pa-tience wrought.  
The worlds of sci-ence and of art, Re-vealed and ruled by Thee.  
And prayer, by Thee in-spired and taught, It - self with work be one. A-MEN

**Go in peace. Love and serve the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.**

## Postlude

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Assisting in Worship

Lector: 9:00AM Rick Rothenberger
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Please keep in mind....

**Belleman's ongoing program** in support of the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry.....

Non-perishable donations may be dropped off in the Narthex and will be delivered to the Schuylkill Valley Food Pantry on a monthly basis.



**Canned Fruit, Vegetables and Spaghetti Sauce (no glass jars) are currently needed for the Pantry.**

**Thank You** for your participation!  
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**Upcoming Congregational Meeting
TODAY after Worship**

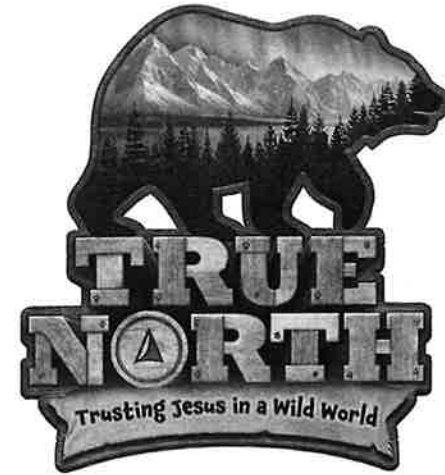
Motion to be presented for discussion:

To approve the quote from Brunner & Associates - Organ Builders in the amount of \$41,912 for restorative work to the Bohler organ located in the Old Church.

**Vote to be taken on Sunday,
August 10**



Belleman's Vacation Bible School



This Summer's Vacation Bible School event will be conducted the evenings of **July 28th – 31st** from **6:00PM to 8:00PM.**

Again this year, VBS will be located at the Church Grove/ Fellowship Hall!

We hope you will come and be a part of Vacation Bible School 2025!

If you know you will be attending, scan the QR code to signup:



Please join us Trusting Jesus in a Wild World!

This years VBS service project will be to collect pet food and supplies to be distributed to local animal rescue organizations!

COMBINED CONCERT

Presented by:
Blue Mountain Heritage CHORUS
with our guests:
"Men In Harmony"

Sunday, August, 17, 2025
4:00 P.M.

Salem Bellemans Church
3540 Bellemans Church Rd.
Mohrsville, PA 19541



**MEN
HARMONY**

Music that makes
the HEART SING
by Sharing our God given
ability through our music

*A FREE WILL offering will be taken
Fellowship, and Light Refreshments to Follow

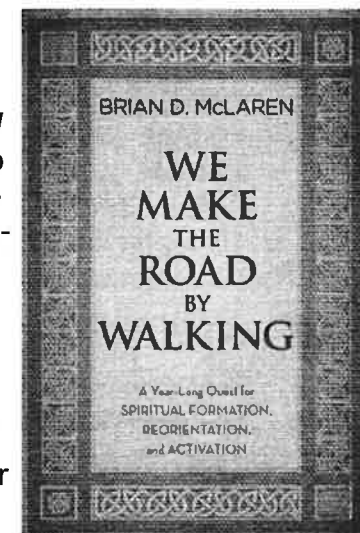
Looking for love in all the wrong places? Looking for a healthy Spirit of Holiness, Life & Hope?

Join the Coffee Talk Adult Discussion group on the first Sunday of the month over the Summer.

We will continue on **A Year-Long Quest for SPIRITUAL FORMATION, REORIENTATION, and ACTIVATION** but you can jump in at anytime!

The group will meet on August 3rd, & September 7th at 8:00 a.m.

There are still a few copies of Brian McLaren's book, **We Make the Road by Walking** for anyone who wants to participate in this guided study by engaging in weekly Bible readings, devotions & prayer or if you just want to follow along in our walk of faith. The Coffee Talk discussion on Sunday mornings is encouraged but not required. **Connect on Facebook by following "Bellemans Walkers"** See Eileen Fruchtl (in person or text 610-858-2053) for a book.



FREE COMMUNITY MEAL
Tuesday, August 19, 2025
5:30-6:30p.m. at
The Fellowship Hall

