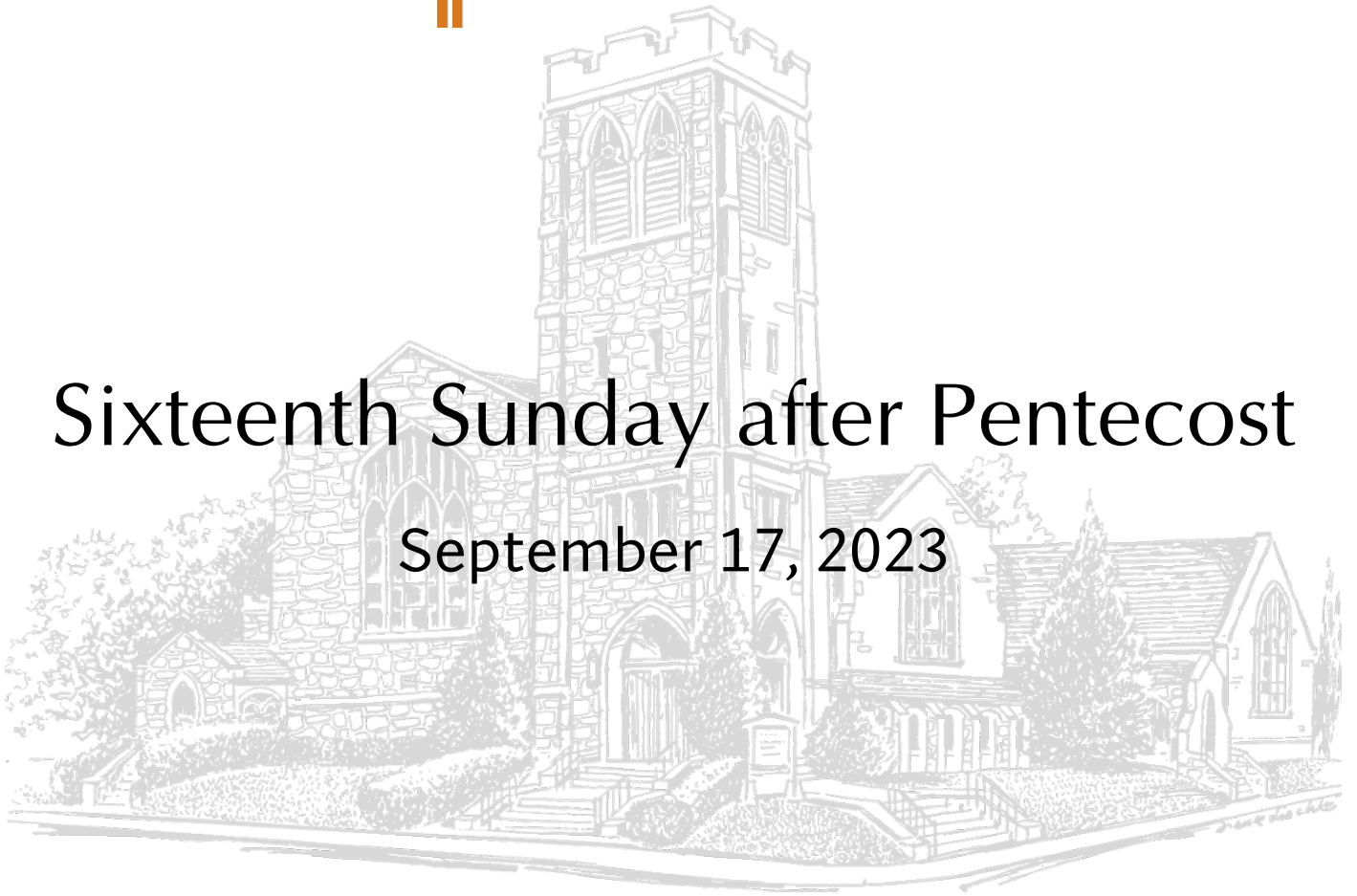




WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023



Westminster Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome, in Christ's name, to all who worship here or join us in fellowship. Our church family seeks to embody God's boundless love by embracing, liberating and empowering people – whoever they are and wherever they may be on their faith journeys – to realize the transforming power of Christ in our congregation, community, and the world beyond.



A Covenant Network Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

An Earth Care Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Matthew 25 Church of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

TODAY AT WESTMINSTER

8:45 – 12:15 p.m. **Nursery Care** for infants and toddlers in Preschool Suite D

9:00 – 9:55 a.m. **Worship** in the Sanctuary

Time with Our Children (approximately 9:15 a.m.)

The young and young-at-heart are invited to join the worship leader at the front of the sanctuary. Following the TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN, young ones through grade 5 may be escorted for Children's Programming or they are welcome to remain in worship.

Children's Programming (9:20 – 10:00 a.m.)

- Preschool Sunday School: Ages 3 and 4 in the Preschool Suite Room C
- Joyful Noise Choir: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in the Youth Music Room

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. **Holy Toast Café** in Walton Community Hall

Enjoy free coffee, tea, and fellowship. Breakfast items are available for one dollar.

10:10 – 11:00 a.m. **Children and Youth Programming**

- Nursery Care: Age 4 and under in Preschool Suite D
- Kids Zone Sunday School: Kindergarten–Grade 5 in Classroom 1
- Middle School Zone: Grades 6–8 in Classroom 3
- High School: Grades 9–12
 - Confirmation Class in Classroom 7 (open to all youth)
 - Small Groups in the Ruth Christie Room (for already confirmed youth)

Adult Education classes (see page 6)

11:15 – 12:00 p.m. **Living Mosaics worship** on the side lawn (Sacred Grounds)

Rain location: Rodney Chapel

Flying Solo brunch at Bar Reverie (Greenville Shopping Center, 4019 Kennett Pike, Greenville, DE 19807)

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. **180° Youth Group kick-off** in Walton Community Hall

For descriptions of our programs for children and youth, visit wpc.org/children-youth.

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WITH OUR
COMMUNITY OF
FAITH!



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wpc.org



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Follow Us:
[@wpcdelaware](https://www.instagram.com/wpcdelaware)

The Music: The Westminster Choir is looking for a few more women and men. Weekly rehearsals are on Wednesdays from 7–9 p.m. and on Sundays at 8 a.m. For more information or to participate, contact TonyThurman@wpc.org.

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Fred Hurlock, Jr. by Suzie Hurlock. Consider giving the flowers for Sunday worship to remember or honor loved ones or to celebrate an event. Please contact Linda Watson at (302) 571-6719 or lwatson@ycst.com. Dates available are October 1, 8, and 29.

Westminster's Prayer Team prays for the needs of our community. Submit your prayer request to wpcprayerlist@gmail.com or online at wpc.org/care-support.

You can make a contribution to Westminster Presbyterian Church by visiting our website at wpc.org and clicking the "Donate" button or scan this QR code on your smart phone. → We accept donations by bank withdrawal, credit card, and debit card.



ORDER OF WORSHIP

~ Passages in **bold** print may be spoken by all. At the asterisk (*), please stand in body or rise in spirit. ~

TOWER CHIME

Tim Ohmart

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

The Church's One Foundation

Samuel Wesley/arr. Lloyd Larson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there among them."

Christ is here.

Calling us to the water,
beckoning us to the feast,

Christ is here.

Speaking to our souls,
listening to our prayers,

Christ is here.

Binding us as one body,
sending us out in service,

Christ is here.

Jesus says, "Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there among them."

Christ is here. Let us worship the Lord.

*HYMN No. 394

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Forgiving God,
You teach us to seek reconciliation
with those who have wronged us;
for, above all else,
we are to love one another.
But we let resentment smolder
until anger flares,
destroying any chance of peace.
We blame others and refuse to repent.
Grant us grace, we pray.
Make space in our wounded hearts
for the possibility of forgiveness,
and teach us to turn toward others in love
as you have turned toward us. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN (See "Today at Westminster" on page 2 for more information.)

Gregory Knox Jones

BIBLE PRESENTATION TO THIRD GRADERS

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 18:15-20

New Testament, page 17

SERMON

Sudie Niesen Thompson

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Cantate Domino (Psalm 96)

Hans Leo Hassler

Cantate Domino canticum novum,
Cantate Domino omnis terra.
Cantate Domino, et benedicite nomini ejus.
Annuntiate de die in diem salutare ejus.
Annuntiate inter gentes gloriam ejus,
in omnibus populis mirabilia ejus.

Sing to the Lord a new song.
Sing to the Lord all the earth.
Sing to the Lord and bless his name.
Announce his salvation from day to day.
Announce his glory among all the nations,
His wonders among the people.

*HYMN No. 306

Blest Be the Ties that Bind

DENNIS

Vs. 1, 3, 5: All

Vs. 2: Men

Vs. 4: Women

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

*HYMN No. 761

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

BEECHER

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fanfare Postlude

Douglas E. Wagner

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New to Westminster? Welcome! We're so glad you're here. If you are joining us for the first time, please introduce yourself via our contact form on the [I'm New](#) page of our website or scan this QR code to get there from your mobile device. We look forward to getting to know you.



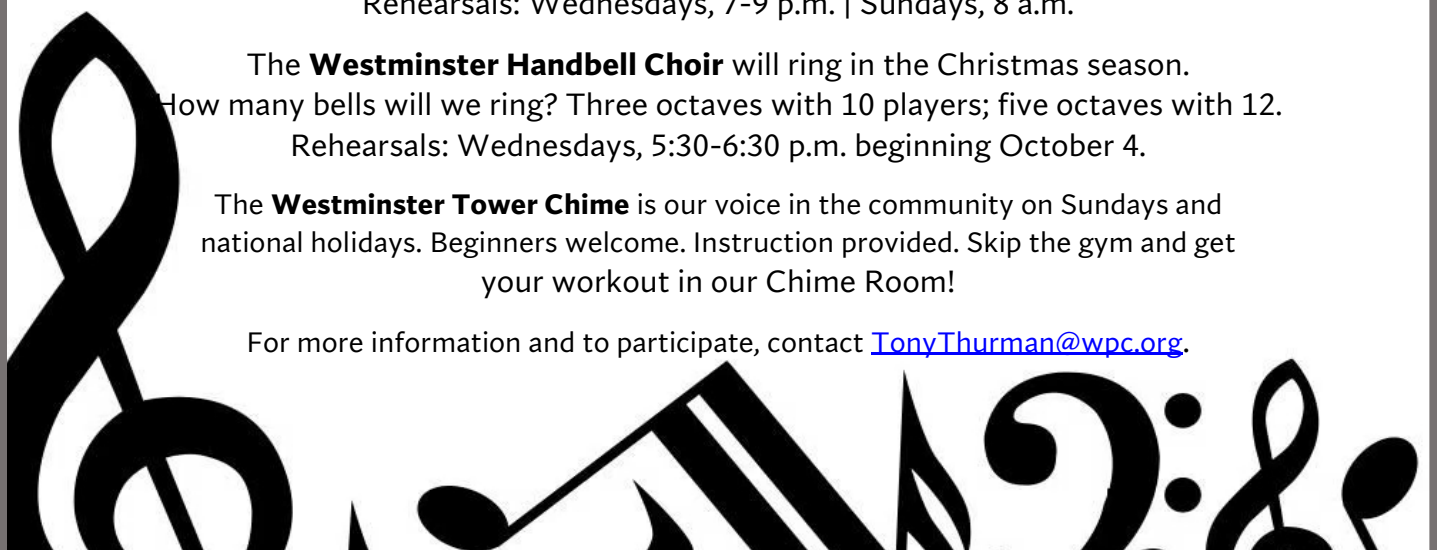
• FALL BACK INTO MUSIC •

The **Westminster Choir** is looking for a few more women and men.
No audition required. Must be able to carry a tune. Handel provided.
Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m. | Sundays, 8 a.m.

The **Westminster Handbell Choir** will ring in the Christmas season.
How many bells will we ring? Three octaves with 10 players; five octaves with 12.
Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 5:30-6:30 p.m. beginning October 4.

The **Westminster Tower Chime** is our voice in the community on Sundays and national holidays. Beginners welcome. Instruction provided. Skip the gym and get your workout in our Chime Room!

For more information and to participate, contact TonyThurman@wpc.org.



ADULT EDUCATION

TODAY, SEPTEMBER 17



Conflicts! Conflicts! And More Conflicts!

Presenter: The Rev. William Getman

10:10 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

In today's world so full of various kinds of conflict, we often forget that we have seen all these things in the Bible. This class will review selected passages from Genesis to Revelation, which highlight the sorts of conflicts God's people experience and what they may tell us about ourselves. The Rev. Bill Getman is a recently retired Presbyterian pastor who served congregations for 46 years.

NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24



Work Produced by Faith, Labor Prompted by Love, Endurance Inspired by Hope

Presenter: The Rev. Dr. Elmarie Parker, PC(USA) Regional Liaison to Lebanon, Syria, and Iraq

10:10 a.m. | Classroom 6 and Zoom

Zoom link: bit.ly/wpc-adult-ed-zoom

Come and hear updates about conditions on the ground in both Lebanon and Syria and stories of our partners' transformative work in the midst of these conditions.

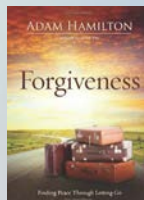
Forgiveness: Finding Peace through Letting Go

Video series by Adam Hamilton

Facilitator: WPC member Margo Reign

10:10 a.m. | Classroom 5

Forgiveness is hard. Methodist pastor Adam Hamilton provides the participants a path on how to receive the freedom that comes with forgiving – even if the person needing forgiveness is ourselves.



ONGOING/WEEKLY

Online Bible Studies

Midweek Manna Bible Study

Wednesdays | 12 p.m. | Zoom

Facilitator: The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson

Contact: sniesenthompson@wpc.org

Thursday Evening Bible Study

Thursdays | 6–7 p.m. | Zoom

*Facilitators: Randy Williamson
and Mary Anne Peters*

Contact: randywilliamson1@comcast.net

Peace and Justice Thursday Evening Education Event

**A Conversation About Literature, Creativity,
and Education Under Israeli Occupation**

September 21 | 7 p.m. | Zoom

bit.ly/peace-justice-zoom

*With Maya Abu Al-Hayyat, poet, novelist,
and Director of Palestine Writing Workshop*
Hosted by our Peace & Justice Work Group.

zoom.us/join | Meeting ID: 860 2752 1655

For full descriptions of our programs and more adult education and small group opportunities, visit WPC.ORG/ADULTS or check our events calendar at WPC.ORG/EVENTS. Select adult education programs are available as a livestream/recording on our [YouTube channel](#).

MORE EVENTS

180° Youth Ministry Meet and Greet Kick-Off

**TONIGHT | 5–7 p.m.
Walton Community Hall**



All students in grades 6 to 12, parents, and siblings are invited to attend this event to meet our new 180 leadership team and learn about the youth opportunities that are available throughout the school year and summer of 2024. Dinner will be provided. This will be a fun-filled night with games, laughter, and fellowship. R.S.V.P. to Kathleen Kennan at kathleenkennan@wpc.org. We look forward to seeing you!

Ice Cream & Ice Breakers

**Fellowship, Games, Music, and More!
For Parents and Children Kindergarten to Grade 7**

Connect with our new:
Director of Music for Children and Youth: EMILY HAAS
Children and Youth Choral Assistant: COLE WALKER

Saturday, September 30, 4-5 p.m.

Woodside Farm Creamery
378 North Star Road
Newark, DE 19711

R.S.V.P. so we know you are coming!
TonyThurman@wpc.org

PASTORAL STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Gregory Knox Jones, Head of Staff
The Rev. Sudie Niesen Thompson, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Jill Getty, Pastoral Care Assistant

MUSIC STAFF

Dr. F. Anthony Thurman, Director of Music/Organist
Rebecca Hughes; Margaret Mezzacappa; Teddy Austin; Jerry Polman, Section Leaders
Emily Haas, Director of Music for Children and Youth
Cole Walker, Children and Youth Choral Assistant

VIDEOGRAPHERS

Tanner Freeman (lead videographer), Rich Albert, Drew Holmes, Chip Pfleegor,
Roger Reinicker, Aaron Wemhoff and Sophia Wolff

COMMUNION STEWARDS

Dan Weintraub and Jenn Barrington

CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES STAFF

Kathleen Kennan, Director of Christian Education and Youth Ministry
Sydney Walker, Associate Director of Youth Ministry
Stephanie Burris-White, Director of Preschool Ministries and Beatrice Taylor, Nursery

SUPPORT STAFF

Susan Alexander, Reception Area Supervisor
Mary Clark, Administrative Assistant
Paul Crothamel, Director of Facilities and Security
Colleen Falasco, Director of Financial Operations
Doug Gerds, Manager of Accounting and Reporting
Nicole Hughes, Director of Marketing and Communications
Cathy Lang, Administrative Assistant
Robert King; Daniel Steele; Joan Truitt; John Young, Sextons

SESSION

Taryn Albert, Adam Blackford, Michelle Butler, Clark Collins, Bob Cox, Sara Dubberly, Rob Gooderham,
Laura Holmes, Dick Jolly, Carla Krupanski, KC Morrison, Dave McBride,
Susan McPheeters, Jan Patrick, Chip Pfleegor, Todd Piercy, Carrie Saathoff, Laura Scanlan,
Kent Smith, Janet Steinwedel, Karissa Thacker, Gill Timon, Dan Weintraub

BOARD OF DEACONS

Liz Bacon, Lisa Bianchi, Jennifer Blackford, Heather Brooks, Russ Butler, Kyle Carrick,
Beatty Chadwick, Diane Chandler, Jack Coleman, Joe Daley, Tammy Daley, Kendra Gallagher,
Sara Gavenonis, Jamie Hickey, Drew Holmes, Barbara Jobe, Sheran Kegerise, Elaine Lunardi, Blair McConnel,
Sarah Mentzer, Robert Moore, Gathoni Murugi-Jenkins, Dan McAllister, Debbie McCullough, Lynne Perkins,
Emily Pfaff, Paula Piercy, Rachel Psaros, Patti Ridout, Robin Rosser, Evie Saathoff, Carol Tatnall,
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TRUSTEES

Rich Albert, Tom Brooks, Nancy Fleming, John Gavenonis, Lou Hering,
Bobbe Hoy, Brock Jobe, Sue Linderman, Robert Love, Tom Preston, Kris Qualls, Stan Stevenson

PARTNERS IN WORLDWIDE MINISTRY

DR Congo – PC(USA) Mission Co-workers: Jeff and Christi Boyd, Larry and Inge Sthreshley;
Kananga Presbytery and Members of Kamulumba-Ditalala Parish
Iran, Iraq, Syria, and Lebanon – PC(USA) Mission Co-worker the Rev. Dr. Elmarie Parker
Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches, Israel/Palestine – Peace Drums Steel Band
Guatemala - CEDEPCA, AJPU, the Association of Mam Christian Women for Development,
PC(USA) Mission Co-workers Betsey and Eric Moe

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation 394



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
 4 Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; come, with all your lov - ing - kind - ness;
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
 to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 hear your peo - ple as we pray, and your full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and

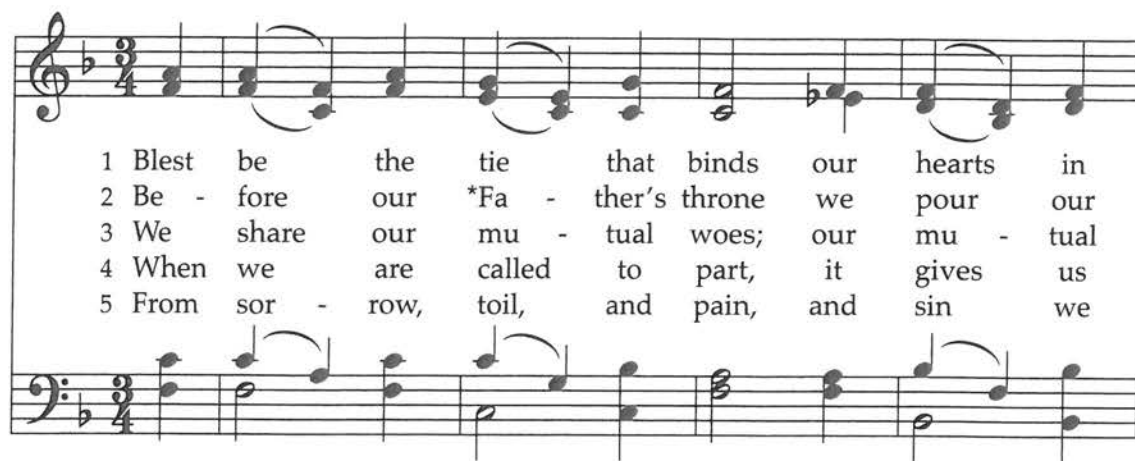


help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

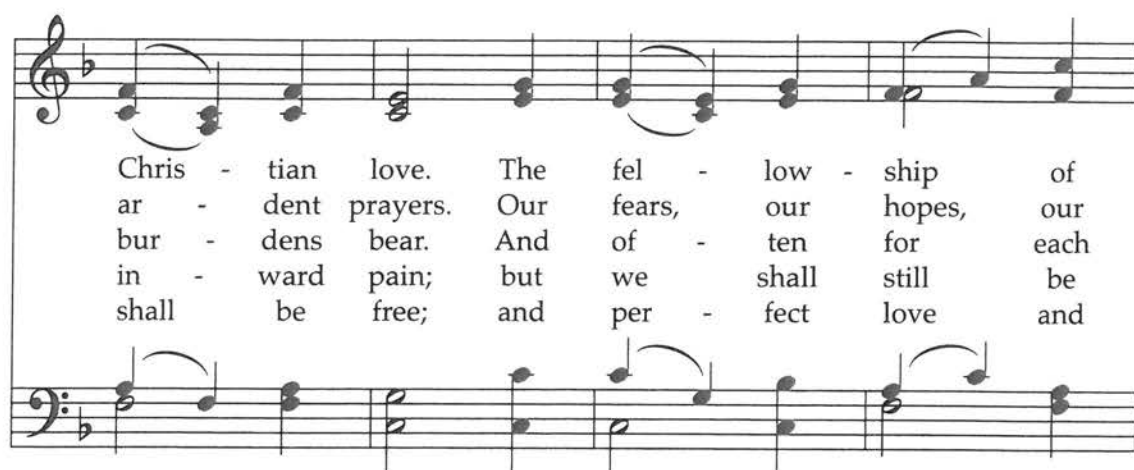
Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Although this ancient text has often been used at church dedications, the first stanza clearly refers to the people of God and the second to the place where they meet. The stately and soaring tune is aptly named for the edifice where the composer served as organist and is buried.

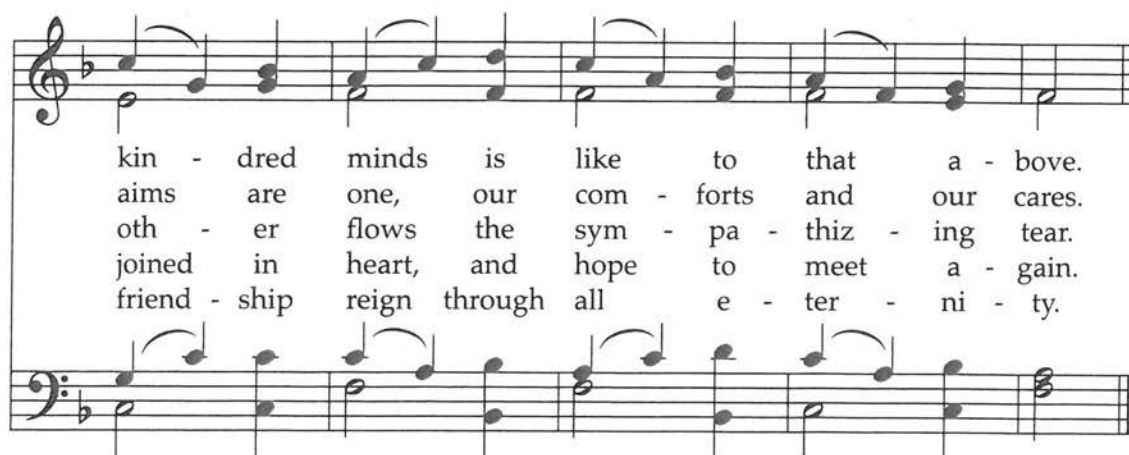
Blest Be the Tie That Binds 306



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in
 2 Be - fore our *Fa - ther's throne we pour our
 3 We share our mu - tual woes; our mu - tual
 4 When we are called to part, it gives us
 5 From sor - row, toil, and pain, and sin we



Chris - tian love. The fel - low - ship of
 ar - dent prayers. Our fears, our hopes, our
 bur - dens bear. And of - ten for each
 in - ward pain; but we shall still be
 shall be free; and per - fect love and



kin - dred minds is like to that a - bove.
 aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
 oth - er flows the sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
 joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.
 friend - ship reign through all e - ter - ni - ty.

*Or "Maker's"

Written to express a pastor's unwillingness to leave a beloved congregation, this hymn is frequently used as an expression of Christian fellowship, especially at the conclusion of the Lord's Supper. The tune is attributed to an influential Swiss musician and publisher.

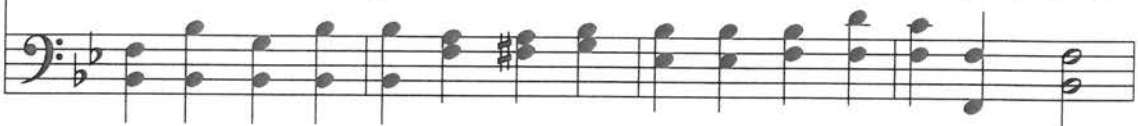
Called as Partners in Christ's Service 761



1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4 So God grant us for to - mor-row ways to or - der hu - man life



we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



This hymn is a celebration of mutuality and diversity as well as a challenge to the Christian community to live out a ministry of reconciliation and inclusion. This 20th-century text is set to a 19th-century tune named for the noted pastor and preacher Henry Ward Beecher.