



The Big Red Church

Eleventh Sunday of Pentecost

August 9, 2026

Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi, Pastor
United Church of Christ

(*Congregation may stand | Responses: Liturgist/**Congregation/All**)

Prelude

*"Allegro risoluto, from Sonatina
for violin and piano, op. 100" - A. Dvorak*

John Morrice, violin &
David Fox, piano

Welcome

Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi

*Call to Worship

Char Lund, liturgist

One: God moves among us.

All: We welcome your presence, God, in the quiet whisper and the crashing wave.

One: Reach out your hand and I shall always be with you.

All: We reach for you, Jesus, and trust that you are present when we fear or ache.

One: Your presence, Oh Lord, calms the seas as it calms our hearts.

All: May we rest assured that you are ever present with us, assuaging our worries as you love our anxieties into softness.

*Hymn

"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

***See Hymns**

Prayer of Transformation

Char Lund

Redeemer, forgive us. We confess the words and actions that grieve you.

We speak words that divide rather than heal. Help us move past bitterness, anger, and resentment toward reconciliation, gratitude, and hope. Renew us for life in community with our neighbors, friends, and foes. Forgive and release us from guilt and shame, that we may be free to change and grow, and become your agents of transformation in the world.

Words of Grace

Passing of the Peace

Greeting: The Peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

***Response of Praise (Sung)**

Gloria Patri

***Glory to the Creator, the Christ, the Holy Spirit Three in One;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.***

Special Music

*"Scherzo, from Sonatina
for violin and piano, op. 100" - A. Dvorak*

John Morrice, violin &
David Fox, piano

Time for Discovery *[children are invited to the chancel steps]*

Vanessa Valdez-Johnson

***Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still;
let this be our song — no one stands alone,
standing side by side. Draw the circle wide.***

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The Lord's Prayer

***Our Creator, 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, the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.***

***Hymn**

"My Life Flows on in Endless Song"

***See Hymns**

Scripture

Matthew 14:22-33

Char Lund

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Liturgist: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God within us, and for the Word of God amongst us.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi

Sung Call to Prayer

Lord, listen to your children praying:

Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, listen to your children praying:

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

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Prayers of the Church

Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi

Invitation to Generosity

Char Lund



Here at the Big Red church, everyone counts, and every gift counts! There are two donation boxes and giving envelopes for your gifts in the Narthex (the area where an usher handed you an Order of Worship). You can also give through the Aplos app by scanning the QR code. BigRedChurch.org/giving/ has more instructions, links, and information about giving to the church. Thank you for supporting and joining in the ministry of this church.

Offertory

*"Larghetto, from Sonatina
for violin and piano, op. 100" - A. Dvorak*

John Morrice, violin &
David Fox, piano

***Doxology (Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Dedication**

Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi

***Closing Hymn**

"Give to the Winds Thy Fears "

***See Hymns**

***Benediction**

Rev. Simon Biasell-Moshrefi

***Blessing Song "Go Now In Peace"**

Go now in peace, never be afraid;
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;
know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world will see
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

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Postlude

*"Allegro, from Sonatina
for violin and piano, op. 100" - A. Dvorak*

John Morrice, violin &
David Fox, piano

(It is our tradition to be seated for the Postlude.)



Homecoming Kickoff Aug. 16 | 10:00 AM

Kick off the return of our choir and school year with us on **Sunday, August 16 at 10:00 AM!**



We invite all students, teachers, and school staff to bring their backpacks or bags to worship for a special **Blessing of the Backpacks**. Afterward, youths can head outside for a fun-filled afternoon on the lawn with a waterslide. Don't forget to pack a towel and a change of clothes!

COMING UP

Renewal of Baptism Service • August 23

On **Sunday, August 23**, during worship, we will celebrate a Renewal of Baptism. Everyone is invited to come forward, experience the waters of the baptismal font, remember God's enduring love, and renew the promises of our baptism together. Whether you were baptized seventy years ago or seven months ago, we hope you'll join us as we remember the grace that has always held us—and always will.

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

51

Louis F. Benson, 1899; alt.

Luke 2:8-20, 25-32; Matt. 14:22-33; Mark 4:39; 6:47-52;

John 6:16-21; Acts 5:30-31; 10:39-43

1 O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, of shep-herds watch-ing there,
 2 O sing a song of Naz-a-reth, of days of joy and sun,
 3 O sing a song of Gal-i-lee, of lake and woods and hill,
 4 O sing a song of Cal-va-ry, its glo-ry and dis-may,

and of the news that came to them from an-gels in the air:
 O sing of fra-grant flo-wers' breath, and of the sin-less One:
 of One who walked up-on the sea and bade its waves be still:
 of One who hung up-on the tree, and took our sins a-way:

The light that shone on Beth-le-hem fills all the world to-day;
 For now the flowers of Naz-a-reth in ev-ery heart may grow;
 For though, like waves on Gal-i-lee, rough seas of trou-ble roll,
 For Christ who died on Cal-va-ry is ris-en from the grave;

of Je-sus' birth and peace on earth the an-gels sing al-way.
 now spreads the fame of Je-sus' name on all the winds that blow.
 when faith has heard the Sav-ior's word, falls peace up-on the soul.
 God's sov-ereign Child, who rec-on-ciled, is might-y now to save.

Using four biblical locations important to the story, the American hymnwriter Louis F. Benson has summarized the life of Jesus and related it to the present. Benson edited several Presbyterian hymnals and wrote a number of books on hymnody.

Tune: KINGSFOLD C.M.D.
 Traditional English melody
 Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

(How Can I Keep from Singing)

Ps. 46:1-7; 1 Cor. 3:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:17

Anon. in Bright Jewels for the Sunday School,
ed. Robert Lowry, 1869; alt.
St. 3, Doris Plenn, c. 1957

1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam - en -
 2 What though my joys and com - forts die? My Sav - ior still is
 3 When ty - rants trem - ble, sick with fear, and hear their death knells
 4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a -

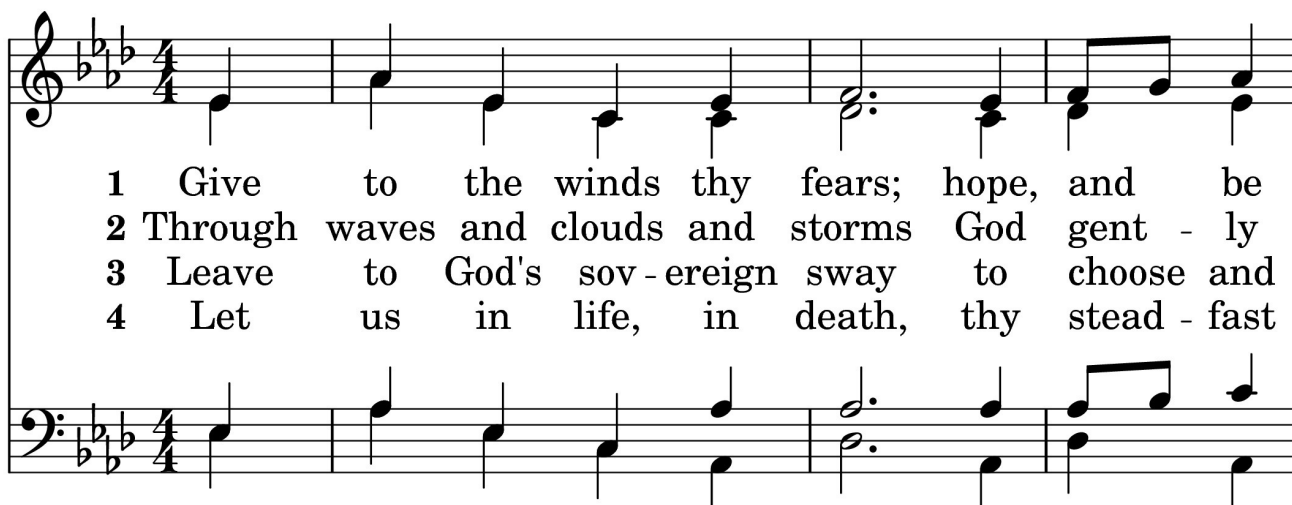
ta - tion, I hear the sweet, though far - off hymn that
 liv - ing. What though the shad - ows gath - er 'round? A
 ring - ing; When friends re - joice both far and near, how
 bove it; And day by day this path - way smooths, since

hails a new cre - a - tion. Through all the tu - mult
 new song Christ is giv - ing. No storm can shake my
 can I keep from sing - ing? In pris - on cell and
 first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes

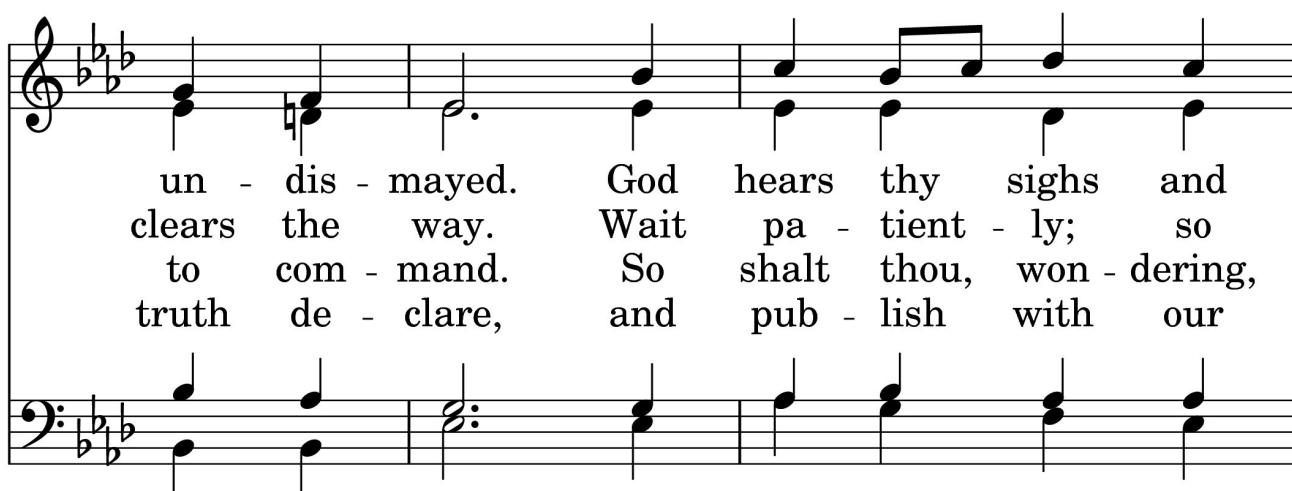
and the strife, I hear the mu - sic ring - ing; It
 in - most calm, while to that Rock I'm cling - ing; Since
 dun - geon vile our thoughts to them are wing - ing; When
 fresh my heart, a foun - tain ev - er spring - ing; All

finds an ech - o in my soul— how can I keep from sing - ing?
 Love com - mands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from sing - ing?
 friends by shame are un - de - filed, how can I keep from sing - ing?
 things are mine since I am Christ's— how can I keep from sing - ing?

Give to the Winds Thy Fears



1 Give to the winds thy fears; hope, and be
2 Through waves and clouds and storms God gent - ly
3 Leave to God's sov - ereign sway to choose and
4 Let us in life, in death, thy stead - fast



un - dis - mayed. God hears thy sighs and
clears the way. Wait pa - tient - ly; so
to com - mand. So shalt thou, won - dering,
truth de - clare, and pub - lish with our



6 counts thy tears; God shall lift up thy head.
shall this night soon end in joy - ous day.
own God's way, how wise, how strong God's hand!
fi - nal breath thy love and guard - ian care.

(this tune in a higher key, 744)

Glory to God 815

TEXT: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; trans. John Wesley, 1737, alt.

MUSIC (FESTAL SONG, SM): William H. Walter, 1872

COMING UP AT BIG RED

Sunday, August 9

- **9:00 AM:** Roots and Branches – Fireside
- **10:00 AM:** Sunday Worship – Sanctuary
- **11:00 AM:** Celebration Coffee Hour – Fellowship Hall
- **11:15 AM:** CE Meeting – Room 5
- **11:15 AM:** Worship Meeting – Parlor

Wednesday, August 12

- **10:00 AM:** Daytime Fiber Arts – Fireside
- **12:00 PM:** Bible Study – Zoom

Friday, August 14

- **10:00 AM:** Creative Writing Workshop – Fireside

Sunday, August 16

- **9:00 AM:** Roots and Branches – Fireside
- **10:00 AM:** Blessing of The Backpacks Sunday Worship – Sanctuary
- **11:00 AM:** Coffee Hour – Fellowship Hall
- **11:15 AM:** Care Ministry Meeting – Parlor

Tuesday, August 18

- **6:00 PM:** Social Justice Meeting – Parlor

Wednesday, August 19

- **12:00 PM:** Bible Study – Zoom
- **7:00 PM:** Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary

Friday, August 21

- **10:00 AM:** Creative Writing Workshop – Fireside

Sunday, August 23

- **9:00 AM:** Roots and Branches – Fireside
- **10:00 AM:** *Renewal of Baptism* Sunday Worship – Sanctuary
- **11:00 AM:** Celebration Coffee Hour – Fellowship Hall
- **11:15 AM:** Council Meeting – Parlor

Tuesday, August 25

- **6:00 PM:** Big Red Bingo Night – Fellowship Hall

Assisting in Today's Service

Greeters: Pauline Phillips

Ushers: Mike Gostanian, Robert Abbate, Joe Mack

Liturgist: Char Lund

Technician: Karisa Garza

Coffee Hour: Church Life



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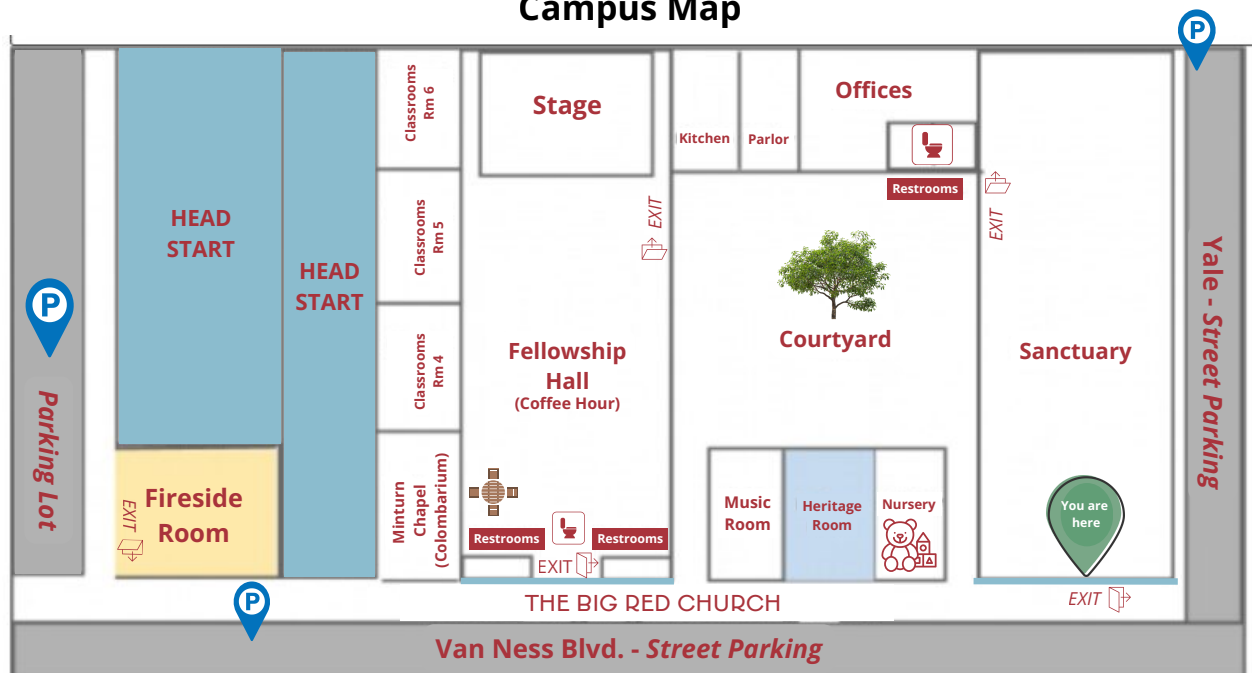
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Campus Map



Notes & Doodles