

# Lewes Presbyterian Church

Believing, growing and sharing the love of Christ

Father's Day

11:00 AM Worship Service

June 21, 2026



**SCRIPTURE:** Hebrews 12:1-17

**SERMON:** The Arena of Faith

Rev. Al Oliver

Lewes Presbyterian Church  
Believing, growing and sharing the love of Christ  
Father's Day

June 21, 2026

11:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Sarah Rose

GREETING AND WELCOME – Welcome Rev. Al Oliver

THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

Barbara Barkdoll

HYMN: “Faith of Our Fathers!”

Hymnal pg 570

*Contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to the saints. Jude 3*

1. Faith of our fathers! living still,  
in spite of dungeon, fire and sword;  
O how our hearts beat high with joy  
when-e're we hear God's glorious Word:

CHORUS

Faith of our fathers, holy faith!  
We will be true to thee till death.

3. Faith of our fathers! God's great power  
shall draw on nations, unto thee;  
and through the truth that comes from God  
his people shall indeed be free:

CHORUS

4. Faith of our fathers! We will love  
both friend and foe in all our strife,  
and preach thee, too, as love knows how  
by witness true and virtuous life.

CHORUS

# THE APOSTLE'S CREED

## We Believe (Apostle's Creed)

### CHORUS

We believe in one true God, Father, Spirit, Son;  
One Church, one faith, one Lord of all  
His Kingdom come.

1. We believe in God the Father, Almighty Lord of life;  
Creator of the Heavens, the earth, the sea, the sky.  
And we believe in Jesus, the only Son of God  
Born of the virgin Mary who lived as one of us.

### CHORUS

2. We believe that Jesus suffered, was beaten, crucified;  
He died and He was buried, entombed in darkest night.  
The third day rose victorious, ascended into Heaven,  
will one day come to judge us, the living and the dead.

### CHORUS

3. We believe in God the Spirit, one Church empowered by Him;  
Communion of God's people, forgiveness of our sin.  
Our bodies resurrected to everlasting life;  
to worship, love and wonder before the throne of Christ.

### CHORUS

INVITATION TO SILENT CONFESSION

Barbara Barkdoll

DECLARATION OF PARDON

1 John 1:9

### GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen, amen

## CELEBRATION

**PSALTER READING: Psalm 106:15-31** Barbara Barkdoll

In the desert they gave in to their craving;

**In the wasteland they put God to the test.**

So he gave them what they asked for, but sent a wasting disease upon them.

**In the camp they grew envious of Moses and of Aaron, who was consecrated to the Lord.**

The earth opened up and swallowed Dathan; it buried the company of Abiram.

**Fire blazed among their followers; a flame consumed the wicked.**

At Horeb they made a calf and worshiped an idol cast from metal.

**They exchanged their Glory for an image of a bull, which eats grass.**

They forgot the God who saved them, who had done great things in Egypt,

**Miracles in the land of Ham and awesome deeds by the Red Sea.**

So he said he would destroy them –

**Had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him to keep his wrath from destroying them.**

Save us, O Lord our God, and gather us from the nations,

**That we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.**

Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

**Let all the people say, “Amen!” Praise the Lord.**

## PREPARATION

HYMN: "He Will Hold Me Fast"

"...if I settle on the far side of the sea, even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast."  
Ps 139:10

1. When I fear my faith fail, Christ will hold me fast;  
when the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.  
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;  
for my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

### CHORUS

He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;  
for my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

2. Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;  
precious in His holy sight, He will hold me fast.  
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;  
bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

### CHORUS

3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;  
justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.  
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast  
till our faith is turned to sight, when He comes at last!

### CHORUS

## PROCLAMATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Hebrews 12:1-17  
New International Version (NIV)

Bible pg 1717

SERMON: The Arena of Faith

Rev. Al Oliver

HYMN: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

Hymnal pg 528

1. My faith looks up to thee, thou lamb of Calvary,  
Savior divine;  
now hear me while I pray, take all my guilt away;  
O let me from this day be wholly thine.
2. May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart,  
my zeal inspire;  
as thou hast died for me, O may my love to thee  
pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire.
3. While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread,  
be though my guide;  
bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,  
nor let me every stray from thee aside.
4. When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold, sullen stream  
shall o'er me roll,  
blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove;  
O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Al Oliver

Flowers are given by **Bob and Jean Patterson** *in memory of their son, Jim.*

**WELCOME . . . .**

**To Lewes Presbyterian Church** where you are always welcome. Whether you are attending for the first time in years, or the first time as a new resident, or an LPC member, you will always find ***LPC has a place for you.***

***LPC is a place to worship*** on Sundays which offers three distinct types of worship services; 8AM, 9AM and 11AM.

***LPC is a place to bring your children.*** Your children are welcomed by caring leaders. LPC has a nursery available during the 9AM worship services. Children's Church is offered before the 9AM sermon for ages 3-7. Adult and Children's Sunday School meet at 10AM during the school year.

***LPC is a place to explore Christianity during our Sunday a.m. and weekly Bible studies. Welcome to LPC . . . . a place for you.***

We are glad you are here to worship the Lord Jesus Christ with us. We look to God's Word as the foundation for our church and our personal lives, and we joyfully praise God as we welcome you to our church family.

If you are visiting for the first time, we invite you to complete a connection card found in the pew and put it into the offering plate as you leave worship today. We encourage you to return often and make LPC a spiritual home for you, your family and friends.

**Experience LPC—we have a place for you!**

## **Faith of Our Fathers**

### **1849**

Frederick Faber (1814-1863), was raised in an Anglican parsonage in Yorkshire England although both his parents died when he was young. Faber attended Oxford University in 1832 and, following graduation, entered the Anglican ministry in 1839 but his soul was troubled. He was drawn to the liturgy of the Catholic faith and in November, 1845 Faber announced to his congregation he intended to leave the Church of England and be ordained as a Roman Catholic and celebrated his first mass on April 4, 1847.

Faber published both literary and religious works. Although he suffered from illness in later years, he crowded much into those years. He published a number of theological works, poems, pamphlets and translations as well as numerous hymns. Many of Faber's hymns are used in Protestant collections. He was a supporter of congregational singing in an age when English Catholics did not feel comfortable singing. Faber expanded their hymns suitable for congregational singing and encouraged the practice.

What most Protestants don't know is Faber wrote this song to remind the Catholic Church of its martyrs during the days of Protestant Reformation by King Henry VIII which began when Pope Clement VII refused to grant King Henry a divorce. The English Reformation (1532-1553) separated the Church of England from papal authority. As a result, King Henry dissolved churches and monasteries, looting and destroying them. People of Catholic homes were martyred by being drug out of their homes in the middle of the night and tortured for no reason. The dungeons were choked with victims. It was for these Catholic heroes, martyred at the hands of Protestant monarchs, that this hymn was originally written.

Faber died at age 59 and for the remainder of his short life, he endeavored to provide a body of hymns for English Catholics, the most enduring of which is "*Faith of Our Fathers*." The English Reformation is generally considered to have concluded during the reign of Elizabeth I (1558-1603) but scholars speak of "the long reformation" which stretched into the 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Roman Catholic church organization in England remained illegal until The Relief Act of 1829."

It was for the martyred at the hands of Protestant monarchs, that *Faith of Our Fathers* was originally written and reminds all of us the noble sacrifices made by those in every branch of the Christian family who have passed on their faith to us ".... In spite of dungeon, fire and sword."