



## **BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

11608 Lax Chapel Road - Kiel, WI 53042

Phone: 920.894.3332

Email: [BethUCCKiel@outlook.com](mailto:BethUCCKiel@outlook.com)

Follow Bethlehem UCC on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/bucckiel/>

or Bethlehem's website at

[www.bethlehemkiel.org](http://www.bethlehemkiel.org)

CCLI Copyright and Streaming Lic # 11640740 and CSPL193734

**Sunday, August 17, 2025**

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Worship Leader: Rev. Randy Koppenhaver**

**Musician: Polly Jeanty**

*If listening from your car, please tune to 101.3 FM*

**\*= Please rise in body or spirit**

CENTERING BREATH PRAYER: as you inhale, say the first part of the prayer to yourself, and say the second part as you exhale. Repeat 5x

***Restore us, O God of Hosts :: save us... let your face shine***

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #549

"As We Gather"

**As we gather may your spirit work within us**

**As we gather may we glorify your name**

**Knowing well that as our heart begin to worship**

**We'll be blessed because we came; We'll be blessed because we came**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP: (Inspired by Psalm 80)**

**One:** Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see; have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted.

**Many:** The world is ablaze around us with pain and suffering, natural

**disasters and human schemes, injustice and brokenness.**

One: Create again, O God of Fire; respond to the needs of your people and shepherd us to be good stewards of your creation.

**Many: Let your Holy Fire meet the infernos that seek to consume us with refining and renewing power.**

One: Redeem again, O God of hosts; ignite a flame within your kingdom that will spread as a wildfire of righteousness and love.

**Many: Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER:**

**God of Fire, we recognize the spark that you bring into our gathering. Let it ignite within us as we worship you in the company of siblings. We honor your power and remain in awe of your glory. Let it fall again as Spirit dwells among us. May the warmth of your presence give us courage for these days and the clarity of your light give us discernment toward a future with hope. Be pleased by our worship, Eternal God, and be glorified in our praise. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #456**

**“God of Grace and God of Glory”**

**PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE:**

**Transforming One, forgive us for dampening your fire, even for our failure to recognize your movement among us. Help us to follow in the path of life abundantly for our neighbors and ourselves. Make us instruments of your kingdom as we encourage and uplift one another like iron sharpens iron. Surround us as a community of accountability and support to transform us in your image, character, and nature. We receive the gift of new grace, new mercies, and new life that you offer to us each day. Amen. *Time of silent reflection...***

**WORDS OF GRACE**

Hear the good news! Although we have not always been faithful to God, God remains faithful to us.

**In Jesus Christ, God offers us forgiveness. Through the gift of the Spirit, God renews us to live faithfully in Jesus’ name. Thanks be to God! Amen!**

**\*RESPONSE (tune: Doxology) “Be Thou, O God Exalted High”**

**Be thou, O God exalted high; And as Thy glory fills the sky,  
So let it be on earth displayed, 'Til Thou art here, as there, obeyed. Amen.**

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

### Isaiah 5:1-7

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

### Psalm 80: 1-2, 8-19

<sup>1</sup>Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth

**<sup>2</sup>before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh. Stir up your might, and come to save us!**

<sup>8</sup>You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

**<sup>9</sup>You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.**

<sup>10</sup>The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;

**<sup>11</sup>it sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the River.**

<sup>12</sup>Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

**<sup>13</sup>The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.**

<sup>14</sup>Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine,

**<sup>15</sup>the stock that your right hand planted.**

<sup>16</sup>They have burned it with fire, they have cut it down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

**<sup>17</sup>But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.**

<sup>18</sup>Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

**<sup>19</sup>Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.**

**Nahum 1:3** – "The LORD is slow to anger but great in power; the LORD will not leave the guilty unpunished. His way is in the whirlwind and the storm, and clouds are the dust of his feet."

**Nahum 1:7** – "The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him."

**Nahum 1:15** – "Look, there on the mountains, the feet of one who brings good news, who proclaims peace! Celebrate your festivals, Judah, and fulfill your vows. No more will the wicked invade you; they will be completely destroyed."

**Nahum 2:13** – "I am against you," declares the LORD Almighty. "I will burn up your chariots in smoke, and the sword will devour your young lions. I will leave you no prey on the earth. The voices of your messengers will no longer be heard."

**Nahum 3:5–6** – "I am against you," declares the LORD Almighty. "I will lift your skirts over your face. I will show the nations your nakedness and the kingdoms your shame. I will pelt you with filth, I will treat you with contempt and make you a spectacle."

SERMON

Nahum

\*HYMN #368

"Trust and Obey"

PRAYER CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ...THE LORD'S PRAYER

Petitions end with: Faithful God, hear our prayer, **And renew our faithfulness.**

**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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE

#403 "Lord, Listen to your Children Praying"

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY (Jingle Change supports: Pathways to a Better Life of Kiel)

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #447 v.1 "All Things are Yours"

**All things are yours! We make that true, when we return our gifts to you.  
And so we give, and so we share, in Christ's strong name expressing care.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Holy, Holy, Holy God, who provides, who gifts, and who refines. We offer these gifts to you in gratitude and hope. May they extend beyond the walls of our sanctuaries so that your name will be known through us. May they spark hope and joy to dispel despair and despondency. May needs be met and lives changed through our giving and our living. Receive these gifts as our tangible prayer that your kingdom come and will be done. Amen.**

\*CLOSING 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 he will guide you, in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. A-men, A-men, A-men.***

BENEDICTION

One: May the Spirit of God, into our minutes and days, breathe purpose.

**All: May the Spirit of God, into our families and relationships, breathe faithfulness.**

One: May the Spirit of God, into our church, breathe commitment to the Living Way,

**All: Through all, enfolding all, permeating all, may the Spirit of God breathe love.**

POSTLUDE

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ☐ Thank you to all who helped make the annual church rummage sale a success. Watch the September Spirit for more details.

- **Sunday, August 31, The WISE Team will be leading worship.** A guest speaker, Susan Beattie, founder and owner of Pathways to a Better Life, will share with us more about Pathways and their mission for those struggling with addiction. Getting help is the first step toward a better life. With a commitment to breaking the cycle of addiction and a staff that truly understands recovery, Pathways to a Better Life is changing the way detox and treatment are approached – Giving Hope and healing to those who need it most and finding a purpose and connection.
- During the month of **August**, the Bethlehem Ladies will have a special collection of items for the Kiel Area Community Food Pantry and will be presented to the pantry at our Guest Night on Tuesday, September 16th. These items can be brought to church and placed in the basket at the entrance. Thank you for your generosity!!!
- The **Bethlehem Ladies Annual Guest Night** will be Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Guest Speaker will be Randy Olm who is a coordinator of the Kiel Area Community Food Pantry. There will be a light lunch served at 5:30 pm with the presentation to follow. Please invite your friends and family. There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Mission and Service Sunday** will be September 21<sup>st</sup>! Save the date! We will be making sandwiches and cookies for the Guest House, cleaning up Hwy X, and making hygiene kits for Church World Service.
  - Please check the display board in the fellowship hall. It lists the items needed for creating the disaster-relief hygiene kits. Take a post-it note and purchase the items. Please bring them in by Sept. 14. You can also donate cash or gifts cards and items will be purchased by the mission team.
- Friday, October 31, 2025. – **WHAT WE SING MATTERS – A Sing-a-Long Workshop** 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with Rev. Dr. Christopher Grundy, Academic Dean | Professor of Worship and Preaching | Dean of the Chapel, Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri -- Event Venue: Lakeland University, Bradley Auditorium, W3718 South Dr, Plymouth, WI 53073 The event is free, but please register with Pastor Randy and he will procure your tickets

# IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

## **Those Grieving:**

The Family of Malachi Plocher (Lexi Horneck's fiancé)

## **Those struggling with health issues:**

Ross Sippel	Dana
Mary Beth Molitor	Louie Bowe
Will Mathes	Heidi Konen
Darlene Horneck	Donna Firman
Brad Westphalen	Dawson Horneck
Jessica Horneck	Tom Lefebber
Hubert	Sarah Schisel
Scott Vogel	John Schmitt

## **Those unable to worship with us:**

Merlin Ninmer      Helen Henning

## **This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today, Sunday 8/17:** 9:30am Sunday Worship; *Happy Birthday Cooper Tesch!!* \*\*5pm – *Spirit Articles Due\*\**

**Monday 8/18:**

**Tuesday 8/19:** *Happy Birthday Ian Schmidt!*

**Wednesday 8/20:** *Happy Birthday Rachel Muehlbauer!! Happy Anniversary David Meyer & Julie Meyer!*

**Thursday 8/21:** *Happy Birthday Kyle Pennell!!*

**Friday 8/22:**

**Saturday 8/23:**

**Sunday 8/24:** 9:30am Sunday Worship w/ Baptism

**August Panty Item:  
Jar of Peanut Butter or Jelly**