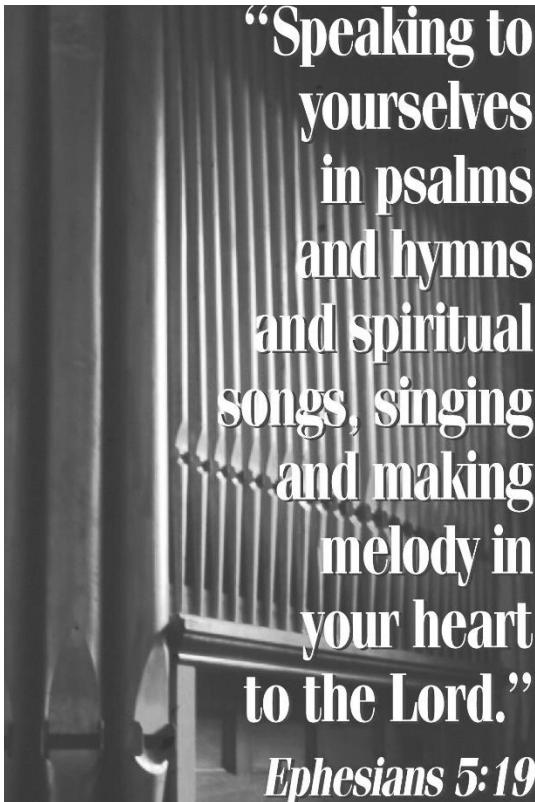


# Bethlehem United Church of Christ



*Sunday, August 19, 2018*

*Worship Leader:*

*Randy Koppenhaver*

*Ministers: All the People*

*Organist: Polly Jeanty*

*We hope that you find a warm welcome at Bethlehem United Church of Christ and will worship with us again soon.*

*Mission Statement*

*We are a caring community of Christians living our faith through worship, study and service to others!*

## **Bethlehem United Church of Christ**

11608 Lax Chapel Road - Kiel, WI 53042

Phone: 920-894-3332

www.bethlehemkiel.org

Sunday School - 8:00 a.m. (Sept. – May)

Worship time is 9:30 a.m.

Office hours Tuesdays 9a-12p, Wednesdays 9a-3p

Rev. Rebecca A. Johnston, Pastor

(920-918-3654 - revbecky1124@gmail.com)

Randy Koppenhaver, Licensed Lay Minister

(920-286-2531 - randynmel5@gmail.com)

**2018 Consistory:**

Elder /President: Bob Radder

Elder: Traci Rabe

Elder : Amy Wempner

Deacon : Ross Westphalen

Deacon/Secretary : Natasha Verhulst

Financial Secretary : Ruthie Rumpff

Treasurer : Rick Rabe

Please use the email address below to submit information, photos, etc. for the church website:

[bethlehemucckiel@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemucckiel@gmail.com)

*Welcome to Bethlehem United Church of Christ! We trust that you will know God's presence here in worship. If you are visiting for the first time, please sign our guest registry outside the sanctuary doors.*

*A special note to families with young children:*

*We have a long tradition at Bethlehem of including children in worship, but we know sometimes their attention spans are not as long as ours. Children under about 6 years old are welcome to borrow a "Bethlehem Bag" from the main doors of the sanctuary, along with books or soft toys from the library, to help occupy them. If necessary, please feel free to accompany your child to the library during the service – you will be able to hear and observe the service from there.*

## Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost

\*PLEASE STAND if you are able, where noted by an asterisk.

*Please sign and pass the pew pads during worship. This will help us recognize those who might be visiting. There is one for each row. No need to pass across the aisles.*

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL 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 HEARTS BEGIN TO WORSHIP  
WE'LL BE BLEST BECAUSE WE CAME, WE'LL BE BLEST BECAUSE WE CAME**

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come into this household of God  
that we might all listen to God's Word  
and discern the wisdom that comes only from God.

**People: How can we discover such wisdom?**

Leader: Reverence for God is the beginning of wisdom.  
When we choose to live according to God's will and plan,  
God will give to each of us a wise and discerning heart.

**People: May God fill us with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs!  
We have come to lift up in praise the songs and music from our hearts.**

Leader: Jesus is here in our midst as living bread.  
We want to be nourished and strengthened that we may remain with him.  
Jesus is so close to us that we can taste his presence.

**All: Praise the Lord! Learn of God's compassion and mercy.  
Praise the Lord with our hearts! Praise the Lord!**

\*OPENING WORDS - Paraphrase of Psalm 111 (**Bold**=Left side, *Italics* = Right side)

**Praise God! We give thanks to God with all our hearts, together, the church, the people of God.**

*God does great things; we pay attention and delight in all God's works.*

**God acts with honor, with greatest dignity and justice that endures forever.**

*God is well-known for all the wonderful deeds, of mercy and graciousness.*

**God remembers the covenant, provides, nurtures, shelters. God is faithful, just, and trustworthy.**

*God's way of love endures forever; it will be lived with faithfulness and dignity.*

ALL: Holy is the name of God. Awe of God is the beginning of wisdom, praise for God will last forever. Amen.

WORDS OF CONFESSION

Holy Father, out of a desire to be free and to start again with you and one another, we join our voices in confessing our sins:

**Forgive us, merciful God, We have not been careful with our lives and we have been careless with our time and with each other: forgive the sins of our souls and those of our flesh, the sins we know and those we have forgotten, the sins we have attempted to hide and those we were once proud to commit, the sins we have done to please ourselves and those we have done to please others. Forgive all that we have done, heal what remains broken, and bless what is to be.**

(silence)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Christ, all things are made new. Know that you are forgiven and have the trust and courage to forgive each other. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE #558

“Gloria Patri”

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

**Ephesians 5:15-20**

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, making the most of the time, because the days are evil. So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ

**John 6:51-58**

I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.’

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, ‘How can this man give us his flesh to eat?’ So Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.’

SERMON

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #418

“Take Time to be Holy”

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...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.**

RESPONSE

“Masithi”

**Amen, we praise your name O God. Amen, we praise your name, O God.  
Amen, amen, amen, amen. Amen, we praise your name or God.**

OFFERTORY (Jingle Change goes to Our Church’s Wider Mission)

++If using a pew envelope, please put your name on it so we can include it on your statement for tax purposes.

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #282

“Give Thanks”

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**As we seek to live wisely, we offer these gifts to you, O God. May the work of this money, and we your people, make music in praise of you. Amen.**

\*HYMN #431

“Savior Like a Shepherd Lead us”

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

Go forth into the world trusting with your hearts  
the wisdom God bestows upon all who seek to follow God’s will.  
When called to lead, do so with humility and confidence in God.  
Be in this world a sign of Jesus’ presence.  
Share compassion with all whom you encounter.  
Live wisely in God’s name,  
and glorify God in all you do.  
**And may the grace, mercy and wisdom of God  
be our support, guidance and strength  
from this day forward and for ever more. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (Info. for next Sunday's bulletin is due to Randy/Melissa Koppenhaver by Tuesday night. [randynmel5@gmail.com](mailto:randynmel5@gmail.com) or 286-2531.)

- Pastor Johnston will be out of the country through the end of the month. Please contact Randy with any pastoral needs.
- Calling All Voices! Choir will be starting Again. We will be practicing at 8:45 on September 9<sup>th</sup>, and singing the second Sunday of the month. See You There!
- Mission Fest will be Sunday, Sept 9<sup>th</sup>. (please see last page of bulletin) After worship and lunch, we will be participating in several mission projects, either at church or out in the community. Please see the sign up sheets in the fellowship and put your name on the mission you want to join!
- If you or a loved one is hospitalized or in need of pastoral care, please make sure to contact Rev. Johnston or Randy. We cannot always rely upon the hospitals to contact us. Thanks.

The Bethlehem Blurb email comes out each Thursday. If you signed up and you are not receiving it, please check your "junk" mail or "spam" folder. If you'd like to receive it, you may sign up on our webpage:  
[www.bethlehemkiel.org](http://www.bethlehemkiel.org)

**Community Announcements:**

(Please check the bulletin board for more details.  
**Community events are published in our bulletin as space and time permits.** For best results, email or call the bulletin secretary)

**This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today, Sunday 8/19:** 8:15 Adult Study; 8:30 Bethlehem Ladies; 9:30am Worship; *Happy Birthday Ian Schmidt!*

**Monday 8/20:** *Happy Birthday Rachel Muehlbauer! Happy Anniversary Dave & Julie Meyer!*

**Tuesday 8/21:**

**Wednesday 8/22:** *\*\*Spirit News Due!\*\*; Happy Birthday Evelyn Schnell!*

**Thursday 8/23:**

**Friday 8/24:**

**Saturday 8/25:**

**Sunday 8/26:** 8:15 Adult Study; 9:30am Worship; *Happy Anniversary Chris & Renee Freund!*

**Pantry item: Jar of Peanut Butter or Jelly**