

# Bethlehem United Church of Christ



## THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

### **Bethlehem United Church of Christ**

11608 Lax Chapel Road - Kiel, WI 53042

Phone: 920-894-3332

[www.bethlehemkiel.org](http://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](mailto:revbecky1124@gmail.com))

Randy Koppenhaver, Licensed Lay Minister

(920-286-2531 - [randynmel5@gmail.com](mailto:randynmel5@gmail.com))

*Sunday, December 16, 2018*

*Worship Leader:*

*Rev. Rebecca A. Johnston*

*Ministers: All the People*

*Organist: Kathy Bowe*

*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!*

#### 2018 Consistory:

Elder /President: Bob Radder

Elder: Traci Rabe

Elder : Jennifer Friend

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.*

## Third Sunday of Advent

\*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.**



*This morning's bulletins are sponsored by Jeanette Wriedt in memory of her husband, Myron, who passed away 5 years ago on December 12, 2013.*

RINGING OF THE BELLS/LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

(Joseph Schuler & Trevor Muehlbauer)

CHORAL TO WORSHIP #92 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" vs. 1 only

**O come, O come, Emmanuel**

**And ransom captive Israel**

**That mourns in lonely exile here**

**Until the Son of God appear**

**Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel**

**Shall come to thee, O Israel**

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*"THE FIRST NOEL"*

ALIYAH ARNOLD

OPENING PRAYER

One: God, your love flows all around us.

**All: We will trust in you and not be afraid.**

One: You, loving God, are our strength.

**All: We will trust in you and not be afraid.**

One: Your love requires us to feed the poor, to give clothes to those who need them, to be fair to each other.

**All: Your love flows all around us and within us. We are renewed always in that sacred love. Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

### Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

One: With joy we await the coming of Christ, even as we struggle to make sense of living in a topsy-turvy world.

**Many: We seek God's wisdom for our purpose outside these walls.**

One: Let our prayers be filled with light and love for those in need.

**Many: Let our words be a healing balm for those who seek comfort.**

One: Let our actions demonstrate we are a safe harbor for those living in fear.

**Many: In this season of Advent, let us be fully present to what it means to be the church.**

One As we light the third candle of Advent, the candle of Joy, we are reminded of God's promise of salvation through the humble birth of a child.

**All: Surely the light is coming!**

YOUNGER CLASS PLAY                      *"THE CHRISTMAS STORY"*

Younger class play: The Christmas Story

Kids: Courtney Riesterer, Kylie Brockway, Blake Holz, Brandy Krueger, Henry Krueger, Hallie Brockway, Cam Wempner

SONG    *"JESUS JINGLE BELLS"*

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 the Sunday School for the Adopt-a-Family)

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE                      *"Doxology"*

**Hope in the God who reigns above,  
Who holds us all in steadfast love;  
Whose spirit blows across the earth,  
Preparing us for second birth. Amen.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**We offer you these gifts, loving God, in sure and certain hope that you can use them to bring true joy in our hurting world. Amen.**

Upper Class play: The New Star

Kids: Aliyah Arnold, Tyson Arnold, Ryan Holz, Emma Krueger, Lillie Brockway, Merri Wempner, Emilee Wirtz, Mason Wempner, Carolyn Riesterer, Harrison Zorn, Kendra Muehlbauer

Teachers: Sarah Arnold, Amy Wempner, Ginny Schultz, Jennifer Friend, Steven Voland  
Helpers: Armond Wempner, Joseph Schuler

### O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem  
How still we see thee lie  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight

### Twinkle Twinkle Christmas Star (To tune of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star)

Twinkle twinkle Christmas star  
Way up high is where you are  
Shining bright for all to see  
On top of our Christmas tree  
Twinkle twinkle Christmas star  
Way up high is where you are

### It Came upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear  
That glorious song of old  
From angels bending near the Earth  
To touch their harps of gold  
"Peace on the Earth goodwill to men  
From heaven's all gracious King"  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing

### We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain moor and mountain  
Following yonder star  
O star of wonder star of night  
Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light

### Silent Night

Silent night Holy night  
All is calm all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child  
Holy infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night Holy night  
Wondrous star lend thy light  
With the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King  
Christ the Savior is born  
Christ the Savior is born

A huge thank you to our Sunday School teachers and volunteers who worked so hard to put these programs together. You are entrusted with very special work: raising our children up and educating them to be persons of faith!

A special thank you to the parents who supported the teachers' efforts by getting their kids to rehearsals and Sunday School each week!

A heartfelt thank you to all of the children for sharing each of your gifts with us! You all are blessings to this place!

**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.)*

- The Sunday School has adopted a family in need and is collecting items and gift cards. Just pick an ornament from the tree in the entrance and return the items/s TODAY!! If you choose an ornament with a Walmart card request, you can do your shopping at the scrip table any Sunday morning.
- The December jingle change (weeks 2-4) will be used to purchase additional items for the adopted family
- *MISSION TRIP 2019- Henderson, Kentucky. July 14-20, 2019*  
*\$50. Non-refundable reservation fee due January 15. Make check out to Bethlehem Missions and give to Rev. Becky.*
- Please consider purchasing SCRIP cards for your holiday gift giving or holiday purchases. There are many cards available, stop at the SCRIP table and check it out. They are for sale from 9:00-9:30 and following the church service. The profits from Scrip benefit the building and repair fund and the Families in Need program.

If you or a loved one is hospitalized or in need of pastoral care, please make sure to contact Rev. Johnston or Randy.

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)*

none

#### **This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today, Sunday 12/16:** 8am Sunday School; 8:15a Adult Study; 9:30am Worship w/ Children's Program

**Monday 12/17:** *Happy Birthday Page Leiffring! Happy Anniversary Everette & Helen Henning!*

**Tuesday 12/18:** *Happy Birthday Pam Talerico!*

**Wednesday 12/19:** NO Confirmation class;  
\*\*SPIRIT NEWS DUE\*\*

**Thursday 12/20:** 7pm Blue Christmas service; *Happy Birthday Merlin Ninmer and Rachel Suttner!*

**Friday 12/21:**

**Saturday 12/22:**

**Sunday 12/23:** 8am Sunday School; 8:15a Adult Study; 9:30am Worship

**Pantry item: Box of Cereal**

## Inclement Weather Notification

If church services or events are cancelled due to inclement weather, notice will be available:

- On the **Bethlehem United Church of Christ** Facebook page *@bucckiel*
- Emailed automatically to all recipients of the *Bethlehem Blurb* email
- On television channel/webpage WGBA - NBC 26

**Please make at least one choice below about how you wish to receive notification:**

\_\_\_ I will use any of the above sources, and wish no additional contact.

\_\_\_ I would like to receive an email. Address(es)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I would like to receive a text message. Number(s)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I would like to receive a phone call. Number(s)\* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**\* All collected information will be kept confidential and used for weather-related notification only**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_