

# Bethlehem United Church of Christ



**ARISE,  
SHINE;  
FOR YOUR LIGHT  
HAS COME,  
AND THE GLORY  
OF THE LORD  
HAS RISEN  
UPON YOU.**

ISAIAH 60:1, NRSV

*Sunday, January 6, 2019*

*Worship Leader:*

*Randy Koppenhaver*

*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*

*As Disciples of Christ, we are a loving, caring community of faith, called to witness to God's grace and glory. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit to love, nurture, respect, encourage and challenge each other. Rooted in the tradition of our Christian ancestors, we live our faith through worship, fellowship, teaching and service to others.*

## **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 begins at 8:00 a.m.

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))

### **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.*

## Epiphany Sunday

\*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/LIGHTING OF CANDLES

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: #107 (first verse)

“Joy to the World”

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**Many: Darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will rise upon you and God’s glory will be seen upon you.**

One: Nations shall come into God’s light, and rulers the brightness of God’s new dawn.

**Many: Violence shall no more be heard in the land, ruin or destruction within our borders.**

One: The sun shall be no more your light by day, nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night.

**Many: For the Lord will be your everlasting light, and your God will be your glory.**

\*OPENING PRAYER:

**God of power and might, of grace and of love,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
You chose to become one of us in Jesus Christ,  
sharing our joy and sorrow,  
manifesting your greatness in the child of the manger.  
And so we praise you for your love  
which is great enough to embrace the universe,  
yet close enough to enter our hearts.  
Surprise us with your grace  
that we, with the rest of the church  
and the whole creation, may praise and adore you,  
O God, our Creator and Redeemer and Guide, Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN #148

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of compassion, you offer light to live by, and yet too often we live in darkness. You promise new life but we confess that we are in love with our old ways; with hurts that we nourish, hatreds that hold us hostage, and fantasies that restrict our living. You offer to us unconditional love, but we reject our neighbors and live apart from you and one another in so many ways. Recreate us in the image of your son and for your glory's sake forgive us.**

*(Time for silent reflection)*

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Be assured of God's love and forgiveness; begin again with God and with one another, and be at peace. **All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 121 (refrain) "Gloria"

Glor - - -ri-a in excelsis Deo, Glor - - -ri-a in excelsis De - o.

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

### **Isaiah 60:1-6**

Arise, shine; for your light has come,  
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,  
and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,  
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around;  
they all gather together, they come to you;  
your sons shall come from far away,  
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

Then you shall see and be radiant;  
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,  
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,  
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

A multitude of camels shall cover you,  
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;  
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,  
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

## Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel." "

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

## CHILDREN'S TIME

### MESSAGE

\*HYMN #154

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, SILENT PRAYER AND THE 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.**

OFFERTORY (Jingle Change goes to Mission Trip)

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE (Tune to Old Hundredth)

**O God, may we who bear your name  
By gentle love your grace proclaim,  
Christ's gift of peace on earth declare  
And your anointing Spirit share. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Gracious God, accept the offerings we bring; the gifts of our mind, the loving of our hearts, the work of our hands and the riches we have been given in life. Bless these gifts and bless us and use all things for the building of your kingdom of light in your world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

SERVICE OF COMMUNION

*We, at Bethlehem UCC practice "Pew" communion. Please hold each of the elements until all are served. The bread is gluten-free to accommodate those with allergies. The inner ring of the wine tray contains grape juice for those who prefer it. All are welcome at the Lord's Table!*

**INVITATION**

**LEADER:** Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me shall never thirst.

**PEOPLE:** **In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving bread**

**COMMUNION PRAYER**

**PASTOR:** The Lord be with you.

**PEOPLE:** **And also with you.**

**PASTOR:** Lift up your hearts.

**PEOPLE:** **We lift them to God.**

**PASTOR:** Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**PEOPLE:** **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**PASTOR:** Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you ... Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you as we unite our voices with the entire family of your faithful people everywhere:

**ALL:** **Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**PASTOR:** Merciful God, as brothers and sisters in faith... and we boldly say what we believe:

**ALL:** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD and POURING OF THE WINE  
SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

\*COMMUNION HYMN #532

“Come, Share the Lord”

BENEDICTION

LEADER: Holy One, now let your servant go in peace; your word has been fulfilled:

**PEOPLE: My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people:**

LEADER: A light to reveal you to the nations;

**PEOPLE: And the glory of your people Israel.**

**ALL: AMEN**

POSTLUDE

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

**Wednesday, February 6, 2019** – annual **Chili Supper** hosted by Choir and Youth Group.

Sign up sheets are available in the Fellowship Hall. We need additional workers and tortes. Tickets for the chili supper are available for you to purchase, or if you would like to sell to friends, family and neighbors. If you have any questions, please contact Kaye Radder at 894-7229.

Sunday School adopt a family giving tree--- thank you so much.

We were able to collect all the items on the tree. Thank you Darla Otto for supplying the family needs and delivering the items to the family.

The jingle change collected totaled \$175.00. The Sunday School added another \$25.00 and gave the family \$200.00 in gas cards. Thanks again.

**This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today, Sunday 1/6:** 8am Sunday School; 8:15 Adult Study; 9:30am Worship w/ Communion;

**Monday 1/7:** *Happy Birthday Ty Sheets!*

**Tuesday 1/8:** 6:30pm Consistory Mtg; *Happy Birthday Tammy Westphalen!*

**Wednesday 1/9:** 6pm Confirmation Class; *Happy Birthday Pat Hoban, Jane Umland, Heather Krebsbach, and Mary-Beth Molitor!*

**Thursday 1/10:** *Happy Birthday Harrison Zorn, Arlyn Retlich, Steve Rumpff and Rich Schmitt!*

**Friday 1/11:**

**Saturday 1/12:** *Happy Birthday Kamlynn Rumpff!*

**Sunday 1/13:** 8am Sunday School; 8:15am Adult Study; 9:30am Worship w/ Communion; *Happy Birthday Ryan Westphalen!*

**Pantry item: Can of Soup**

## **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 at this time