

Bethlehem United Church of Christ



Sunday, November 4, 2018

Worship Leader:

Rev. Rebecca A. Johnston

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 : 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

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.

Twenty-Fourth 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.

A Centering Thought: “If I’m not for me, who will be? If I’m only for me, what am I? And if not now, when?” – Rabbi Hillel

RINGING OF THE BELLS/LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES (Acolytes: Dayna Schultz & Joseph Schuler)

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: Hear, O people of God:
our God is one.

Hear the commandments of our God.

**All: First, love your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

Leader: Hear, O people of God:
our God is one.

Recite the commandments to your children
and hold them in your hearts.

**All: Second, love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no commandment greater than these calls to love. Amen.**

*INVOCATION

Loving God, Mother and Father of all people, we open our hearts to you and the life you give. Help us to breathe in deeply of your wild and wonderful Spirit and inspire us with your presence so that we might be at peace with all of who we are, and more fully become the people you have called us to be. Amen

*OPENING HYMN: #25 “Sing a New Song”

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there for about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons or her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had had consideration for his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, 'Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.' Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, 'No, we will return with you to your people.' But Naomi said, 'Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me.' Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, 'See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.' But Ruth said,

'Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge;

your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried.

May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well,

if even death parts me from you!

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Now this is the commandment—the statutes and the ordinances—that the LORD your God charged me to teach you to observe in the land that you are about to cross into and occupy, so that you and your children and your children's children may fear the LORD your God all the days of your life, and keep all his decrees and his

commandments that I am commanding you, so that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and observe them diligently, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may multiply greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, as the LORD, the God of your ancestors, has promised you.

Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

A Hearing of Mark 12:28-34

SUNDAY SCHOOL SINGERS

“When We Pray For Each Other”

MESSAGE

*HYMN #406

“Prayer of St. Francis”

A TIME TO REMEMBER

*HYMN #500

“For All the Saints” (vs. 1, 2, 4)

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

One: In the company of friends and in the present memory of all who have gone before us, we meet around this table of welcome;

All: in the grace of Christ, the love of God and the companionship of the Spirit.

Hallelujah!

One: Gathered by kindness and nurtured in your love, O God, we gladly enter into this still point of faith and healing. Attested by time, honored by countless generations, these symbols of bread and wine continue to be our common hope and unity with all creation in its yearning for peace, justice, and restoration. Therefore, the whole realm of nature around us; with earth, sea, and sky, we enjoin our voices with faithful children, women and men, past, present and yet to come:

All: Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God.

Hosanna in the highest!

One: Risen Christ, present to all generations and here with us now, for all that you have done and all that you have promised, what have we to offer?

All: Our hands are open, yet our hearts are often full of unworthy things. It is your mercy’s power to change us that remains our hope and courage for the living.

One: And so, pour out your Spirit on us and upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they become for us your body and soul, healing, forgiving, and making us whole; and that we become for you, your body and soul; loving and caring in the world until at last your reign of peace and justice comes. For as many grains of wheat went into the making of this one loaf, and many grapes went into the pressing of this cup of wine, we who come from diverse origins are of different ages and genders, hold varying perspectives on faith and life, are made one in the love and goodness of Christ.

All: May we treasure this unity – alive within our diversity – and seek to be bearers of its hope, friendship, and peace.

One: And so may the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

One: Friends, let us eat and drink together in the Spirit of God’s enduring love and compassion.

All: Amen!

BREAKING OF BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP
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.

*GLORIA PATRI #558

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 Families In Need)

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #282

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart

Give thanks to the Holy One

Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son (Sing verse twice)

And now let the weak say, "I am strong"

Let the poor say, "I am rich

Because of what the Lord has done for us" (Sing verse twice)

Give thanks, Give thanks

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy One, we bring these gifts to share with your people. Thank you for all the blessings you place in our lives each day. Lead us to see your gracious hand in all that we are and all that we have. Amen.

*HYMN #308

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

BENEDICTION...POSTLUDE

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

- *If you are interested in a Mission Trip next summer, please join us for a meeting **TODAY** following worship. If you are interested and cannot make the meeting, let a pastor know!*
- The Bethlehem Ladies are taking orders for Poinsettias. They are \$8.50 each and the colors available are red, white and pink. The last Sunday to order Poinsettias is December 2nd. The Poinsettias can be taken home on Christmas Day after worship service. The sign up is on the table in the fellowship hall. Cash or checks to “Bethlehem Ladies” can be given to Polly Jeanty or Jeanette Wriedt. Thank you!!!
- *It's WREATH SALE time again!! Please see a member of the youth fellowship to order your wreath. Orders are due November 4!*
- **Wood for Sale** - The building and grounds committee cut down a tree at the parsonage. The wood next to the old garage is for sale with the proceeds going to the Bldg Repair Fund. See Louie Bowe for more details.
- If you or a loved one is hospitalized or in need of pastoral care, please make sure to contact Rev. Johnston or Randy.
- The choir of Bethlehem United Church of Christ will be participating in a joint Christmas concert this year with First Congregational UCC, Salem UCC, and St. Peter's UCC. Please join us at St. Peter's UCC on December 9th at 4:00pm for a concert full of beautiful music

that will put you in the Christmas spirit. BUCC choir is looking for voices to add for Sundays and for the Joint Christmas Concert! We hold rehearsals at BUCC at 6:30pm on Wednesday nights. One joint rehearsal will be held at St. Peter's UCC on Wednesday December 5th at 7:00 pm. If you have any questions please contact Natasha Verhulst, BUCC choir director at (920)286-0517, or by email at nbehnke17@gmail.com.

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)*

- Heartland Hospice Services are looking for folks to visit some of their patients in our area. Training is provided. If you would like more information check the bulletin board.

St Mark's UCC Mission Fest is November 11 at 10am. Luann Travis from Sharon S. Richardson Community Hospice is the speaker.

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

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today, Sunday 11/4: 8am Sunday School; 8:15a Adult Study; 9:30am Worship w/ Communion; Mission Trip Meeting following worship; *Happy Birthday Todd Krebsbach! Happy Anniversary Steve & Jennifer Deignan!*

Monday 11/5:

Tuesday 11/6: 6:30pm Merry Christians; *Happy Birthday Salli Rabe!*

Wednesday 11/7: 6pm Confirmation; 6:30pm Choir; *Happy Birthday Jennifer Friend!*

Thursday 11/8: *Happy Birthday Ryan Arnold!*

Friday 11/9:

Saturday 11/10:

Sunday 11/11: 8am Sunday School; 8:15a Adult Study; 9:30am Worship; Youth Fellowship following worship; *Happy Birthday Tom Schnell! Happy Anniversary Arlyn & Donna Truttman-Retlich!*

Pantry item: Box of Cake Mix or Frosting