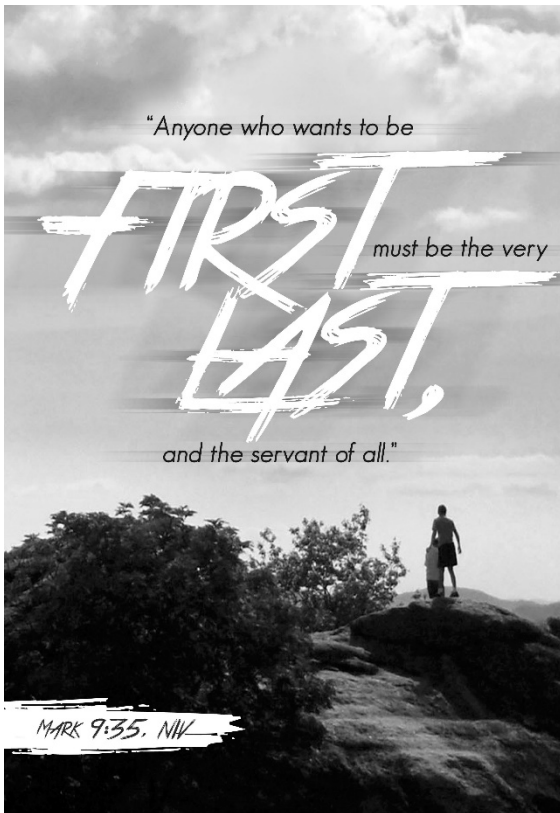


Bethlehem United Church of Christ



Sunday, Sept. 23, 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!

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.

Eighteenth 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

One: Jesus challenges us in today’s gospel:

Many: Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.

One: Then Jesus took a little child and put it among them;
and taking the child in his arms, he said to them:

Many: Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.

And whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.

One: We are still learning today
what Jesus came to teach us two thousand years ago.

To change the world

we must change the way we love and welcome all children!

Many: May we learn to love all children as if they were our own!

*INVOCATION:

We come to this place, O God, at your invitation. You welcome us all, and challenge us to welcome one another in Christ’s name. Help us to recognize in each person here the wonderful greatness that you perceive and to celebrate each one’s worth – for Christ’s sake. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: #2

”Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

James 3:13-4:3,7-8

Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. For where there is envy and selfish

ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, 'The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.' But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, 'What were you arguing about on the way?' But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, 'Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.' Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, 'Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.'

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MESSAGE

*HYMN #446

"Jesu, Jesu"

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 CROP Walk)

*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
**Generous God, you have given each one of us bountiful gifts, so we offer this money in
gratitude and love. May our gifts today be used for your work in the world. Amen.**

*HYMN #372 "Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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

- A building and grounds meeting will be held on Monday, October 15 at 6:30 in the library. Anyone is welcome to attend.
- 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. We are looking forward to hopefully starting a new tradition. 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! If you are interested in singing with us for the Christmas Concert, we will hold rehearsals at BUCC at 6:30pm on Wednesday nights starting September 19th. 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)*

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

Monday 9/24: *Happy Anniversary Ross & Lisa Westphalen*

Tuesday 9/25: *Happy Birthday Joey Rabe and Robert Schnell!*

Wednesday 9/26: 6pm Confirmation; *Happy Birthday Abriella Langdon!*

Thursday 9/27: *Happy Birthday Jeremiah Krahn!*

Friday 9/28:

Saturday 9/29:

Sunday 9/30: 8am Sunday School; 8a Adult Study; 9:30am Worship; *Happy Birthday Chad Jeanty! Happy Anniversary Dan & Amy Wempner!*

Pantry item: Package of Toilet Paper or Paper Toweling