



Bethlehem United Church of Christ

Sunday, April 3, 2022

Worship led by: Rev. Roy Rogers

Organist: Polly Jeanty

If listening from your car, please tune your car radio to 101.3 FM

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

I was glad when they said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord!

We gather today to worship the One who created us,

For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand [anywhere else];

I would rather stand [as a doorkeeper] at the threshold of the house of my God

Than to live [at ease] in the tents of wickedness.

We gather today to worship the One who calls us and equips us,

The One who loves us without end.

So with thanks in our hearts, let us worship our God.

Lord You're Mighty, all glory, all honor, all praise belongs to you. Hallelujah!

* OPENING PRAYER

I confess that I am all too ready to complain about your providence. Indeed, I do complain, sometimes inwardly, sometimes outwardly. I complain about home, health, and hardships. I think and speak as if you were not working all things for my good, as if you have forgotten about me. On the contrary, it is I who have forgotten about you! I forget who you are and who I am. I hear you ask Job, "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?" (Job 38:2). That is me! Forgive me, Father, for this folly. Help me to try to see things from your perspective or, at least, trust you with circumstances that I don't think are right and can't understand or control. In Your Holy Name. Amen

*OPENING HYMN #437 verses 1-2

"He Leadeth Me"

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, 'Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.'

Then he told this parable: 'A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, "See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?" He replied, "Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."'

SERMON "God's Providence"

*HYMN #53 vs 1-2 "God Moves in a Mysterious Way"

CALL TO THE OFFERING

God of abundant grace and compassion, you heap blessings on us with the reminder that we have been blessed to be a blessing. As we offer our tithes and offering this morning, we remember that we live in a world where so many don't have enough to eat or clean water to drink. The words that Jesus spoke to the disciples ring loud in our ears: "You give them something to eat!" As we put these gifts in your hands and lift our eyes in gratitude, bless the gifts and multiply them to ease the need in places we may never go for people we may never meet. We ask this in the holy name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen. (*Matthew 14:13-21*)

*RESPONSE "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be:

All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Lord Jesus Christ, thank you that you have plans for me that are for my good and your glory. You said, "Give, and it will be given to you; for in the same measure as you give, it will be given to you again." We give to you today as a response to your goodness to us. We ask that you receive our offerings and continue to supply all our needs. May your peace be in our hearts, your grace be in our words, your love be in our hands and your joy be in our souls. In your mighty name, Amen.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

Jesus shared many meals with his followers — feeding hungry crowds with a little bread and fish, gathering with his disciples to remember how God saved the people, and breaking bread with them after he rose from the dead. The Lord's Supper is a meal that we share today with Jesus and with the whole church throughout the world.

DISTRIBUTION

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands; now we put our lives into yours. Take us, renew and remake us. What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us on. In your name. Amen

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER (congregation may be seated)

*CLOSING HYMN #434 all verses "Precious Lord, Take my Hand"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (Please wait to be dismissed by an usher. Thank you.)

2022 Bethlehem UCC Consistory Members

Elder/President - Steve Volland (920)286-0162 or svolland44@gmail.com

Elder - Traci Rabe (920)894-7903 or trabefamily5@gmail.com

Elder – Open Position – Prayerfully consider serving your Bethlehem family

Deacon - Ross Westphalen (920)629-0193 rossw@forhealthycows.com

Deacon/Secretary – Kathy Bowe (920)894-7243 LandKBowe@outlook.com

Financial Secretary - Ruthie Rumpff (920)946-5849 srumpff@tm.net

Treasurer - Jane Umland (920)286-2175 jm59umland@gmail.com

Jingle Change Update

At the March consistory meeting, it was decided that collections in March would be given the UCC's Ukrainian Relief Fund rather than OCWM. We will continue this collection through April. We also encourage support of One Great Hour of Sharing, which will be done with envelopes rather than Jingle Change.

OGHS is non-denominational and supports disaster relief, refugee crises, hunger, etc.

Those in our thoughts and prayers:



Joys:

Families who have lost loved ones:

Jody Nenahlo
Dale Horneck

Those struggling with health issues:

Steve Kornely	Glen Schad
Signe Burkhart	Hailey Wirtz
Kenzie Koppenhaver	Darlene Horneck
Hattie Lucille	Vernon Henschel
Elizabeth Loose	Warren Fidlin
Jane Markelz	Olivia Marie
Karl (nephew of Will and Lora)	Everett Henning
Steve Rumpff	Helen Henning
Jessica Horneck	

Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer
Leah Henning – Deployed to Japan

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

UPDATE: *Field of Dreams* is NOW ACCEPTING visitors. Please arrange a visit with Merlin and Doris Mae and continue to keep them in your prayers.

Leah Henning is stationed in Japan. Send cards and letters to: (standard US postage rates)
Sgt. Leah Henning
31st MEU CE S-3
Unit 35621
FPO, AP 96385-5621

Upcoming Community Events:

Saron UCC Brat Fry & Cornhole Tournament – Sat. April 9 11am-5pm at Laack's Hall in Johnsonville. Desserts, beverages, 50-50 Raffles, as well as Bucket Raffles will be available. The Cornhole Tourney will consist of doubles teams with competitive and social brackets. The tournament is double elimination. Entry fee is \$50 for Competitive play and \$30 for Social play. Payouts based on the number of entries. Registration forms are available at Laack's Hall or by emailing jegrossh@gmail.com. Forms are due back by April 2. See flyer posted on bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Kiel PAC Events:

April 1-3 - KHS Production of Rodger's and Hammerstein's Cinderella:

April 1 - 7:00 pm show - \$10 tickets - April 2 - 7:00 pm show - \$10 tickets - April 3 - 2:00 pm show - \$10 tickets

April 2 - Cinderella's Tea Party - all ages welcome - geared toward 4K through 5th Grade - time slots starting at 12:00 noon - an adult must attend with each child/group of children - adults do not need a ticket - \$8 tickets

Tickets for Cinderella and the Tea Party are available at www.showtix4u.com/events/kiel or "In-person" on 3/29 and 4/1 from 10 am - 12 noon at the PAC - enter door H1 or starting one hour before each show.

Kiel Community Center News:

Meals on Wheels is again serving in person dining at the Kiel Community center. If you are 60 yrs. and over and would like to join other for a delicious lunch and a few laughs please call Missy at 894-7861 by noon prior to the day you would like to eat here. Please see the attached menu.

Guest speaker series: held at the community center upper level the first Monday of the month.

April 4th: Guest speaker **Joe Zenk and LuAnn Travis** will talk about bereavement and hospice

May 2nd: A representative from the Kiel VFW will be here

All you can Eat Potato and Buttermilk Pancake Dinner

on Sunday April 24, 2022 from 4-7pm

Also Serving: Brats, Hamburgers, Applesauce, Desserts, Milk, & Coffee

Cost: \$12.00 for Adults, \$8.00 for Children 6-10 years, Free for Children 5 & Under

Where: Zion Lutheran Church, 1702 Van Buren St. New Holstein, WI 53061

The proceeds will benefit the Zion LYF for the National Youth Gathering in Houston Texas this July

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today Sunday 4/3: 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Worship w/ Communion ~Happy Birthday Tyler Hanson, Ann Moore, Sheri Wilharms, and Nicole Watson!

Monday 4/4: ~Happy Birthday Greg Schultz!

Tuesday 4/5:

Wednesday 4/6: 6pm Confirmation Class ~Happy Birthday Lily Watson!!

Thursday 4/7: ~Happy Birthday Marie Mueller!

Friday 4/8: ~Happy Birthday Will Mathes!

Saturday 4/9:

Sunday 4/10: 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Palm Sunday Worship

April – Bottle of hand soap, dish soap or shampoo