



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

Sunday, August 22, 2021

Worship Leader: Randy Koppenhaver

Organist: Polly Jeanty

Bethlehem Safe Indoor Worship Guidelines

- Masks = You decide what's best for you, your loved ones and those around you.
- Remain 6 feet apart from members outside of your family
- The congregation will refrain from singing (Humming is permitted)
- An offering plate will be available in a central location
- Please wait for an usher to dismiss you after the service.
- For those who wish to congregate, you are asked to do so outside
- Please stay home if you or a member of your family is not feeling well.
- Scrip will be available for purchase on the first and third Sundays. We ask that when purchasing scrip cards that only one person be at the scrip table at a time.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God hears our cries for help and rescues us from all our troubles.

All: God draws near the broken hearted and saves the crushed in spirit.

One: God redeems the life of all people; none who take refuge in God will be condemned.

All: So, let us worship the One who lifts us to new life and praise God's holy name.

*OPENING PRAYER

God of majesty and mystery, we come before you in humble wonder and worship. Source of all that is, you are beyond our imagining; your creation astounds us with its beauty and power. Word of hope and healing, you defy our explanations with your care. Spirit of purpose and possibility, you touch us when we least expect it and show us which way to turn. Receive our praise and prayer this day; and prepare us to receive your presence and promise in this hour of worship, Source, Word, and Spirit of Life, ever Three and ever One. Amen

SONG #47 "Great is Thy Faithfulness" (no singing, please)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, with the community of Christ's church gathered here and elsewhere, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with our whole hearts, nor have we cared for your world or respected our neighbors as we should. Forgive us, we pray, and with your grace, remake us in the example of Christ, our Lord and friend.

(Silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus said, "Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." Friends, trust that peace and forgiveness are God's gifts to you this day. Be renewed by the power of the Spirit that moves with you into each new day.

Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE "Gloria Patri"

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 6:10–20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the

whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

MESSAGE

SONG #449 “Onward Christian Soldiers” (no singing, please)

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER...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.

BLESSING AND COMMISSION

One: Take a prayerful spirit into your everyday world. God will listen and respond to your prayers.

All: We pray for all God’s saints engaged in ministry. All of us are ambassadors for Christ.

One: You have good news to share with a needy world. God will open up to you the mystery of the gospel.

All: We trust in God to lead and guide us in truth. Happy is everyone who trusts in God.

One: Happy are those who look to God for strength. All who dwell with God will go from strength to strength.

All: God grants abundant life to humble doorkeepers. We will do our part to extend God’s reign. Amen

POSTLUDE

(Please wait to be dismissed by the ushers. Thank you.)

DON'T FORGET TO GRAB A NOTE OFF THE GIVING TREE AS YOU LEAVE!

Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Joys:

Families who have lost loved ones:

Shirley Kanzelberger

Those struggling with health issues:

Mary Vogel

Marilyn Hanke

Robert Cwiertniak (Mathes' son-in-law)

Casey Litz (Cousin of Bonnie Zorn)

Everett Henning

Warren Fidlin

Mother of Dawn Wirtz

Karl (nephew of Will and Lora)

Mike Mathes

Tom Brickbauer

Macullen Schnell

Dale Horneck

Olivia Marie

Jessica Horneck

Those unable to worship with us: Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer

Other concerns:

People of Afghanistan

People of Haiti

Division in the U.S.

Racial Justice and equality in our country

Health Care workers

Those whose businesses are struggling

Those who are out of work

People who live where violence and injustice prevails.

2021 Bethlehem UCC Consistory Members

Elder/President - Steve Voland (920)286-0162 or svoland44@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

AUGUST'S JINGLE CHANGE OFFERING SUPPORTS BETHLEHEM'S
PLEDGE TO OCWM (OUR CHURCH'S WIDER MISSION)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Plan a visit to our homebound members! Merlin and Doris Mae Nimmer are at Field of Dreams in Kiel (286-6189) Call to arrange a visit.

Save the date:

Sept 12: First day of Sunday School

Sept 15: First day of Confirmation Class (6pm)

Sept 19: Mission Sunday

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sunday, Sept. 19 – “Faith in the Fall” music festival – Our Shepherd UCC, Howards Grove – 10am-2pm – see flyer

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today, Sunday 8/22: 9:30a Worship;

Monday 8/23:

Tuesday 8/24:

Wednesday 8/25:

Thursday 8/26: *Happy Anniversary Chris & Renee Freund!*

Friday 8/27: *Happy Birthday Tasha Rabe!*

Saturday 8/28:

Sunday 8/29: 9:30a Worship; *Happy Anniversary Rich & Lori Schmitt!*

Pantry item: Jar of peanut butter or jelly