



# SALT & LIGHT

## **BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**Sunday, February 12, 2023**

**Guest Worship Leader: Lou Ann Norsetter**

**Organist: Kathy Bowe**

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

**\*= Please rise in body or spirit**

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP: #82 (first verse) "O Come Let us Adore Him"

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: How blessed are we when we meditate on God's teachings;

**All: and when we desire God with our whole hearts.**

One: Let us praise God with attentive minds and eager spirits,

**All: for we are God's servants, working and praying together.**

One: So let us worship God and praise God's holy name.

**All: Let us seek God's path and listen for God's call.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER:**

**God of all life and each life, You are the light of minds that seek to know you. You are strength for those who seek to serve you. You reveal truth to those who search for you. In worship, we pause in your presence, resting from our work and responsibilities, from our worries and distractions. We come to enjoy your presence and praise you for the gift of life in Christ and in creation. Receive our prayers and praise this day, for we open our hearts in love and loyalty to you, O God, our All in All. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN # 48 all

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

#### PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

**Holy God, your fire warms our hearts when they grow cold to the pain of the world, shines brightly to illuminate the shadows where we hide from you, and provides fuel to energize us when we grow weary of the work. Revive us again, O God, revive us. Amen.** (silent reflection)

#### WORDS OF GRACE

God with Us knows the feeling of fatigue, the despair of doing hard things, and the frustration of a world that has turned from the Holy One.

**God is faithful to refresh us, renew us, and revive us. All praise to him! Amen!**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE # 121 (refrain) “Gloria”

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

#### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

##### **Psalms 119:1-8**

Happy are those whose way is blameless,  
who walk in the law of the LORD.

Happy are those who keep his decrees,  
who seek him with their whole heart,  
who also do no wrong,  
but walk in his ways.

You have commanded your precepts  
to be kept diligently.

O that my ways may be steadfast  
in keeping your statutes!

Then I shall not be put to shame,  
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

I will praise you with an upright heart,  
when I learn your righteous ordinances.

I will observe your statutes;  
do not utterly forsake me.

##### **Matthew 5:13-20** (Good News Translation)

<sup>13</sup> “You are like salt for the whole human race. But if salt loses its saltiness, there is no way to make it salty again. It has become worthless, so it is thrown out and people trample on it.

<sup>14</sup> “You are like light for the whole world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl; instead it is put on the lampstand, where it gives light for everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to do away with the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. I have not come to do away with them, but to make their teachings come true. <sup>18</sup> Remember that as long as heaven and earth last, not the least point nor the smallest detail of the Law will be done away with—not until the end of all things.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>19</sup> So then, whoever disobeys even the least important of the commandments and teaches others to do the same, will be least in the Kingdom of heaven. On the other hand, whoever obeys the Law and teaches others to do the same, will be great in the Kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> I tell you, then, that you will be able to enter the Kingdom of heaven only if you are more faithful than the teachers of the Law and the Pharisees in doing what God requires.

## SERMON

\*HYMN #349 all

“Take My Life and Let it Be”

CALL TO THE OFFERING (Jingle change for February will go to the Sunday school’s Leprosy mission)

Leader: God sets choices before us. Some can bring life and blessing, but others lead to despair. When we give our gifts to God, we make a choice for life, a choice to bless others in God’s holy name. So trust that God will bless the choice we make today. Let us receive this morning’s offerings.

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Doxology”

**To God, all glorious heav’nly Light  
To Christ revealed in earthly night,  
To God the Spirit now we raise  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise. Amen**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Gracious and generous God, we bring our gifts to you in thanksgiving.  
Bless them and surprise us by all the Holy Spirit can accomplish with  
them. Bless our lives, too, so that our choices will always honor you for  
Christ’s sake. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE...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.**

\*CLOSING SONG                      “Go Now in Peace”

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.  
Go now in faith. Steadfast strong and true.  
Know he will guide you, in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love. A-men, A-men, A-men.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

\*\*Elements and liturgies for today's service were used with permission from ucc.org and <https://presbyterian.ca/worship/>

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The Bethlehem Ladies will be taking orders for Easter Flowers. The flowers available are:

Easter Lily \$9.50  
Mum \$10.50  
Hydrangea \$32.00  
Azalea \$24.00  
Reiger Begonia \$9.00

The flowers will be in church on Palm Sunday and need to be taken home on Easter Sunday which is April 9th. There is a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Last Sunday to sign up is **February 26th.**

Please pay Jeanette Wriedt by cash or checks made to Bethlehem Ladies.

## **2023 Bethlehem UCC Leadership Team**

Elder/President - Steven Volland (920)286-0162 or [svolland44@gmail.com](mailto:svolland44@gmail.com)

Elder - Traci Rabe (920)894-7903 or [trabefamily5@gmail.com](mailto:trabefamily5@gmail.com)

**Elder – Open Position – Prayerfully consider serving your Bethlehem family**

Deacon - Ross Westphalen (920)629-0193 [rossw@forhealthycows.com](mailto:rossw@forhealthycows.com)

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

Financial Secretary - Ruthie Rumpff (920)946-5849 [srumpff@tm.net](mailto:srumpff@tm.net)

Treasurer - Jane Umland (920)286-2175 [jm59umland@gmail.com](mailto:jm59umland@gmail.com)

Pastor – Randy Koppenhaver (920)286-2531 [randynmel5@gmail.com](mailto:randynmel5@gmail.com)



### **Those in our thoughts and prayers:**

#### **Joys:**

#### **Families who have lost loved ones:**

Dale Spindler (Father of Dawn Wirtz; Brother of Darlean Rumpff)

#### **Those struggling with health issues:**

Bob Radder	Daisy Sippel
Finn	Darlene Horneck
Doreen Schmidt	Helen Henning
Tom Lefeber	Hattie Lucille
Jessica Horneck	Sandra Tesch
Dawson Horneck	Gary Steinhardt
John Buchholz (Marie's brother)	

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

- Other Concerns:**
- Victims of gun violence in California and other places
  - Victims of recent natural disasters, especially victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria.
  - Please affected by war and/or oppression (Esp. Ukraine)

### **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- There is a flyer on the bulletin board regarding a grief support group at Holy Family in Manitowoc.
- Upcoming In-Person Class  
Do you have a fear of falling or losing your balance? The Aging & Disability Resource Center of the Lakeshore, along with Bethlehem UCC Church is offering Stepping On, a 7 week workshop, beginning Thursdays, April 13<sup>th</sup>-May 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00pm. Trained leaders and community professionals guide you in recognizing your risk of falling by identifying fall hazards in the home and community, help you build the balance, strength and practical skills you need to avoid a fall, how to safely get up from a fall, identify vision, footwear and medication management risks, and how to manage safely in inclement weather. The cost is a suggested \$10 donation. Please contact the Aging & Disability Resource Center of the Lakeshore at 1-877-416-7083 for more information or to register.
- Wed. 2/15 - Chili Supper (carry out only) – Immanuel UCC – 4pm-7pm
- Perch Fry – Friday, 2/17 – Holy Trinity Parish, School Hill – Dine in or carry out – see flyer in fellowship hall for details.

- Sat. March 4 – Brat Fry and Cornhole Tournament – 11a-4pm – Laack’s Hall, Johnsonville – sponsored by Saron UCC
- Saturday, March 4 – 4p-10p. InCourage (domestic abuse shelter) Domestic Chef Charity Event – Held at The Venue at Union Square, Manitowoc. Compete or just partake – See bulletin board for more details!
- Pancake Breakfast – Sunday 3/12 – 9a-noon - Holy Trinity Parish, School Hill
- Saturday, 3/17 – Woman’s Day program 9am – Zion Lutheran Church, New Holstein.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT LAKELAND UNIVERSITY - see flyers on bulletin board for more info.**

2/16 - Founder's Day Lecture - Marty Thau sharing his father's story as a Holocaust Survivor - 6:30-8pm - Bradley Fine Arts Bldg.

2/25 - "Essence of Heritage" - a student-led event paying homage to Black History - 7pm - Bradley Fine Arts Bldg.

3/26 - Bus trip to Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center- Leaving Lakeland at 8am

**Disaster relief:**

You can make a donation to the International Emergency fund designated for “Turkey and Syria Earthquake Response”. Your generous financial support will be used by our partners in the areas of greatest need, for relief and long-term recovery. You can mail a check made payable to the **United Church of Christ, PO BOX 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194**. Please be sure to note “Turkey and Syria” on your check in the memo section. You may also text UCCDISASTER to 41444.

**This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today Sunday 2/12:** 8:00 Sunday School; 9:30am Worship

**Monday 2/13:**

**Tuesday 2/14:** ~Happy Anniversary Jerry & Carol Wehrmann!!

**Wednesday 2/15:**

**Thursday 2/16:** ~Happy Birthday Ryan Holz and Diane Fidlin!

**Friday 2/17:** ~Happy Birthday Mark Voland!

**Saturday 2/18:** ~Happy Birthday Ashley Radder!

**Sunday 2/19:** 8:00 Sunday School; 8:30a Bethlehem Ladies; 9:30am Worship; Consistory Mtg. following worship; ~Happy Birthday Emilee Wirtz! Happy Anniversary Tony & Pam Bowe!

**February Pantry Items:**

**Box of sandwich bags, foil, plastic wrap or garbage bags**