



Bethlehem United Church of Christ

Sunday, February 13, 2022

Worship led by: Jim Herschleb
Organist: Kathy Bowe

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

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
- 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: Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God..

Many: We are each a child of God. No matter who we are, or where we are on life's journey, we are blessed.

One: Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

Many: We come to worship the God who feeds us, who fills us, and who blesses us.

One: Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

All: Let us rejoice in the love of God, and worship our God together in prayer, song, and praise.

* OPENING PRAYER

O God of many blessings, be with us in our joy and in our sorrow.

**Help us to reach out with your love to those in need,
that we may not be satisfied until all are fed.**

Bless each of us here, and all who cannot be present with us today.

Shower your blessings on our worship, as we pray all this through Jesus the Christ, our teacher and our guide. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN *"How Great Thou Art"* #27 verses 1-2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God, We try to care for each other, especially when there is pain and sorrow, and when we witness injustice.

But we cannot find blessing in poverty and hunger.

Sometimes it feels just too hard to offer relief or to work for change.

We prefer to stay in our comfortable spaces or choose to walk past those in need.

Sometimes we are afraid.

Forgive us when we serve ourselves more often than we serve you, O God.

We come to you with humble hearts.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God knows your mind and knows your heart.

God forgives those who seek forgiveness with sincere hearts and minds.

God offers grace of hope and courage to change our ways and confront injustice.

Blessed are those who trust in God, whose trust is in God.

Know that you are loved and forgiven.

Many: Thanks be to God. Amen

*RESPONSE *"Gloria Patri"*

Glory be to the Father, And to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, Is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen, Amen.

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Matthew 28:9

Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him.

Exodus 29:42

It shall be a regular burnt-offering throughout your generations at the entrance of the tent of meeting before the LORD, where I will meet you, to speak to you there.

SERMON

SONG *"I Can Only Imagine"*

CALL TO THE OFFERING

How shall we show your love, your pardon to believe?

You bid us share as we are blessed and give as we receive.

*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

Gracious and loving God, who blesses us with so many good gifts, we bring these offerings with the hope of turning tears to laughter, and sorrow to joy.

May they truly be a blessing. Amen.

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

God of mystery and mercy,

We come before you today carrying hopes and dreams,
the burdens and blessings of our lives.

We bring all that is on our hearts and minds to you,

seeking your comfort and strength,

listening for your guidance,

grateful that you hear us when we pray.

Faithful God,

Hear our prayer.

God of life and love,

We give you thanks that you engage us whenever we need you,

in the midst of challenge and uncertainty.

We pray today for all those who are fearful about their future,

and for all who wrestle with challenges at work or at home.

Help us face our fears and our challenges, sure of your steadfast love:

Faithful God,

Hear our prayer.

God of hope and healing,

In Jesus Christ you confronted demons that trouble our minds

and the pain and illness which can weigh us down.

We pray today for all those who are facing health concerns,

and for all who care for the suffering and those in need support.

Keep a time of silence.

Surround each one with your steadfast love.

Faithful God,

Hear our prayer.

God of peace and promise,

when we wrestle with any burden,

your Spirit prays within us with sighs too deep for words.

Today we pray for all those whose burdens seem too heavy to bear:

for the victims of violence or disaster, for their friends and families...

Keep a brief silence.

For those caught in despair and poverty in our own neighborhoods
and in the forgotten corners of your world..

Keep a brief silence.

Renew the strength of all facing realities beyond their control with your steadfast love:

Faithful God,

Hear our prayer.

Receive all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, and equip us to do your will
as together we pray the words Jesus taught us:

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 HYMN

“Amazing Grace” #334 vs 1-2

BENEDICTION

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

Dear People of Bethlehem,

There are not enough “thank you’s” in the world to express my gratitude for the prayers, care, love and support that you, the members of Bethlehem, have given to my family during our recent crisis. The power of God working through his people has never been more evident to me. Although we endured some scary and challenging moments, we knew that the Bethlehem community was there for us. We cannot thank you enough! May God Bless each and every one of you. I can’t wait to resume my roles at Bethlehem. In Christ,
Pastor Randy (and family)



February jingle change will help to supplement the Sunday School’s
Leprosy Project.

- In 2020, there were over 127,500 new cases of leprosy worldwide.
- The average cost to cure and care for one person with leprosy is \$348

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@forhealthy cows.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

Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Joys:

The Birth of Zander Robert Jeanty - 2/9/22 - Parents Ben & Cassie Jeanty-
Grandparents Bruce & Polly Jeanty



Families who have lost loved ones:

Eugene (Gene) Birschbach – Sharon Rumpff's father
Macullen Schnell

Those struggling with health issues:

Signe Burkhart

Kenzie Koppenhaver

Brenna Koppenhaver

Elizabeth Loose

Louie Bowe

Jane Markelz

Steve Rumpff

Everett Henning

Helen Henning

Dale and Darlene Horneck

Hattie Lucille

Warren Fidlin

Mother of Dawn Wirtz

Karl (nephew of Will and Lora)

Olivia Marie

Jessica Horneck

Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer

Leah Henning – Deployed to Japan

UPDATE: Field of Dreams is not accepting visitors at this time. We pray for the residents and staff by sending wishes of good health and well being during this recent uptick in area Covid cases.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

Easter Lily \$9.00
Mum \$9.75
Hydrangea \$26.00
Azalea \$22.50
Reiger Begonia \$18.00

The flowers will be in church on Palm Sunday and need to be taken home on Easter Sunday which is April 17th. There is a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Last Sunday to sign up is **February 27th**. Please pay Jeanette Wriedt by cash or checks made to Bethlehem Ladies.

- Dear Bethlehem Congregation, Thank you for your generosity during Advent. Your donations to the food pantry at Immanuel UCC was greatly appreciated. The addition of toiletries and cleaning products allows us to provide for needs beyond food, and it is a blessing. Signed, Jennifer M. Pantry Volunteer
- Can you help shovel snow? Sign up in the Fellowship Hall for the month you can help keep the church sidewalks cleared.

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:

The 21st Annual Holy Trinity Parish Perch Fry is Friday, February 18, 2022 at 11928 Marken Road in School Hill. Dine-In Serving 3:30-7pm. Carry-outs available 11am-1pm and 3:30-7pm by calling 773-2380. Grilled cheese plates, homemade tortes, raffle tickets and the HT Lounge also available. Please see more information posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Saturday, March 5, 2022 – Zion Lutheran Church, New Holstein
“Believe Deeper – Be Loved Deeper” 9am – 2:30pm
For more information, please see the posting on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.
Deadline to register is February 12th

Mission Opportunity!!

First United Lutheran Church in Sheboygan is hosting a Feed My Starving Children MobilePack on March 11-12, 2022.

A Feed My Starving Children facts sheet is posted in the fellowship hall. Here is the link to volunteer <https://give.fmcs.org/Sheboygan>. A packing session is a 2 hour commitment that goes by very quickly and is an enjoyable experience for a great cause.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today Sunday 2/13: 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Worship
~Happy Birthday Henry Krueger!

Monday 2/14: Happy Anniversary Jerry & Carol Wehrmann!

Tuesday 2/15:

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

Thursday 2/17:

Friday 2/18: ~Happy Birthday Ashley Radder!

Saturday 2/19: ~Happy Birthday Emilee Wirtz! Happy Anniversary Tony & Pam Bowe!

Sunday 2/20: 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Worship

~Happy Birthday Dawn Muehlbauer and Jesse Rumpff!

**February – Sandwich bags, Foil, Plastic Wrap, Garbage bags
February Jingle Change supports those suffering from Leprosy**