



# SALT & LIGHT

## **BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**Sunday, February 5, 2023**

**Worship Leader: Pastor Randy Koppenhaver**

**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:**

Just as sunrise breaks through the darkness each day,  
**So God's grace, mercy and justice shine forth.**

We gather together, with devotion and doubt, with weariness and wonder;  
**trusting that God's peace and love are present here.**

Come and worship as you are, knowing you are loved.

**We come, rejoicing, to praise God's holy name.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER:**

**Holy One, Light of the world,**

**In the sparkle of the snowflake, we see your beauty.**

**In frosted treetops, we delight in your splendor.**

**Even in the cold of winter, your creation amazes us.**

**We praise you for blessing the world with such beauty  
and giving us a place within it.**

**Just as months of winter renew creation for springtime growth,**

**renew us with your Spirit in this time of worship  
to grow in faithfulness and service.**

**Grant that our lives can shine the light of Christ into these challenging  
times. Amen.**

\*OPENING HYMN #145 all

“O Christ, Our Light”

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

**Righteous One, it is not easy to follow your path. Your way requires  
sacrifice and intention—resisting cultural norms and societal pressures  
and abandoning our need to control and to function from our own power.  
Sometimes, we add complexity in order to assure ourselves it is not  
possible to be faithful. Yet, your way is simple. Soften our hearts and  
encourage us to return to the journey with you.**

WORDS OF GRACE

God, who is faithful, can redeem our detours and misdirections on the journey  
**for our good and the good of others.** God’s invitation to covenantal life has  
no expiration date, **and the Holy One receives us with joy and grace when  
we take even one step toward the kingdom. 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

**Isaiah 58:1-12**

Shout out, do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet day after day they seek me

and delight to know my ways,

as if they were a nation that practiced  
righteousness

and did not forsake the ordinance of  
their God;

they ask of me righteous judgements,  
they delight to draw near to God.

‘Why do we fast, but you do not see?’

Why humble ourselves, but you do not  
notice?’

Look, you serve your own interest on your  
fast-day,

and oppress all your workers.

Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.

Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?

Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?

Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?

Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the

hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your  
house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own  
kin?  
Then your light shall break forth like the  
dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your  
rearguard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will  
answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say,  
Here I am.  
If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking

of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched  
places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of  
many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the  
breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

**Psalm 112** p. 693 - Leader reads odd verses, people read even verses

### **Matthew 5:13-20**

'You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

'Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

### MESSAGE

\*HYMN #466 all

"This Little Light of Mine"

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

\*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

**Lord Jesus Christ, your love makes us salt for the earth and light for the world. Bless our gifts so that they bring light into dark days and salt to flavor the earth with your justice and mercy. Amen.**

### HOLY COMMUNION

(God's table is open to ALL, regardless of affiliation or membership. Please hold the elements until all have been served and we will partake together. All bread is gluten free. The inner circles are grape juice, the outer rings are wine.)

INVITATION

PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

**We give thanks, loving God, that you have refreshed us at your table. Strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another. As we have been fed by the seed that became grain, and then became bread, may we go out into the world to plant seeds of justice, transformation, and hope. Amen.**

\*COMMUNION RESPONSE #536 v. 1 "Let us Talents and Tongues Employ"

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

### **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
  - Please affected by war and/or oppression (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.
- Perch Fry – Friday, 2/17 – Holy Trinity Parish, School Hill – Dine in or carry out – see flyer in fellowship hall for details.

- 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.**

- 2/6 - MLK Day Service - 4pm at Ley Chapel
- 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

**This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today Sunday 2/5:** 8:00 Sunday School; 9:30am Worship w/ Communion; 1pm Rural Church Fellowship Sheepshead Tournament

**Monday 2/6:** ~Happy Birthday Brandon Hoban!

**Tuesday 2/7:** ~Happy Anniversary Mike & Judy Brockway!

**Wednesday 2/8:** 6pm Confirmation Class

**Thursday 2/9:** ~Happy Birthday Zander Jeanty and Jennifer Ninmer!

**Friday 2/10:**

**Saturday 2/11:** ~Happy Birthday Aaron Suttner!

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

**February Pantry Items:**

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