



BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Sunday, July 17, 2022

Worship led by: Randy Koppenhaver

Organist: Polly Jeanty

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

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

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The warming rays of the summer sun,

All: Reflect the warmth of God's love for us.

One: The crops growing; strengthening and maturing,

All: Reflect our growth in faith from one season of life to the next.

One: The cool rippling water of the lake, the gently flowing stream,

All: Reflect for us God's cleansing and renewing power.

One: The laughter of families and friends gathered to enjoy food and friendship in the open air,

All: Reflect the joy and thankfulness of God's own people gathering together for worship. Let us worship God!

***OPENING PRAYER**

One: You call practical persons to worship, O God:

All: The cooks and cleaners, those who work with hammers, and those who wield paintbrushes.

One: You call the counselors and advisors to worship, O God:

All: The social workers and teachers, those who work with feelings and those who work with computers.

One: You call retired women and men to worship, O God:

All: The fit and the struggling, those who enjoy gardening, those who care for their grandchildren.

One: You call boys and girls to worship, O God:

All: The shy ones and the daring, those who enjoy soccer, those who play baseball.

One: You call the challenged ones to worship, O God:

All: Persons of varied abilities, those who wheel happily, and those who sign joyfully.

One: You call us *all* to worship, O God:

All: We rejoice in this wonderful opportunity! Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: #550 VS. 1-3-5

“All are Welcome”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: When we have been so caught up with achieving and doing, that we forget to take time to be quiet,

All: God of the still small voice, forgive us.

One: When we have been so focused on reflecting and meditating that we forget to practice compassion and helping,

All: God of Jesus, the healer and teacher, forgive us.

One: When we are so concerned to speak out for the powerless that we forget our nearest and dearest,

All: God who has placed us in families, forgive us.

One: When we are so concerned for those who are our loved ones and friends that we forget the despised and rejected,

All: God who stands beside the exploited and abused, forgive us.

(Time for silent reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Help us, O God, to stand back from the routine happenings of our lives, and to reflect on them your loving light.

All: You will show us clearly, when we should talk and when we should act.

You will show us clearly what changes need to be made, which relationships need to be renewed, and which situations call us to begin again.

One: In calm reflection and in fresh starts, pardon and peace will be ours!

All: 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.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Amos 8:1-12

This is what the Lord GOD showed me—a basket of summer fruit. He said, ‘Amos, what do you see?’ And I said, ‘A basket of summer fruit.’ Then the LORD said to me,

‘The end has come upon my people Israel; I will never again pass them by. The songs of the temple shall become wailings on that day,’ says the Lord GOD;

'the dead bodies shall be many,
cast out in every place. Be silent!'

Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
saying, 'When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and the shekel
great,
and practice deceit with false balances,
buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat.'

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.
Shall not the land tremble on this account,
and everyone mourn who lives in it,
and all of it rise like the Nile,
and be tossed about and sink again, like
the Nile of Egypt?

Psalm 52

Why do you boast, O mighty one,
of mischief done against the godly?

All day long you are plotting destruction.

Your tongue is like a sharp razor, you worker of treachery.

You love evil more than good,
and lying more than speaking the truth.

You love all words that devour,

O deceitful tongue.

But God will break you down for ever;
he will snatch and tear you from your tent;
he will uproot you from the land of the living.

The righteous will see, and fear,
and will laugh at the evildoer, saying,
**'See the one who would not take
refuge in God, but trusted in abundant riches,
and sought refuge in wealth!'**

But I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God.
**I trust in the steadfast love of God
for ever and ever.**

I will thank you for ever,
because of what you have done.

On that day, says the Lord GOD,
I will make the sun go down at noon,
and darken the earth in broad daylight.
I will turn your feasts into mourning,
and all your songs into lamentation;
I will bring sackcloth on all loins,
and baldness on every head;
I will make it like the mourning for an only
son,
and the end of it like a bitter day.

The time is surely coming, says the
Lord GOD,
when I will send a famine on the land;
not a famine of bread, or a thirst for water,
but of hearing the words of the LORD.
They shall wander from sea to sea,
and from north to east;
they shall run to and fro, seeking the word of
the LORD,
but they shall not find it.

In the presence of the faithful

I will proclaim your name, for it is good.

Luke 10:38-42

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, 'Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.' But the Lord answered her, 'Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.'

SERMON

*HYMN #349 all

"Take my Life and Let it Be"

CALL TO THE OFFERING - Offerings are collected before and after worship in the Fellowship Hall. The basket is located near the double doors to the sanctuary.

*OFFERTORY 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

One: Unfailing are your blessings to us, O God, unfailingly appropriate and generous.

All: In response to your unfailing generosity to us, we bring our gifts for blessing.

One: We will be blessed in this church, as gifts are transformed into teaching, listening, and singing.

All: In the wider church, our gifts will be transformed into healthier communities, training for jobs, and lively centers of faith. Amen.

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

Petitions end with "God with an open heart," Response: **Open our hearts to you!**

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.

COMMISSIONING

One: Ever with us in past days, O God, you are with us still.

All: You are with us as we reflect on the modern-day saints in action.

One: You are with us as we pose the hard questions and are challenged by the answers.

All: You are with us as we struggle to work out life's direction with Christ as a pattern.

One: You are with us as we venture fearfully into new territory.

All: You are with us as we leave this church to faithfully begin a new week.

One: O loving, joyful, and careful God,

All: Thank you! Amen.

POSTLUDE

Responsive Liturgies taken from Prayers to Share – Year C, David Sparks, 2003

2022 Bethlehem UCC Consistory Members

Elder/President - Steven 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

JULY JINGLE CHANGE supports The Bethlehem Ladies "Christmas Cheer" project

Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Joys:

*Elizabeth Lynn Deignan was baptized into God's family on July 10. Her parents are Steve and Jennifer Deignan.

Families who have lost loved ones:

Jane Markelz
Everett Henning

Those struggling with health issues:

Nikki (Friend of Bonnie Z)	Steve Kornely
Tom Lefeber	Steve Rumpff
Glen Schad	Jessica Horneck
Signe Burkhart	Janice Schad
Kenzie Koppenhaver	Darlene Horneck
Hattie Lucille	Karl(nephew of Will and Lora)
Warren Fidlin	Helen Henning
Olivia Marie	Dana P (friend of Melissa K)



Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin and Doris Mae Nimmer

Other Concerns:

People of the Ukraine and others affected by war and violence.
People affected by recent gun violence in our nation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Reminder! Please check and empty your church mailbox.
- The blue and yellow candle on the altar is lit in unity with the people of the Ukraine.
- Field of Dreams is accepting visitors again! Merlin and Doris Mae would love to see you!
- **Bethlehem Youth Fellowship Summer Volleyball:**
July 17, 2022 – 6:30pm Bethlehem @ St. Marks/St. James
July 24, 2022 – 6:30pm Immanuel/Bethel @ Bethlehem
Tournament date – Aug 7th, 2022 at Immanuel at NOON Coaches/captains meeting @ 11:45 a.m.

Bethlehem's Spiritual Leadership:

Reverend Roy Rogers

Phone: 920.428.0183 or email:

rogersr671@gmail.com

**Randy Koppenhaver,
Licensed Lay Minister**

Phone: 920.286.2531 or email:

randynmel5@gmail.com

Community Announcements:

OUR LADY OF THE HOLYLAND PARISH – ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH (JOHNSBURG) – CHICKEN & TIPS

TAKE-OUT DINNER: Sunday, July 17th served from 11:00AM – 1:00PM. Blanck's chicken and dressing and Jim and Linda's beef tips, potatoes, & corn. \$17 per plate. TAKE-OUT ONLY, no dining in. Pre-orders preferred - call to place your preorder by July 9th [Kelly 920-539-6886, or Sharon 920-795-4728]. Only 500 meals will be sold! Cash or check only. Raffle ticket drawing @ 2:00PM. Hope to see you there! N9288 County Road W, Malone (Johnsburg).

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today Sunday 7/17: 9:30am Worship; 6:30p Youth Volleyball @ St. Marks/St. James

Monday 7/18: ~Happy Birthday Helen Henning! Happy Anniversary Davin & Jessica Horneck!

Tuesday 7/19:

Wednesday 7/20: ~Happy Anniversary Eric & Dawn Muehlbauer!

Thursday 7/21:

Friday 7/22: ~Happy Birthday Lynnette Steinhardt!

Saturday 7/23:

Sunday 7/24: 9:30am Worship; ~Happy Birthday Tom Rabe! Happy Anniversary Scott & Jane Umland!

July Pantry Items: School Supplies