



**BETHLEHEM UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Sunday, May 8, 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 (based on Revelation 7)**

Along with all those in heaven, let us cry out together:

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!

Along with the redeemed, let us praise God with joyful hearts:

For this reason we come before the throne of God and worship the Lord day and night.

Called together by the Holy Spirit, let us rejoice and sing:

We will hunger and thirst no more. The Lamb will guide us to springs of the water of life. Let us worship God!

***OPENING PRAYER**

God of the ages, God of today,

You are compassion; our cup overflows.

You are hope; you lead us into green pastures.

You are truth; you lead us beside quiet streams.

You are life; you restore our souls.

Morning, noon and night, O God, you are the source of our joy.

We gather to worship you as one family of your people,

honoring you as our Creator, trusting you as our Savior,

celebrating you as the Spirit who gives us life. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: #259 vs. 1-2, 6

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,

we confess we stray from your ways like lost sheep.

**We follow the desires of our own hearts,
ignoring the needs of others.**

We judge ourselves more generously than others.

We fail to offer others the forgiveness we seek from you.

We nurse grudges and cling to our own opinions.

**Forgive the ways we betray your love,
and return us to your paths of truth and mercy.**

(silent reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Letter to the Ephesians declares that Christ dwells in our hearts through faith, for we are being rooted and grounded in his love.

The forgiveness he offers is a gift of this love.

Receive God’s forgiveness with faithful hearts, and be at peace with God, with yourself and with each other.

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

Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, ‘Please come to us without delay.’ So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, ‘Tabitha, get up.’ Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Psalm 23 (Read from page 604 of hymnal. Leader and people read alternating lines))

John 10:22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, ‘How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.’ Jesus answered, ‘I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify

to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

SERMON

*HYMN #431 vs. 1-2

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

CALL TO THE OFFERING

*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

Generous God, thank you for all we have received from you in Christ and in creation. Bless the gifts we bring and use them in the service of your reign of justice and peace, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Guide.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER (congregation may be seated)
Petitions end with, "Jesus, our friend and brother," Congregation responds with, "**Hear our 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.

BENEDICTION

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

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

- Field of Dreams is NOW ACCEPTING visitors. Please arrange a visit with Merlin and Doris Mae and continue to keep them in your prayers.
- 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: (See Bulletin Board for more information.)

- Brat Fry - Wed. May 11 4p-7p - St. James UCC, Newton - carry-outs only
- Rummage sale – May 12 & 13 – Women in Mission, Zion Lutheran Church, New Holstein
- Drive-Thru Fish Fry - May 13 at Anchor Lanes 4p-7pm - Sponsored by Community UCC, Elkhart Lake

It's Time for the Undy 500 –

Donations go to the Guest House of Milwaukee (Homeless Shelter)

All items must be NEW and extra-large sizes are highly needed (2XL, 3XL, 4XL, etc.)

• **Men's Underwear - BOXERS and BOXER BRIEFS ONLY**

◦ *Due to an overabundance of men's briefs (aka "tighty whiteys") on hand, we cannot accept these items; many shelter guests find them uncomfortable and decline them*

- **Men's Undershirts**
- **Women's Underwear**
- **Sports Bras**
- **All items size 2XL or larger will receive one bonus point per item!**



This Week at Bethlehem:

Today Sunday 5/8: 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Worship; *Happy Birthday Merri Wempner and Nick Hanson!*

Monday 5/9: *~Happy Birthday Jennifer Brockway and Tim Mueller!!*

Tuesday 5/10: 5pm Beth Ladies @ Riverview; 6:30pm Consistory *~Happy Birthday Bryan Jeanty*

Wednesday 5/11: *~Happy Birthday Pam Bowe!*

Thursday 5/12: *~Happy Birthday Jennifer Stroschine!!*

Friday 5/13:

Saturday 5/14: 9a-3p Merry Christians Brat Fry at Kiel Piggly Wiggly *~Happy Birthday Sarah Arnold and Brenda Riesterer!!*

Sunday 5/15: 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Worship

May – Bottle of Laundry Soap or Fabric Softener