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Sunday, November 14, 2021

Worship Leader: The Confirmation Class

Organist: Kathy Bowe

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
- The congregation will refrain from singing (Humming is permitted)
- 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

Praise the Lord, my soul;

All my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits

Who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases,

Who redeems your life from the pit,

And crowns you with love and compassion,

Who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

*OPENING PRAYER

Dear Merciful Lord, thank you for your gift of forgiveness. Your only Son loved me enough to come to earth and experience the worst pain imaginable so I could be forgiven. Your mercy flows to me in spite of my faults and failures. Your Word says to “clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.” Help me demonstrate unconditional love today, even to those who hurt me. Amen

OPENING SONG #459

“Freely, Freely”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of justice and mercy,
you call us to take a part in our community,
loving our neighbors and serving your purposes.
We confess that this is easier said than done.
We often sit in judgment on those who serve in public life,
criticizing any who fall short of our expectations.
Yet we confess we, too, fall short of your loving purpose for us.
Forgive us when we have been too quick to criticize
and too slow to join in what needs to be done.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ—and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God’s generous grace. Share that forgiveness with others in his name.
Thanks be to God, Amen!

*RESPONSE

Gloria Patri

READING OF SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 3:12-15

Take care, brothers and sisters, that none of you may have an evil, unbelieving heart that turns away from the living God. But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called ‘today’, so that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partners of Christ, if only we hold our

first confidence firm to the end. As it is said,
'Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.'

Colossians 3:12-14

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

MESSAGE – SKIT

“ALWAYS READY TO FORGIVE”

SONG #25

“Sing a New Song”

CALL TO THE OFFERING

God's goodness fills the world, if only we have eyes to see it. God's goodness fills the world, if only we have hearts to share what God has given us. Know that your gifts come from God's goodness and pass that goodness along to others in Jesus' name.

SONG

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, we bring our gifts to you with grateful hearts, aware of all that we enjoy in Christ and in creation. Bless these gifts and the service we offer in Jesus' name, so that others may share in your goodness and know of the love we have witnessed in Christ, our friend and Savior. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER.. LORD'S PRAYER

Leader will end each petition with “God in your mercy...” The congregation responds with “**Hear our prayer**”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *(Please wait to be dismissed by the ushers. Thank you.)*

Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Joys:

Families who have lost loved ones:

Charles Raether
Jerry Matzdorf

Those struggling with health issues:

Steve Rumpff	Raeline (friend of Umlands)
Everett Henning	Mother of Dawn Wirtz
Helen Henning	Karl (nephew of Will and Lora)
Dale and Darlene Horneck	Tom Brickbauer
Hattie Lucille	Macullen Schnell
Mary Vogel	Olivia Marie
Marilyn Hanke	Jessica Horneck
Warren Fidlin	

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

2021 Bethlehem UCC Consistory Members

Elder/President - Steve 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

NOVEMBER'S JINGLE CHANGE OFFERING SUPPORTS THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND THEIR HOLIDAY SERVICE PROJECT.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Plan a visit to our homebound members! Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer are at Field of Dreams in Kiel (286-6189) Call to arrange a visit.

- For many years Bethlehem UCC has supported Heifer International through an auction hosted by the Bethlehem Merry Christians. The proceeds from this annual auction provide livestock to needy families throughout the world. Again this year due to Covid 19 the auction is cancelled. In order to make a donation in 2021, the Merry Christians are asking you to make a monetary gift. Today is the deadline.
- Do you have a son or daughter in college or in the military? The Bethlehem Ladies would love to let them know we are thinking about them by giving them a little Christmas gift. We need the congregation to help us out with this so we don't miss anyone! So, if you have a son or daughter in college or the military, please email me at pollyjeanty@gmail.com or let any one of the Bethlehem Ladies know. Thank you!
- The Bethlehem Ladies are taking orders for Poinsettias. They are \$9 each and the colors available are red, white and pink. The last Sunday to order Poinsettias is December 5th. The Poinsettias can be taken home on Christmas Day after worship service. The sign up is on the table in the fellowship hall. Cash or checks to "Bethlehem Ladies" can be given to Jeanette Wriedt. Thank you!!!
- The snow will be here before you know it! Sign up in the Fellowship Hall for the month you can help keep the church sidewalks cleared.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today, Sunday 11/14: 8:00a Sunday School; 8:30a Bethlehem Ladies; 9:30a Worship led by Confirmation class

Monday 11/15: *Happy Birthday Julie Meyer!*

Tuesday 11/16:

Wednesday 11/17: *Happy Birthday Darlean Rumpff! **SPIRIT ARTICLES DUE***

Thursday 11/18: *Happy Anniversary Pat & Bonnie Hoban!*

Friday 11/19:

Saturday 11/20:

Sunday 11/21 8:00a Sunday School; 9:30a Worship; *Happy Birthday Heidi Konen!*

Pantry item: Box of Cake Mix or Frosting