



BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Sunday, September 11, 2022

Worship led by: Rev. Roy Rogers

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 Philippians 4:1-9)

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, Rejoice!

People: Today we choose to rejoice. Today we choose to worship and give thanks.

Leader: Seek the peace of God that will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

People: Today we choose God's peace; today we place our trust in God.

Leader: Turn your hearts away from the distractions and disappointments of life that will always flow in and flow out like the tide. Set your affections on things above and worship the Lord who loves you and cares for you.

All: We come to worship God who alone is excellent and worthy of praise

***OPENING PRAYER**

As we gather here in the harbor of your safety We thank you for fellowship and family. We ask that you will strengthen us, restore us and inspire us with your love. Lord, would you fill us with your peace So that as we journey onwards We would pour out your love and grace to others. We ask that our souls would catch the wind of your spirit so that we would take your promises to all the earth. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: #330 all "Rock of Ages"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way;

People: and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

Leader: You revealed Your law to Moses. O God,

People: but Your people set up a golden calf.

Leader: You challenged them, through the prophets, to seek justice for the poor;

People: but the people refused, preferring false prophets who set their consciences at ease.

Leader: At last, O God, You sent Your own Son to woo them back;

People: but Your people plugged up their ears and crucified Him.

Leader: We are those people, O God. All of us are those people.

People: guilty, judged, and seeking forgiveness.

Leader: Hear our prayer and accept our plea for mercy.

People: Lead us to the foot of the cross, teach us Your ways, and give us hearts intent of pleasing You.

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. God's love frees us from the world's bondage, and allows u to live, love and serve. Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel:

People: Through Jesus Christ, our sins – yours and mine – are not only forgiven, they are forgotten 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

Exodus 32:1-24

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, 'Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' Aaron said to them, 'Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.' So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, 'Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD.' They rose early the next day, and offered burnt-offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

The LORD said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ' The LORD said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.'

But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, 'O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, "It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth"? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, "I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever." ' And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain, carrying the two tablets of the covenant in his hands, tablets that were written on both sides, written on the front and on the back. The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved upon the tablets. When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, 'There is a noise of war in the camp.' But he said, 'It is not the sound made by victors, or the sound made by losers; it is the sound of revellers that I hear.'

As soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets from his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. He took the calf that they had made, burned it with fire, ground it to powder, scattered it on the water, and made the Israelites drink it.

Moses said to Aaron, 'What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?' And Aaron said, 'Do not let the anger of my lord burn hot; you know the

people, that they are bent on evil. They said to me, "Make us gods, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." So I said to them, "Whoever has gold, take it off "; so they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!

Mark 13:1-2

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.'

SERMON "What's your Golden Calf?"

*HYMN #39 all "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

CALL TO THE OFFERING - (Offerings and Jingle Change are collected before and after worship. The basket is located near the double doors to the sanctuary. September JINGLE CHANGE supports the CROP WALK project)

*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

Loving Father, thank you for the privilege of partnering with you and each other in the work of the ministry. We know that you will bless our efforts and contributions for the proclamation of the gospel and the building up of your church. Father, be pleased with our tithes and offerings today. Affirm your love, grace, and provision for each giver in our midst. Thank you for their heart for the ministry. Let them continue to give with cheerfulness and full trust that you will never fail them in their time of need. Amen.

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

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.*

BENEDICTION (based on Psalm 32)

POSTLUDE

2022 Bethlehem UCC Consistory Members

Elder/President - Steven 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@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

Save the date!!

- **Oct. 2 – Mission and Service Sunday- short service projects following worship (Possible activities: Highway clean-up, card making, Food prep for shelter residents, assisted living visit) Lunch will be provided.**
- **Oct. 9 – CROP Walk – supports food security both globally and locally. 12:00 reg. 12:30 walk begins at Memorial Park in Howards Grove. (2 or 4 Mile options)**
- **Oct. 16 – Outdoor worship followed by picnic. Details coming soon!**



Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Joys:

Birth of Maxwell Voland- Born Aug. 12 to Kevin and Mandy Voland

The marriage of Steven and Jackie Voland on July 30.

Families who have lost loved ones:

Karl (nephew of Will and Lora)

DuWayne Ninmer

Jane Markelz

Everett Henning

Those struggling with health issues:

McKenna Rugowski Finn (a young boy with cancer)

Doreen Schmidt

Helen Henning

Tom Lefeber

Steve Rumpff

Glen Schad

Jessica Horneck

Signe Burkhart

Dana (friend of Melissa K)

Kenzie Koppenhaver

Darlene Horneck

Warren Fidlin

Hattie Lucille

Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin and Doris Mae Ninmer

Other Concerns:

People of the Ukraine and others affected by war and violence.

People affected by recent gun violence in our nation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Bethlehem UCC Ladies are hosting their annual guest night on Tuesday, September 20th. Our guest speaker is Nancy Zimmerman who will be speaking about the history of Kiel. We will begin the evening with a complimentary lunch at 6:00 pm and Nancy's presentation to follow. Lunch will consist of broasted chicken, rolls, salads and dessert. Men and women of the congregation and the community are invited to join us. Please invite your family and friends!! There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or call/text Polly Jeanty at 920-286-2605 by Sunday, Sept 18th. Hope to see you there!

**Bethlehem's Spiritual
Leadership Team:**

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

- 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!

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Saturday, Sept. 17 - Oktoberfest hosted by St. Peter's UCC, Kiel. Food, Beer and Music in Kiel City Park - 4pm-8pm
- Sunday, Sept. 18 - Our Shepherds UCC - Howards Grove – Faith in the Fall worship/music festival featuring Siegmann Family Band at 10:00. Music all day. Pulled pork and turkey lunch with extras. Bring your lawn chair.
- Bethel UCC on County Line Road is having their annual Drive-Thru Chili Supper on Wednesday, October 5th from 11:00 am until 6:30 pm or until chili is gone.
 - Tickets are \$9.00 each.

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today Sunday 9/11: 8:00am Sunday School -- 9:30am Worship ~*Happy Birthday Addison Salm and Kelly Ryba!*

Monday 9/12: ~*Happy Birthday Molly Rabe and Traci Rabe!*

Tuesday 9/13: 6:30pm Consistory Meeting

Wednesday 9/14: 6pm Confirmation Class followed by 7:00 Brief Parent Mtg; ~*Happy Birthday Ben Jeanty!*

Thursday 9/15: ~*Happy Anniversary Louie & Kathy Bowe!*

Friday 9/16:

Saturday 9/17: ~*Happy Birthday Courtney Riesterer!*

Sunday 9/18: 8am Sunday School; 9:30am Worship; **Spirit News Due**

September Pantry Items: Package of Toilet Paper or Paper Toweling