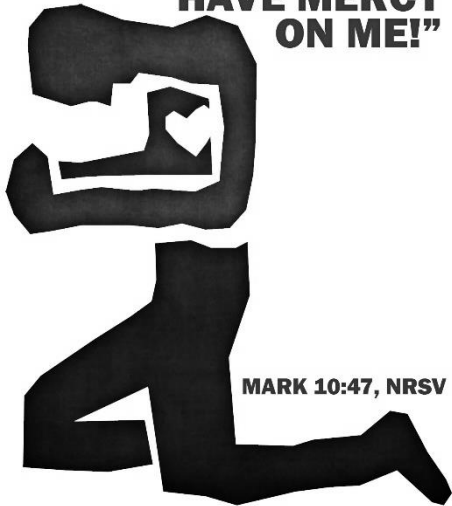


**“JESUS,
SON OF DAVID,
HAVE MERCY
ON ME!”**



BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Sunday, October 27, 2024

23rd Sunday After Pentecost

Worship Leader: Randy Koppenhaver

Organist: Polly Jeanty

If listening from your car, please tune to 101.3 FM

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

CENTERING BREATH PRAYER: as you inhale, say the first part of the prayer to yourself, and say the second part as you exhale. Repeat 5x

The Lord has done great things :: let us rejoice

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #557 v. 1 "I Just Came to Praise the Lord"

I just came to praise the Lord, I just came to praise the Lo—rd

I just came to praise his Ho—ly Name, I just came to praise the Lord

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP:** (Inspired by Psalm 34)

One: Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Bless God at all times.

Many: **We praise God who is with us. We honor God who sustains, redeems, and delivers.**

One: Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Boast in the Holy One.

Many: **We seek the Holy One who hears our cries with grace, mercy, and compassion.**

One: Look to the Holy One and be radiant! Magnify God with me.

Many: O taste and see, hear and proclaim, touch and know that God is good. Bless the Holy One!

*OPENING PRAYER

Loving God, it is good to be with you in the company of the assembly. When we seek you, we find you. When we pray, you respond. When we listen, your voice sounds. Make your presence palpable in the places we gather. We come to be formed, informed, and transformed by your lavish and bountiful love for your glory and for all you hold within your heart. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN: #41

“To God Be the Glory”

PRAYER TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE:

Gracious God, break our hearts for what breaks yours. Forgive us for hearts that are sometimes cold with indifference. Forgive us for hearts sometimes hard with intractability. Forgive us for hearts closed with isolation. Open our hearts fully to compassion and companionship with our neighbor and your vision of a beloved kingdom come. Amen. (Brief silent reflection)

WORDS OF GRACE

Friends, we are promised that those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Let us claim our hope in this Good News: God’s perfect love abides in us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Thanks be to God for such great mercy.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #358

“Only Believe”

**Only believe, only believe;
All things are possible, only believe;
Only believe, only believe;
All things are possible, only believe.**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Jeremiah 31:7-9

For thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
‘Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.’

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame,

those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.
With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

Psalm 126

¹ When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

² **Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
'The Lord has done great things for them.'**

³ The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.

⁴ **Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.**

⁵ May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.

⁶ **Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.**

Mark 10:46-52

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

*HYMN #399

“He Touched me”

PASTORAL PRAYER...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.

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE

**Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch Him
And say that we love Him.**

**Open our ears Lord
And help us to listen,
Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY (Jingle Change for the month of October supports the UCC’s annual Neighbors in Need campaign)

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

“Give Thanks”

**Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ,
His Son (2 times)**

**And now...
let the weak say, “I am strong”
Let the poor say, “I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done
for us” (2 times)**

Give thanks... (2 times)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Loving God, bless us with increased generosity, trust, and faithfulness. Receive these gifts as an offering of praise. May needs be met, lives be changed, and hearts be warmed through our giving. 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

**This morning's prayers and liturgies are from: ucc.org and <https://presbyterian.ca/worship/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Thank you for all the cards, prayers, visits & phone calls. I sure appreciate all your well wishes during my recovery. - Louie Bowe
- Don't miss worship on Sunday, Nov 17 when we will welcome back the barbershopper group HHT for special music!
- There will be an ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service at Gloria Dei Lutheran at 6pm. Pie and fellowship afterward. Due to out of state travel, Pastor Randy will not be participating. If YOU would like to participate (reading scripture, etc.), please let Pastor Randy know asap.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS -See flyers in fellowship hall for more details

- Drive-Thru Soup to Go** – Tuesday, Oct 29, 4p-6pm – St. Pauls Christian Church, near the Sheboygan Marsh.
- Craft and Vendor Fair** – Sat. Nov. 2 – 8:30am-3pm – Salem UCC, Plymouth
- Drive-Thru Brat Fry** – Sunday, Nov. 3 – 11:30a-2:30pm at St. John's UCC (Church St, New Holstein) Please pre-order by Oct 24 (920-313-0531) See Flyer
- Fall Fare** – Sat, Nov. 9 – 9:00am-2:00pm. First Congregational in Plymouth – Craft Sale – Silent Auction – Soup to Go – Baked Goods

- **100th Anniversary Celebration Concert** – Grace UCC – Kohler – Sunday, November 10 at 1pm. Refreshments following. See Flyer.
- The Kiel Area Historical Society and the LumberYard Brewery present on Tuesday, Nov 12 at 6:30pm: **A History of 703 Fremont Street - The Hotel de Matthews, AA Laun and the LumberYard Brewery.** The presentation and tours are free. Beer can be purchased.



Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Those Grieving:

Family of Doris Mae Ninmer
The Family of Butch Waack

Those struggling with health issues:

Darlean Rumpff	Gary Rabe
Will Mathes	Louie Bowe
Jill Wehmeyer-Sheets	Nancy Zimmermann
Brad Westphalen	Randy's cousin Kurt
Jessica Horneck	Jim Markelz
Gary Steinhardt	Marie Rietbrock
Shari	Tom Lefeber
Heidi Konen	Mary Beth Molitor
Dawson Horneck	Darlene Horneck

Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin Ninmer Helen Henning

Other: Those affected by hurricanes Helene and Milton

2024 Bethlehem UCC Leadership Team

Elder/President - Steven Volland (920)286-0162 or svolland44@gmail.com

Elder - Traci Rabe (920)894-7903 or trabefamily5@gmail.com

Elder - Lee Watson (920)562-0588 or lwatson@kiel.k12.wi.us

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

Pastor – Randy Koppenhaver (920)286-2531 randynmel5@gmail.com

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today, Sunday 10/27: 8:00 am Sunday School; 8:00 am Confirmation Class; 9:30am Worship; 6pm Rural Church Fellowship @ Bethel; *Happy Birthday Aliyah Arnold, Tyson Arnold, and Steve Deignan!*

Monday 10/28: *Happy Anniversary Tony & Sandy Tesch!*

Tuesday 10/29: *Happy Birthday Hudson Hoban!*

Wednesday 10/30:

Thursday 10/31: *Happy Birthday Laura Mueller!*

Friday 11/1: *Happy Birthday Mark Riesterer!*

Saturday 11/2: *Happy Birthday Carolyn Riesterer!*

Sunday 11/3: 8:00 am Sunday School; 8:00 am Confirmation Class; 9:30am Worship w/ Communion and Toten Fest; *Happy Birthday Beau Hemauer!*

**October Pantry Items:
Cleaning Supplies**