



**BETHLEHEM UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Sunday, November 24, 2024

Reign of Christ Sunday

Worship Leader: Rev. Roy Rogers

Organist: Kathy Bowe

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

Restore me, O God :: let your face shine, that I may be saved

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

In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

We recognize God as the source of all goodness.

All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.
We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.
We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.

*OPENING PRAYER

This morning, Lord, we want everything to be for your glory.
We want our thoughts, our words, our songs, our church, our community,
our resources, our time, our lives: all to be for you.
Everything ours is yours, and we come together to declare this to be so,
on this holy day of gratitude. Bless our time together with your holy
presence, Amen (~ written by Carol Penner, and posted on Leading in Worship.)

*OPENING HYMN: #285

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

PRAYER OF NEW LIFE AND TRANSFORMATION

Magnificent God, your greatness humbles us. Your love can be
overwhelming and incomprehensible. Your attentive care takes our breath.
We recognize that we sometimes suppress the holiness you have
embedded in us. We keep silent when our witness could make a difference.
We turn away when the pain we observe in others becomes more than we
can bear. Renew our spirits, strengthen our resolve, and fortify our
compassion to put testimony on our lips, in our posts, and through our
lives for your kingdom. Amen.

(moment of silent reflection)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Remember the promise the Apostle Paul declares:

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Hardship? Distress? Peril or
sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through the
God who loves us.

Let us rejoice that, no matter what is happening around us, no matter what we
have done,

God’s deep love will never let us go. Alleluia!

*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 READINGS

Psalm 100 – p.681 of Hymnal – Leader reads first block of text, people read the second and so on.

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, 'Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!' When he saw them, he said to them, 'Go and show yourselves to the priests.' And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, 'Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?' Then he said to him, 'Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.'

CHILDREN'S TIME

SERMON

*HYMN: #34

"Let all Things Now Living"

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.**

CALL TO THE OFFERING (Jingle Change for the month of November supports the Sunday School's Holiday Drive)

Leader: Every good and perfect gift comes from above. Having received the bounty of creation, share a measure of the gifts God has given to fulfill unmet needs, to declare God's goodness in tangible ways, and to testify to the kingdom.

OFFERTORY

***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**

Lord Jesus, you rule in this world through your love. Receive our gifts as tokens of our love for you. Bless and multiply them through the power of the Spirit, so that they will spread your love in ways we have yet to imagine. 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 used with permission from: ucc.org and <https://presbyterian.ca/worship/> unless noted otherwise.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Bethlehem Cemetery Association meeting will be held on Monday, December 9th at 6:00 pm in the church library. All are welcome to attend.
- Christmas decorating of the church will take place on Friday, November 29 beginning at 10am. ALL are invited to come and help!
- Heifer International fund raising – This week we added a pig and a goat. See the display in the Fellowship Hall. Each \$10 donation is an opportunity for the drawing of the “Wisconsin” goodie basket. The deadline is December 8. Checks can be made payable to Bethlehem Merry Christians.
- The Sunday School is collecting **CHILDREN'S hats and mittens** (any size) to be donated to a location. Watch for the box in the entrance area with more information.
- Thanks to those who gave so generously to the Immanuel Food Pantry request for Thanksgiving Dinner items. Donations included 114 items plus \$181 cash and gift cards. The Merry Christians went shopping to purchase the rest of the items needed to fill 35 holiday meal bags.
- **Bethlehem Ladies Annual Poinsettia Sale:**
 - Place order on the signup sheet by NEXT Sunday, December 1st.
 - Colors available Red and White
 - Single are \$14.00
 - Doubles are \$22.50
 - Flowers can be taken home on Christmas Day.

- **Join us for Brunch!** The Bethlehem Confirmation Class will be hosting and serving brunch following worship on Sunday, Dec. 1. There will be a free-will donation. The proceeds will be used to reduce each family's cost for the Confirmation retreat at Daycholah. (Current cost is \$105/person) To aid in planning, would you please "make a reservation" on the list in the fellowship hall?
- Please attend the ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve (Wednesday) Service at Gloria Dei Lutheran. A free dinner is at 5pm – Worship is at 6pm. Pie and fellowship afterward. See Flyer
- The Adult Mission trip to Kentucky has been scheduled for March 16-22. We will be helping repair damage from tornadoes. Members of several area UCC churches will be involved. From Bethlehem: Pastor Randy, Melissa Koppenhaver, and Marie Mueller. Would you consider joining us? The cost for lodging is \$90 for the week. Please see Pastor Randy for more info or to get involved.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS -See flyers in fellowship hall for more details

- **2024 Holiday Extravaganza Craft Show**
Sat. Nov. 30th 9:00-2:00 at the Kiel High School
\$1.00 Admission (going to Kiel Area Food Pantry)
Come and have a photo taken with Santa from 10:00 – 11:30. Hope to see you there!
- **Cookie Walk** – Sat. Dec 7 – 9a-11a – St. Peters UCC, Kiel
- **Holiday Concert/Bake Sale Event on behalf of Local Warming Shelter**
A combined Holiday Concert and all-county Bake Sale, entitled, "Baby, It's Cold Outside", will take place at First Presbyterian Church, Manitowoc, WI, on **Saturday, December 14 from 2pm to 4pm.** All proceeds from the event will benefit the Manitowoc Warming Shelter, which provides safe overnight lodging for unsheltered persons during the coldest nights of the year. Featured artists include The Faith Family Choir from Valders, The Park Street String-Along Band, and young concert organ prodigy Rowen Erickson. In addition to the sale of holiday baked goods, there will be arts and crafts for sale and local merchant-donated gift baskets for raffle. Santa Claus is also scheduled to appear. Churches who are willing to organize and donate baked goods and/or gift baskets to raffle are greatly appreciated, but all are invited to come and support this vital service in our community. For more information, please contact Sheryle Lyman at 352-615-0400.
- The Sheboygan County Warming Center is a mission of several churches in the city of Sheboygan, including St. John's UCC. This winter the shelter will be operated at St. Luke United Methodist Church. They are seeking donations of clothing, bedding, travel-sized toiletries, and shelf-stable snacks, along with bus passes and Kwik Trip gift cards. See flyer for more info. Bring your donations to Pastor Randy and he will get them to Sheboygan.



Those in our thoughts and prayers:

Those Grieving:

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

2024 Bethlehem UCC Leadership Team

Elder/President - Steven Voland (920)286-0162 or svoland44@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 11/24: 8:00 am Sunday School; 9:30am Worship;; *Happy Anniversary Tom & Traci Rabe!*

Monday 11/25: *Happy Birthday Joe Molitor!!*

Tuesday 11/26: *Happy Birthday Logan Shaver! Happy Anniversary Kerry & Barb Henning!!*

Wednesday 11/27: 6pm Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship @ Gloria Dei Lutheran

Thursday 11/28: *Happy Thanksgiving! Happy Birthday Pastor Roy Rogers!*

Friday 11/29: 10am Christmas Decorating *Happy Birthday Joe Schmidt! Happy Birthday Mark Wirtz!*

Saturday 11/30: *Happy Birthday Leah Henning!*

Sunday 12/1: 8:00 am Sunday School; 9:30am Worship w/ Communion; Confirmation breakfast following worship; *Happy Birthday Mavryk Suttner!*

**December Pantry Items:
Box of Cereal**