



**BETHLEHEM UNITED
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**Sunday, June 1, 2025
Seventh Sunday of Eastertide**

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

Gracious and righteous is the Lord :: Our God is merciful!

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #554

"Holy Ground"

We are standing on holy ground, And I know that there are angels all around

Let us praise Jesus now, We are standing in his presence on holy ground

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Let every creature in heaven and on earth shout to God and sing with joy!

Blessing and honor, glory and power be to our God for ever and ever!

Let us raise our prayers and praises to God in worship this day!

Blessing and honor, glory and power be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.

***OPENING PRAYER:**

**God of glory and majesty, God of mystery and mercy,
in Christ Jesus you came to live among us, sharing in our joys and sorrows.
After he suffered and died for our sake,
you raised him and took him up in glory so that he might fulfill all things.
As our ascended Lord, he gives hope to your people in all places,
in every generation and every situation.
So we claim that hope this day, for ourselves and for the world you love,
offering you our praise and worship in the name of Jesus Christ,
who now lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN #47**

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

**You desire us to share in the unity and be one - as you are Three in One.
We confess that such unity often eludes us.
We dwell on our differences and find reasons to criticize each other.
The love you called us to offer one another disappears when we disagree.
Forgive us for making our opinions and preferences into dividing lines
within the body of your Church.
Call us again to honor the unity and love you cherish for your followers
so we may witness to unity and love in this divided world. (time of silence)**

WORDS OF GRACE

**We are indeed capable of opening our minds and our hearts and then to move in
the world to live like Jesus had.
We are looking up and looking out so that we may love, repent, and forgive
one another. Thanks be to God!**

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #571**

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah, hallelujah!**

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Psalms 77:11

I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.

Psalms 116: 1-11

**¹ I love the Lord because he has heard
my voice and my supplications.**

- ² Because he inclined his ear to me,
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.
- ³ The snares of death encompassed me;
the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;
I suffered distress and anguish.
- ⁴ Then I called on the name of the Lord,
“O Lord, I pray, save my life!”
- ⁵ Gracious is the Lord and righteous;
our God is merciful.
- ⁶ The Lord protects the simple;
when I was brought low, he saved me.
- ⁷ Return, O my soul, to your rest,
for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.
- ⁸ For you have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears,
my feet from stumbling.
- ⁹ I walk before the Lord
in the land of the living.
- ¹⁰ I kept my faith, even when I said,
“I am greatly afflicted”;
- ¹¹ I said in my consternation,
“Everyone is a liar.”

Philippians 3:12-14

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal,^[a] but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ^[b] has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold^[c] of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly^[d] call of God in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 43:18

¹⁸ Do not remember the former things or consider the things of old.

Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. ² Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb ³ and they asked each other, “Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?”

⁴ But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. ⁵ As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.
⁶ “Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”
⁸ Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

CHILDREN’S TIME

SERMON (Pastor Roy’s last sermon) “Looking Back”

*HYMN #1 vs. 1,2,5,6 “Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”

THE LORD’S SUPPER

(God’s table is open to ALL, regardless of affiliation or membership. Please hold the elements until all have been served and we will partake together. All bread is gluten free. The inner circles are grape juice, the outer rings are wine.)

INVITATION

PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION w/ songs by Pastor Roy

PRAYER OF THANKGIVING

**We give thanks, loving God, that you have refreshed us at your table.
Strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another.
As we have been fed by the seed that became grain, and then became bread,
may we go out into the world to plant seeds of justice, transformation, and
hope. Amen.**

COMMUNION RESPONSE #533 “Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread”

PRAYER CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER

#403 “Lord, Listen to your Children Praying”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE...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.

POST PRAYER RESPONSE #403 “Lord, Listen to your Children Praying”

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Leader: Though the Easter season draws to a close today, we continue to enjoy the blessings God pours out for us in Christ and in creation. Let us give thanks to God for these blessings as we present our offering in Jesus’ holy name.

OFFERTORY (Jingle Change for June supports Strengthen the Church)

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE Tune “Doxology”

**Let trumpets sound and voices sing!
Let all on earth their praises bring!
For Christ has conquered sin and death
And given life eternal breath. Amen**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Eternal God, we praise you that Christ has ascended to rule in love at your right hand, while the Holy Spirit continues the work of salvation throughout your creation. We offer our gifts and our lives in gratitude for that work, and dedicate them to your purposes in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:


- Pastor Randy will be out of state from May 31-June 3. Please contact Pastor Nicole Herda with any emergency care needs. (920-242-8308)
- Vacation Bible School will again be held in combination with St. Marks/ St. James. The dates will be August 12,13,14 from 9am-Noon. There is no cost. ANY child K-6th Grade may attend. Membership in the participating churches is not required. Transportation is still being worked out. We are also looking for volunteer helpers. See Pastor Randy if your child will attend or if you want to help.
- Each year we like to recognize our graduates. Do you know a member of Bethlehem who is graduating from high school, college, graduate school, military academy, etc.? If so, please provide pastor Randy (in writing) with the student's name, school they are graduating from, and "next plans" if they wish to share. You can send him the info by email or leave a note in the office. We will honor the graduates on June 15 during worship for any that would like to attend.
- Benefit for Ross Sippel: Saturday, June 7th from 3:00 to ? At Fat Boys Bar & Grill in St. Cloud.
- Feel free to look at the collection of pictures recording the construction of the "New" Bethlehem church, 20 years ago.
- Feel free to relax in the Wellness Lounge. There is coffee available and comfortable seating. We also have many resources on wellness if you're interested.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Check for flyers in fellowship hall


- **OUR LADY OF THE HOLYLAND PARISH SOCIAL – AT JOHNSBURG!**

Saturday, June 7th, 2025. Outdoor Polka Mass @ 4PM. 5PM-9PM 2/5's Party Band. Brats, hamburgers, and refreshments available in the beer stand following mass. Raffle drawing held at 9:00PM. Putting Contest, Bean Bag Tournament, and Pot of Gold Raffle during event. Hope to see you there! St. John the Baptist Church [N9288 County Road W, Malone].

Stay Informed! Sign up to receive Bethlehem's weekly email update, The Bethlehem Blurb. Send your email address to BethUCCKiel@outlook.com and you will be added!



IN OUR



Thoughts and Prayers

Joys!

The birth of Hudson Tommy Erdmann on May 14, 2025. Parents: Armond Wempner and Mckayla Erdmann. Very proud grandparents: Dan & Amy Wempner

Those Grieving:

Family of Jill Wehmeyer-Sheets

Those struggling with health issues:

Linda Smith	Ross Sippel
Mary Beth Molitor	
Will Mathes	Heidi Konen
Darlene Horneck	Emily (Melissa's cousin)
Brad Westphalen	Dawson Horneck
Jessica Horneck	Tom Lefeber
Marie Rietbrock	Donna Firman
Dana	Hubert

Those unable to worship with us:

Merlin Ninmer Helen Henning

2025 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 - Rev. Randy Koppenhaver (920)286-2531 randynmel5@gmail.com

This Week at Bethlehem:

Today, Sunday 6/1: 9:30am Sunday Worship w/ Communion; *Happy Anniversary Tim & Judy Mueller!*

Monday 6/2:

Tuesday 6/3: *Happy Birthday Brenna Koppenhaver, Kylie Brockway and Bryan Radder!!*

Wednesday 6/4: *Happy Birthday Brooke Muehlbauer!*

Thursday 6/5:

Friday 6/6: *Happy Birthday Gene Radder and Keatyn Suttner!!! Happy Anniversary Jesse & Jenna Rumpff!*

Saturday 6/7:

Sunday 6/8: 9:30am Mental Health Sunday Worship w/ Guest Speaker; *Happy Birthday Ginny Schultz!*

**June Pantry Items:
Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Lotion**

