

## **BETHLEHEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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### **Sunday, June 15, 2025**

### **Trinity Sunday**

**Worship Leader: Rev. 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

***O Lord, our lord :: How majestic is your name!***

RINGING OF THE BELLS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #549

"As We Gather"

**As we gather may your spirit work within us**

**As we gather may we glorify your name**

**Knowing well that as our heart begin to worship**

**We'll be blessed because we came; We'll be blessed because we came**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Ascribe to the Lord all glory and honor.

**How majestic is God's name in all the earth!**

Come and worship God in holy splendor.

**How majestic is God's name in all the earth!**  
To the Creator, Christ, and to the Holy Spirit,  
**be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

**\*OPENING PRAYER:**

**Holy God, who is One in Three and Three in One, we praise you this day  
as the Source of all life, Maker of Heaven and Earth. You created us and  
called us good, shepherding us with your steadfast love.**

**Jesus Christ, we praise you this day,  
born into our midst to show us the way of goodness, mercy and grace.**

**Holy Spirit, we praise you this day  
for the energy you bring us to greet each day as a gift  
and serve in the world with gladness.**

**Holy God, Three in One and One in Three,  
reveal to us this day what it means to live as your people  
so that we may honor your holy name,  
now and forever. Amen.**

**\*OPENING HYMN #243**

**"Holy, Holy, Holy"**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

**God of mercy and majesty,  
you are slow to anger and swift to forgive.  
You have shown us the depth of your love,  
yet we are reluctant to love others who differ from us.  
You have shown us compassion and forgiveness,  
yet we walk away from one another without concern.  
You have offered us hope in Christ Jesus,  
yet we lose that hope when life is challenging.  
Forgive us, O Lord.**

**Create in us the endurance and character  
which help us trust in the power of your forgiving love. Amen.**

*Time of silent reflection...*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

**God is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in mercy.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

**Be at peace with God, with one another, and with yourself, through the grace and  
comfort of the Holy Spirit.**

**We are grateful for God's forgiveness. Amen.**

\*RESPONSE #560 (tune: Doxology)      “Be Thou, O God Exalted High”  
    **Be thou, O God exalted high; And as Thy glory fills the sky,**  
    **So let it be on earth displayed, 'Til Thou art here, as there, obeyed. Amen.**

BLESSING OF THE GRADUATES

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

**Psalm 8**

<sup>1</sup> Lord, our Lord,  
    how majestic is your name in all the earth!

You have set your glory in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> **Through the praise of children and infants**  
    **you have established a stronghold against your enemies,**  
    **to silence the foe and the avenger.**

<sup>3</sup> When I consider your heavens,  
    the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars,  
    which you have set in place,

<sup>4</sup> **what is mankind that you are mindful of them,**  
    **human beings that you care for them?**

<sup>5</sup> You have made them a little lower than the angels  
    and crowned them with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup> **You made them rulers over the works of your hands;**  
    **you put everything under their feet:**

<sup>7</sup> all flocks and herds,  
    and the animals of the wild,

<sup>8</sup> **the birds in the sky,**  
    **and the fish in the sea,**  
    **all that swim the paths of the seas.**

<sup>9</sup> Lord, our Lord,  
    how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## **Hosea 1:1-9 (NIV)**

**1** The word of the Lord that came to Hosea son of Beeri during the reigns of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, and during the reign of Jeroboam son of Jehoash king of Israel:

**2** When the Lord began to speak through Hosea, the Lord said to him, “Go, marry a promiscuous woman and have children with her, for like an adulterous wife this land is guilty of unfaithfulness to the Lord.” **3** So he married Gomer daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

**4** Then the Lord said to Hosea, “Call him Jezreel, because I will soon punish the house of Jehu for the massacre at Jezreel, and I will put an end to the kingdom of Israel. **5** In that day I will break Israel’s bow in the Valley of Jezreel.”

**6** Gomer conceived again and gave birth to a daughter. Then the Lord said to Hosea, “Call her Lo-Ruhamah (which means “not loved”), for I will no longer show love to Israel, that I should at all forgive them. **7** Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them—not by bow, sword or battle, or by horses and horsemen, but I, the Lord their God, will save them.”

**8** After she had weaned Lo-Ruhamah, Gomer had another son. **9** Then the Lord said, “Call him Lo-Ammi (which means “not my people”), for you are not my people, and I am not your God.

## **Hosea 14 (NIV)**

**14** Return, Israel, to the Lord your God.

Your sins have been your downfall!

**2** Take words with you  
and return to the Lord.

Say to him:

“Forgive all our sins  
and receive us graciously,  
that we may offer the fruit of our lips.”<sup>[b]</sup>

**3** Assyria cannot save us;  
we will not mount warhorses.

We will never again say ‘Our gods’  
to what our own hands have made,  
for in you the fatherless find compassion.”

<sup>4</sup> “I will heal their waywardness  
 and love them freely,  
 for my anger has turned away from them.  
<sup>5</sup> I will be like the dew to Israel;  
 he will blossom like a lily.  
 Like a cedar of Lebanon  
 he will send down his roots;  
<sup>6</sup> his young shoots will grow.  
 His splendor will be like an olive tree,  
 his fragrance like a cedar of Lebanon.  
<sup>7</sup> People will dwell again in his shade;  
 they will flourish like the grain,  
 they will blossom like the vine—  
 Israel’s fame will be like the wine of Lebanon.  
<sup>8</sup> Ephraim, what more have I to do with idols?  
 I will answer him and care for him.  
 I am like a flourishing juniper;  
 your fruitfulness comes from me.”  
<sup>9</sup> Who is wise? Let them realize these things.  
 Who is discerning? Let them understand.  
 The ways of the Lord are right;  
 the righteous walk in them,  
 but the rebellious stumble in them.

## CHILDREN’S TIME

## SERMON

\*HYMN #373

“In Heavenly Love Abiding”

## PRAYER CONCERNS

## CALL TO PRAYER

#403 “Lord, Listen to your Children Praying”

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ...THE LORD’S PRAYER

Petitions end with: “God, the Three in One, **Hear our 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.**

**PRAYER RESPONSE**

**#403 “Lord, Listen to your Children Praying”**

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY** (Jingle Change supports “Strengthen the Church.” From the UCC website: *“The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.”*)

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #447 v.1 “All Things are Yours”**

**All things are yours! We make that true, when we return our gifts to you. And so we give, and so we share, in Christ's strong name expressing care.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Generous God, thank you for all your gifts which bring us hope and joy. Bless the gifts we bring and work with them to establish your reign in the world you love. In the name of your greatest gift, Jesus Christ, we pray. 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**

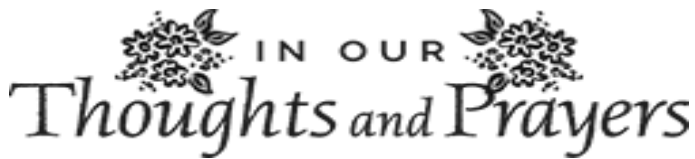
**POSTLUDE**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- ❑ 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-6<sup>th</sup> Grade may attend. Membership in the participating churches is not required. Transportation is still being worked out. We are also looking for volunteer helpers. Letters were mailed to eligible Sunday School families or see Pastor Randy to register your child or if you want to help.
- ❑ 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 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**

None at this time



### **Joys!**

The birth of Vander John Schisel, born June 6, 2025. Parents: John & Sarah Schisel  
Grandparents: Tom & Marie Mueller

### **Those Grieving:**

Eric (Louie & Kathy's brother-in law)

### **Those struggling with health issues:**

Linda Smith	Ross Sippel
Mary Beth Molitor	Louie Bowe
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](mailto:svoland44@gmail.com)

Elder - Traci Rabe (920)894-7903 or [trabefamily5@gmail.com](mailto:trabefamily5@gmail.com)

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

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Financial Secretary - Ruthie Rumpff (920)946-5849 [srumpff@tm.net](mailto:srumpff@tm.net)

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Pastor - Rev. Randy Koppenhaver (920)286-2531 [randynmel5@gmail.com](mailto:randynmel5@gmail.com)

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

## **This Week at Bethlehem:**

**Today, Sunday 6/15:** 9:30am Sunday Worship w/ Blessing of the Graduates; *Happy Birthday Kevin Voland! HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!*

**Monday 6/16:** *Happy Birthday Zoe Watson!*

**Tuesday 6/17:** *Happy Anniversary Jason & Jennifer Brockway!*

**Wednesday 6/18:** *Happy Birthday Mike Brockway!; \*\*Spirit Articles Due!\*\**

**Thursday 6/19:** *Happy Anniversary Ryan and Sarah Arnold!*

**Friday 6/20:** *Happy Birthday Bonnie Zorn, Maria Hoban, and Eric Muehlbauer!*

**Saturday 6/21:**

**Sunday 6/22:** 9:30am Sunday Worship; *Happy Birthday John Schisel!*

## **June Panty Item:**

**Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Lotion**



## **Congrats to our 2025 Graduates**

**Dylan Jeanty**, Fox Valley Tech - Woodworking Technology

**Brenna Koppenhaver**, Edgewood College - Bachelor's Degree in Art Therapy

**Peyton Koppenhaver**, Lewis & Clark University (Portland, OR) - Master's Degree in counseling with emphasis on addictions

**Kendra Muehlbauer**, Kiel High School - Plans to attend UW-Green Bay/Sheboygan to study Early Childhood Education

**Carolyn Riesterer**, Kiel High School - Plans to attend UW Stevens Point

**Dayna Schultz**, Lakeland University - Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration with emphasis in human resources

**Greg Schultz**, Lakeshore Technical College - Auto Body Technician

**Lily Watson**, Kiel High School – Plans to attend UW-Whitewater where she will study K-12 Physical Ed. and health & run for cross country and track teams

**Hailey (Schmidt) Wolf**, Northeast WI Technical College - Dental Hygiene

**Harrison Zorn**, Kiel High School – plans to attend UW-Platteville and study civil engineering