

*Welcome to
Bethlehem United Church of Christ*



*June 16, 2019
Trinity Sunday*



First time guests, welcome!

*We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning.
Please sign our guest book in the Narthex and identify yourself to one of our
ushers or Welcome Team members to receive a delicious gift.*

*We invite everyone to write their prayer requests and/or
praise reports on the cards in the pews. They will be collected during the
Hymn of Gathering and read aloud during our Prayers of the Church.*

These may be edited for privacy concerns.

A comfortable space for families is available under the balcony.

*All are invited to stand for sections marked with a cross (✝);
however, some may choose to remain seated.*

*Congregational responses are in **bold**.*

CHURCH LIFE

Tom Ziesemer was scheduled for surgery on June 14 at St. Joe's,
and we wish him a speedy recover.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

8:30 = 8 10:00 = 105



Our Mission

To worship God, to learn and live the Word of God,
to engage in Christian fellowship and service,
to invite others to join us on our faith journey in the ministry of Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God our Sovereign, how wonderful are the many ways we experience your presence! Help us to draw near to you, that we may receive all that you have to offer us in this time and place. Open our ears so that we can hear wisdom's call. Set our hearts ablaze with your healing fire. Nourish us with the gift of community. Empower us to follow and to serve you, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Gracious God, the psalmist declares that you have given human beings dominion over the works of your hands. All too often, though, we confuse this holy charge with having ownership. We then treat your creation as a resource to be used for our needs and our profit. We find ourselves reluctant to count the cost of our failure to be your faithful stewards until disaster strikes. And so we pray, show us another way, O God.

All: Show us another way.

One: Holy God, your cry for wisdom and understanding echoes in our homes, our workplaces, our schools, our church committee meetings, our legislatures and our courts. We confess we don't always want to hear that cry, deciding instead to rely on familiar habits, comfortable assumptions, and quick conclusions. We ask you to show us another way, O God.

All: Show us another way.

One: Merciful God, the apostle Paul proclaims peace, hope, and grace are your gifts to us. And yet there are times when grief overwhelms us, anxiety holds us captive, and suffering leaves us numb with despair. We wonder how, even *if* you are at work in our lives, and we long for you to show us another way, O God.

All: Show us another way.

(let us observe a few moments of silence to breathe and reflect)

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear this great good news: God continually shows us another way. God's mercy is as wide as the ocean. God's desire to forgive is as strong as the mighty wind. So let your hearts receive the outpouring of God's love through the Holy Spirit.

THE PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (*please say in the way most familiar to you*)

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 [sins/trespases],
as we forgive our debtors [those who sin/trespass against us].**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

✠ PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Jesus said, "Peace I leave you, a peace the world cannot give."
Peace always be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us offer one another a sign of Christ's peace.

✠ SONG OF PRAISE #35

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.**

10:00 LEARNING WITH OUR CHILDREN & HABITAT TRIP BLESSING AND SENDOFF

Children through sixth grade are invited to leave for Sunday school at this time. First-floor rooms are open for infants–1st-graders. Older children meet in the basement-level classroom.

ANTHEM

Lydia

Gabriel Fauré

Thomas Burton, trombone; Gail Jennings, piano

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

¹ Does not wisdom call out? Does not understanding raise her voice? ² At the highest point along the way, where the paths meet, she takes her stand; ³ beside the gate leading into the city, at the entrance, she cries aloud: ⁴ "To you, O people, I call out; I raise my voice to all mankind.

²² "The Lord brought me forth as the first of his works, before his deeds of old; ²³ I was formed long ages ago, at the very beginning, when the world came to be. ²⁴ When there were no watery depths, I was given birth, when there were no springs overflowing with water; ²⁵ before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was given birth, ²⁶ before he made the world or its fields or any of the dust of the earth. ²⁷ I was there when he set the heavens in place, when he marked out the horizon on the face of the

deep, ²⁸ when he established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep, ²⁹ when he gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep his command, and when he marked out the foundations of the earth. ³⁰ Then I was constantly at his side. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, ³¹ rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind.

Romans 5:1-5

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; ⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

John 16:12-15

¹² "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. ¹⁵ All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you."

One: The Word of God, for the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

"Wisdom, Truth, and Spirit"

Pastor John

8:30 COLLECTION OF OFFERING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

10:00 HYMN OF RESPONSE #352 Spirit Song

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

10:00 INVITATION TO GIVE

Sisters and brothers, the Spirit of truth is with us! Each week we take time to acknowledge the many ways that God continues to bless us with good gifts. We then share what we have with joy and thanksgiving, returning to God a portion of what God has given us.

10:00 OFFERTORY

Chorale (Suite Gothic)

Léon Boëllmann

✠ 10:00 DOXOLOGY #46

**Praise God the source of life and breath;
Praise Christ, now born to conquer death;
Praise Holy Spirit's mystery:
One God, pure grace, who sets us free. Amen.**

✠ 10:00 UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We give thanks, O God, for all that you have given us. Pour out your blessing on these tithes and offerings, that they might be a source of blessing in our church, in our community, and in our world. Through this act of sharing, may we counter fear with hope and transform scarcity through generosity. We offer this prayer in the name of the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

✠ HYMN OF PARTING #677 Let There Be Peace on Earth

✠ BENEDICTION

May God our Creator who crowns each of us with glory and honor, Christ Jesus who bears our pain and shows us the Way, and the Holy Spirit who gives us light and life go with you and fill you with strength, courage, hope, and love.

✠ POSTLUDE

Toccatina

Marius Monnikendam

Please join us for our Sunday morning Coffee Connection:

♥ *in the Schmale Lounge after the 8:30 service*

♥ *in the Willimann Fellowship Hall after the 10:00 service*

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Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver* are names for the Trinity taken from an adaptation of the Lord's Prayer in **A New Zealand Prayer Book, Anglican Church of New Zealand, 1989.

HELPING IN THE SERVICES TODAY

Pastor: Rev. John L. Kennedy

Minister of Spiritual Growth and Development:

Lily Tinker Fortel

Director of Music: Thomas Burton

Organist: Gail Jennings

10:00 Bell Ringer Matt Perros

Liturgist Sarah Kennedy

Coffee Connection Servers

8:30 Norm Wetzel, Sally Wetzel

10:00 Debbie Karr, Ron Karr

10:00 Sound Technician Kurt Schmerberg

Office Volunteer Jacquie Katz

10:00 Educational Building Greeters Pat O'Reilly, Laura Seyfried

Building Opener/Closer

Norm Wetzel/John Irwin

Ushers

8:30 Norm Wetzel, Sally Wetzel

10:00 Larry Katz, Hans Maier, Tom Naylor, Marty Seyfried,
Jay Katz, Mark Katz, Scott Buday, Kris Jaeger