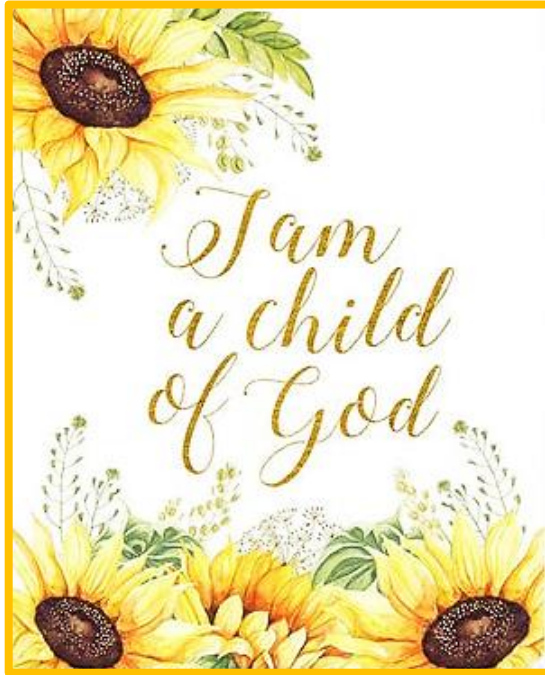


*Welcome to
Bethlehem United Church of Christ*



*October 27, 2019
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost*



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**.*



HOLY BAPTISM

The yellow rose and the floral arrangement on the altar
are in honor of the baptism of **Evelyn Rose Ashenfelter**,
daughter of Caroline and Michael Ashenfelter.



CHURCH LIFE

Jesse Wilcox is now in rehab at St. Joe Hospital in Ann Arbor.
The family requests no visitors at this time.

Chuck Raab is receiving hospice care at home.
The family requests no visitors at this time.

Birthday greetings to **John Fischer**, who will be 92 on November 2.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the vases are from Gwen Fellenberger in memory of
her husband, **Bill Fellenberger**.

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY

8:30 = 11 10:00 = 78

Order of Worship
October 27, 2019
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Chapel 8:30 a.m.
Sanctuary 10:00 a.m.

RINGING OF THE BELLS

PRELUDE

Graceful Ghost Rag
Tina Rowan, violin; Gail Jennings, piano

William Bolcom

WELCOME AND SHARING PARISH LIFE

✠ RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise waits for you, O God, in all your world!

All: You hear our prayers, forgive our sins, and call us to dwell with you!

One: God of our hope, you are the life of the entire world.

All: Your faithfulness calls forth songs of joy from the ends of the earth.

One: You formed the mountains and still the roaring sea. You calm the uproar of the nations. You care for the land, bless it with water, and fill it with grain to feed the people.

All: Let all creation shout and sing for joy.

✠ HYMN OF GATHERING #365

Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters

The Member Care Team will collect prayer requests and praise reports during this hymn.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

We give you thanks for all the ways that you bless our lives: the beauty and abundance of nature, the love of family and friends, the joy of knowing you and hearing your word. Send your spirit during this time of worship so that we might dream your dreams and see visions of the world as you created it to be. Guide our thoughts and actions. Bring us closer to you so that we might do your will and dwell in your house forever. Amen.

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.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Child: **Evelyn Rose Ashenfelter**

Born: May 15, 2019

Parents: Michael and Caroline (Loukotka) Ashenfelter

Sponsors: Abigail Korzuck, Andrew Weissert

INVITATION AND WELCOME

One: They were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them; and the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them,

All: "Let the little children come to me, do not stop or hinder them; for to such belongs the realm of God. Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the realm of God like a child shall not enter it."

One: And Jesus took them in his arms and blessed them, laying hands upon them.

ADDRESS

One: Jesus said: Unless we are born anew, we cannot see the reign of God; unless we are born of water and the Spirit, we cannot enter God's new order. Paul the apostle said: All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into Christ's death. We were buried therefore with Christ by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead, to the glory of God, we too might walk in newness of life.

The sacrament of baptism is an outward and visible sign of the grace of God. Inasmuch as the promise of the gospel is not only to us but also to our children, baptism with water and the Holy Spirit is the mark of their acceptance into the care of Christ's church, the sign and seal of their participation in God's forgiveness, and the beginning of their growth into full Christian faith and discipleship.

All: This is the water of baptism. Out of this water we rise with new life, forgiven of sin and one in Christ, members of Christ's body.

QUESTIONS OF THE PARENTS AND SPONSORS

One: Do you desire to have **Evelyn** baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Parents: We do.

One: Will you encourage **Evelyn** to renounce the powers of evil and to receive the freedom of new life in Christ?

Parents: We will, with God's help.

One: Will you teach **Evelyn** that she may be led to profess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

Parents: We will, with God's help.

One: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciples, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Parents: We promise, with God's help.

One: Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow with **Evelyn** in the Christian faith, to help her be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ by celebrating Christ's presence, by furthering Christ's mission in all the world, and by offering the nurture of the Christian church so that she may affirm her baptism?

Parents: We promise, with God's help.

CONGREGATIONAL ASSENT

One: Jesus Christ calls us to make disciples of all nations and to offer them the gift of grace in baptism. Do you, who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to **Evelyn**, who is about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ?

All: We promise our love, support, and care.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: Let us unite with the church in all times and places in confessing our faith in the triune God.

One: Do you believe in God?

All: I believe in God.

One: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

All: I believe in Jesus Christ.

One: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

All: I believe in the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER OF BAPTISM

One: Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water. By your Holy Spirit save those who confess the name of Jesus Christ, that sin may have no power over them. Create new life in this child, **Evelyn**, baptized this day that she may rise in Christ. Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was, and is, and shall always be, world without end. **Amen.**

ACT OF BAPTISM

One: What is the name of this child?

Parents: Evelyn Rose.

One: **Evelyn Rose**, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

One: The Holy Spirit be upon you, **Evelyn**, child of God, disciple of Jesus Christ, member of the church.

MEETING YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

PRAYER FOR THE BAPTIZED

10:00 ANTHEM

It Is Well with My Soul

Horatio G. Spafford,
Philip P. Bliss, arr. Bob Krogstad

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 18:9-17

⁹ Then Jesus told this story to some who had great confidence in their own righteousness and scorned everyone else: ¹⁰ “Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a despised tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed this prayer: ‘I thank you, God, that I am not like other people—cheaters, sinners, adulterers. I’m certainly not like that tax collector! ¹² I fast twice a week, and I give you a tenth of my income.’ ¹³ But the tax collector stood at a distance and dared not even lift his eyes to heaven as he prayed. Instead, he beat his chest in sorrow, saying, ‘O God, be merciful to me, for I am a sinner.’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this sinner, not the Pharisee, returned home justified before God. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” ¹⁵ One day some parents brought their little children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But when the disciples saw this, they scolded the parents for bothering him. ¹⁶ Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, “Let the children come to me. Don’t stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children. ¹⁷ I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn’t receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it.”

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

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“Let the Children Come to Me”

Pastor John

8:30 COLLECTION OF OFFERING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

✝ 10:00 HYMN #375

In Water We Grow

PASTORAL PRAYER AND PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

10:00 INVITATION TO GIVE

In response to the promise of abundant life, God calls us to share our resources with those in need. In that spirit of generosity, let us offer our gifts and tithes.

10:00 OFFERTORY

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

arr. Kevin Stewart

Handbell Choir

✝ 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 PRAYER OF DEDICATION

✝ HYMN OF PARTING #371

Wade in the Water

✝ BENEDICTION

Go into the world, renewed in hope and restored by God's vision. Go into the world to share God's grace and mercy. Go into the world and proclaim the Good News of what God has done for you. To that end, may the blessings of God be with you this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

✝ POSTLUDE

Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor

J.S. Bach

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 o'clock service*

**The November Visitor (coming out next week)
will have detailed information about the upcoming
EDUCATION MINISTRY TEAM
SERVICE PROJECTS
FOR THANKSGIVING, ADVENT AND BEYOND**

Below are the highlights so you can start your shopping early.

❖ **November Grateful – Sundays in November**

- ♥ Collection of Church World Service school and hygiene kit items, beginning November 3 and concluding with kit assembly on November 24.

❖ **Hat and Mitten Tree - December**

❖ **Advent – Weekly opportunities during Advent (Dec 1 – Dec 22)**

♥ **December 1:**

Bring board games and books for Peace Neighborhood Center (and other kid-centered organizations).

♥ **December 8 and December 22:**

Bring gift cards for area organizations such as Alpha House and Delonis Center.

♥ **December 15:**

Bring non-perishable donations for Food Gatherers.

❖ **In the New Year and Lent**

- ♥ Fundraising for **Easy Water for Everyone** with a focus on water stability and access here in Michigan. Fritz Port will have an article in an upcoming Visitor about this fundraiser.

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.**

Worship Resources:

Prophecy, Dreams, and Visions: Service Prayers for the 20th Sunday after Pentecost was written by the Rev. Christopher Ney, pastor of Central Congregational Church, UCC, of Newburyport, MA. Copyright 2019 Justice Local Church Ministries, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt

HELPING IN THE SERVICES TODAY

Pastor: Rev. John L. Kennedy

Minister of Spiritual Growth and Development:

Lily Tinker Fortel

Director of Music: David Hahn

Organist: Gail Jennings

Director of Handbell Choir: Jim Rowan

10:00 Bell Ringer Matt Perros

Liturgist Della DiPietro

Coffee Connection Servers

Sally Wetzel, Norm Wetzel, Marj Alber, Pam Rutledge

10:00 Sound Technician Kurt Schmerberg

10:00 Educational Building Greeter Barb Marshall

Building Opener/Closer

Norm Wetzel/Tom Ziesemer

Ushers

8:30 Sally Wetzel, Norm Wetzel

10:00 Chuck Hookham, Steve Darr, Matt Perros,
Dennis Huibregtse, Pat Huibregtse

Bethlehem's Star Bazaar



Last day to buy
or reserve
tickets is
November 3

Friday
November 8
10:00 am - 2 pm

Luncheon
11:30 am-1:00 pm

Beef or Turkey, Assorted Salads, Pies

\$12 Beef or Turkey-\$8 Salad only

Tickets on sale at Church Office beginning October 20
Call 734-665-6149 to reserve tickets-only 50 sold at door

Fundraiser for Peace Neighborhood Center, Alpha House, Property Improvement, Food Gatherers & the Women's Treasury

**Bethlehem United
Church of Christ**

**423 S. FOURTH AVENUE
ANN ARBOR, MI 48104
734-665-6149**

**Open at
10:00 am**

- ★ BAKE SALE
- ★ RECYCLED CHRISTMAS
- ★ CRAFTS
- ★ QUILTS DISPLAY
- ★ QUILT RAFFLE

