

*Welcome to  
Bethlehem United Church of Christ*



*June 8, 2025*

*Pentecost Sunday*



## **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.

## **Welcome to Bethlehem!**

We are so glad that you are joining your voice with ours in worship today!  
Everyone, please sign our green friendship pads, found at the end of each pew.

If you like, a comfortable space for families is available under the balcony.

God put the wiggle in children, and we welcome them in worship!

Children are also welcome to participate in Sunday school, if they prefer.

All are invited to stand, as you are able, for sections marked with a cross (†);

Congregational responses are in bold text.

## **Prayer Requests**

Fill out a prayer request card found in the pews.

You may give it to one of the pastors before the service  
or to an usher during the Hymn of Response.



## **CHURCH LIFE**

No Bethlehem members were known to be in the hospital as of Wednesday

### **ATTENDANCE FOR LAST SUNDAY**

**Total: 92** (In Person: 65, YouTube: 23, Phone: 4)

Worship is available in the sanctuary, via Phone Streaming and Livestream to  
access the Livestream go to our website: <https://www.bethlehem-ucc.org>. To join the  
Phone Stream, call 855-669-8965 prior to the start of worship. You may sign up to be  
called by the Phone Stream by contacting the church office during regular business hours.  
(You will be called about 5 minutes before worship begins.)

**Graduate Sunday**  
**PREPARING FOR WORSHIP**

**RINGING OF THE BELLS**

**WELCOME AND SHARING CHURCH LIFE**

**CENTERING MUSIC**     *Fanfare on "Shine Jesus Shine"*     - Christopher Tambling  
Gail Jennings, organ

**OPENING WORSHIP**

**† CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Great Spirit, pour out on us wisdom and understanding.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

One: Great Spirit, inspire our lives with your holy fire and the light of your love.

**All: Come, Holy Spirit, come!**

**† HYMN OF GATHERING**                      **NCH # 286**                      *Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

**† OPENING PRAYER** (unison)

**Breath of God, blow away from us all despair, distress, groundless fears, and wasteful worries. Breathe into us your boundless love and endless joy, your amazing courage and strength, and your peace that surpasses all understanding. Fill us to overflowing so that our lives are a pure reflection of you. Amen.**

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES**

**† PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

**MESSAGE IN MUSIC** “With all your Hearts” from *Elijah* - Felix Mendelssohn  
Hunter Reid, tenor; Gail Jennings, piano

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**    **NCH # 236**            ***Hallelujah*** (sung twice)  
**Halle, halle, hallelujah. Halle, halle, hallelujah.**  
**Halle, halle, hallelujah. Hallelujah, hallelujah.**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

**From the Torah:            Genesis 1:1-5**

**From the Letters: Acts 2:1-21**

One: May God bless the reading, hearing and understanding of this holy word.

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**MESSAGE** *Ruah* Pastor Dawn

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† HYMN OF REFLECTION      NCH # 292      *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## Joys & Concerns

**Silent Prayer & Sung Petition**      *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

**Lord, listen to your children praying; Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying; send us love, send us power,  
send us grace.**

## Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Please you these words or those most familiar to you.

**Our God in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom come; your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## OFFERING

Invitation to give

Offertory

*Siciliana - Ancient Dance*

- arr. Ottorino Respighi

Gail Jennings, piano

† Hymn of Thanksgiving      **NCH # 780** (lyrics #778)      *Doxology*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God all creatures here below;**

**Praise God for all that love has done;**

**Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.**

† Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**Blessed are you, God of all Creation! All good things come from you! We thank you and praise you for all that we have received from your generous hand! In gratitude for all your gifts, we offer ourselves and our possessions. Bless all that we offer, such that others may be blessed. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

## GOING FORTH TO SERVE

† CLOSING HYMN

**NCH # 282**

*Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

## WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

*Fantasia on "Come, Holy Ghost"*

- J. S. Bach

Gail Jennings, organ



# Congratulations to our 2025 Graduates!!!



## **BRIAN GOTHAM**

MSU Bachelor of Arts in Finance with a minor in Financial Planning & Wealth Management.

Brian traveled to six countries on a 15-day European trip, four days after graduation, and will start working full-time on August 8th at Plante Moran in Ann Arbor as a Financial Advisor.



## **KATIE SCHWARTZ**

Graduated from Michigan State University in December 2024 with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. In May, she started in the accelerated second degree BSN program at MSU to complete a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.



## **CARRIE SCHWARTZ**

Graduated from Saline High School and will attend the University of Michigan in the College of Engineering to study biomedical engineering this fall.



## **EJ VASQUEZ**

Master of Arts in Philosophy from EMU at the end of April.

He is in the process of applying to PhD programs focused on Asian Philosophy and Philosophy of Religion, hoping to start Fall of 2026.



**OUR TEAM:**

**Interim Pastor:** Rev. Dawn Christenson

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Diane White

**Ministers:** All the people

**Director of Music & Organist:** Dr. Naki Sung Kripfgans

**Director of Handbells:** Jim Rowan

**Guest Organist:** Gail Jennings

**Soloist:** Hunter Reid

**Liturgist:** Jan Eadie

**Sound Technician(s):** Jesse Wilcox

**Videographer:** Dan Blakeney

**Streaming Technician:**

**Security Volunteer:** Pete Hendershot

**Coffee Hour:** Jim and Katie Rowan

**Reach out to us:**

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(734) 665-6149

[info@bethlehem-ucc.org](mailto:info@bethlehem-ucc.org)

<https://www.bethlehem-ucc.org>

