

*Welcome to
Bethlehem United Church of Christ*



August 10, 2025

Ninth Sunday of Pentecost



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.



Happy Birthday to Bethlehem members, **David Haworth**, who turns 96
on August 11th and **Arlene Finkbeiner**, who turns 96 on August 14th.



CHURCH LIFE

Bethlehem members, **Harriette Ehnis** and **Tim Schenk** are in the hospital.

Please pray for a speedy recovery

ATTENDANCE FOR LAST SUNDAY

Total: 65 (In Person:42, YouTube:21, Phone:2)

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.)

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

RINGING OF THE BELLS

WELCOME AND SHARING CHURCH LIFE

CENTERING MUSIC *Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 140* - J. S. Bach
Cary Dumas, organ

OPENING WORSHIP

† **CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 33)

One: Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I say, rejoice!

All: For the word of the Lord is true and God's faithfulness is eternal.

† **HYMN OF GATHERING** **NCH # 613** *O Holy City, Seen of John*

† **OPENING PRAYER** (unison)

Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, you have made us so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant us wisdom to walk in your ways and kind hearts to love as you love. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

† **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

MESSAGE IN MUSIC *Center of My Joy* - arr. Richard Smallwood
Caitlyn Bogart, vocal; Cary Dumas, 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 Letters: Hebrews 11:1-11, 8-16

From the Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

One: The Gospel of the Lord, for the people of God!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MESSAGE *Leave the light on* Pastor Dawn

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† HYMN OF REFLECTION NCH # 414 v.1,2 & 5 *Incarnate God, Immortal Love*

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 use 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

Adoro te devote

- Rebecca Groom te Velde

Cary Dumas, organ

† **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)

Benevolent God, from you comes every good and perfect gift. We give you thanks and praise for all of your mercies; for your goodness that created us; for your abundance that sustains us; and for your love that has redeemed us. With grateful hearts we dedicate our gifts of time, talent and treasure to your tender care, so that others may be blessed, as we have been blessed. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

† **CLOSING HYMN**

NCH # 406

Not with Naked Eye, Not with Human Sense

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

Fugue in e minor, BWV 533

- J. S. Bach

Cary Dumas, organ

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: Cary Dumas

Soloist: Caitlyn Bogart

Liturgist: Teresa Beagle

Sound Technician: Gary Rogers

Videographer: Dan Blakeney

Streaming Technician: Michelle Loukotka

Security Volunteer: Pete Hendershot

Community Time: Jacquie Katz

Reach out to us:

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

