

*Welcome to
Bethlehem United Church of Christ*



*August 17, 2025
Tenth 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.



CHURCH LIFE

Bethlehem member, **Eugene Alber** is in the hospital.

Please pray for a speedy recovery

ATTENDANCE FOR LAST SUNDAY

Total: 60 (In Person:35, YouTube:23, 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

Le Jardin Suspensu

- Jehan Alain

Cary Dumas, organ

OPENING WORSHIP

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples; we will sing praises to you among the nations!

All: For your steadfast love reaches above the heavens, and your faithfulness extends beyond the clouds!

† HYMN OF GATHERING

NCH # 373

They Did Not Build in Vain

† OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Gracious God, help us to know your ways. Teach us your paths. Lead us in your truth and guide us, we pray. May we be your living legacies of love, justice, and grace. 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

I Vow to Thee, My Country

- arr. Paul Anthony Hayward

William Lee, bass-baritone; 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 Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

One: The gospel of the Lord, for the People of God!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MESSAGE

Shakin' things up

Pastor Dawn

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† HYMN OF REFLECTION NCH # 573 *Lead on Eternal Sovereign*

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

Thaxted

- David Blackwell

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 # 575

O for a World

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

Postlude
Cary Dumas, organ

- Douglas E. Wagner

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: William Lee

Liturgist: Please see [Signup Genius](#) for open dates

Sound Technician: Gary Rogers

Videographer: Dan Blakney

Streaming Technician: Michelle Loukotka

Security Volunteer: Volunteers needed, please contact church office

Community Time: Jenny Foster

Reach out to us:

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

