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Twenty-Second 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 member **Mike Ehnis**,
who turns 90 on November 10, 2025

FLOWERS

The flowers today are in honor of Mike Ehnis' 90th birthday.



CHURCH LIFE

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

ATTENDANCE FOR LAST SUNDAY

Total:109 (In Person:86, YouTube:20, Phone:3)

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

Lead, Kindly Light
Naki Kripfgans, organ

arr. Marianne Kim

OPENING WORSHIP

† CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 145)

One: The Lord is just and kind, and greatly to be praised!

All: **Great is the Lord!**

† HYMN OF GATHERING

NCH # 43

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

† OPENING PRAYER (unison)

Guide us, O God, by your Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your ways discover peace. Through Jesus 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

How Long?
Bethlehem Chancel Choir; William Lee, solo

- Pepper Choplin

How long, how long 'til this world is free from suffering?

How long, how long 'til blessed peace will reign?

How long, how long 'til the pow'r of love will come

And heaven's will is done? How long, how long?

How long, how long 'til every gun is silenced?
How long, how long 'til hate and war shall end;
'Til ev'ry battle's thunder will fade to blessed peace
And sounds of war will cease? How long, how long?

Press on, press on, let faith and hope sustain you.
Press on, press on, keep working for the day
When all of God's children will live in peace as one.
Until that new day comes, press on, press on.

Send me, send me to work for the kingdom.
Send me, send me to go and live for peace.
Until the love of heaven to earth shall descend
And peace will reign again, send me, send me.

Press on, we'll press on. We will sing a peaceful song!
But still we're praying on, how long, how long?

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MUSICAL RESPONSE

NCH # 793

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy God.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

From the Letters: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

From the Gospel: Luke 20:27-40

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MESSAGE

Thank you, Jesus!

Pastor Dawn

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† HYMN OF REFLECTION

NCH # 44

Beautiful Jesus

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

Improvisation

- Naki Kripfgans

† 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, we offer these humble gifts – signs of your abundant goodness. Receive them with our gratitude and our prayer that through them and us, all people may know the abundance of your great love. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

† CLOSING HYMN

NCH # 41

I Thank You, Jesus

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

Sortie

- César Franck

Naki Kripfgans, 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

Ensemble: Bethlehem Chancel Choir

Liturgist: Judy Coucouvanis

Sound Technician: Dennis Huibregtse

Videographer: Dan Blakeney

Streaming Technician: Michelle Loukotka

Security Volunteer: Volunteers Needed, please contact church office

Coffee Hour Host: Katie and Jim Rowan

Reach out to us:

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

