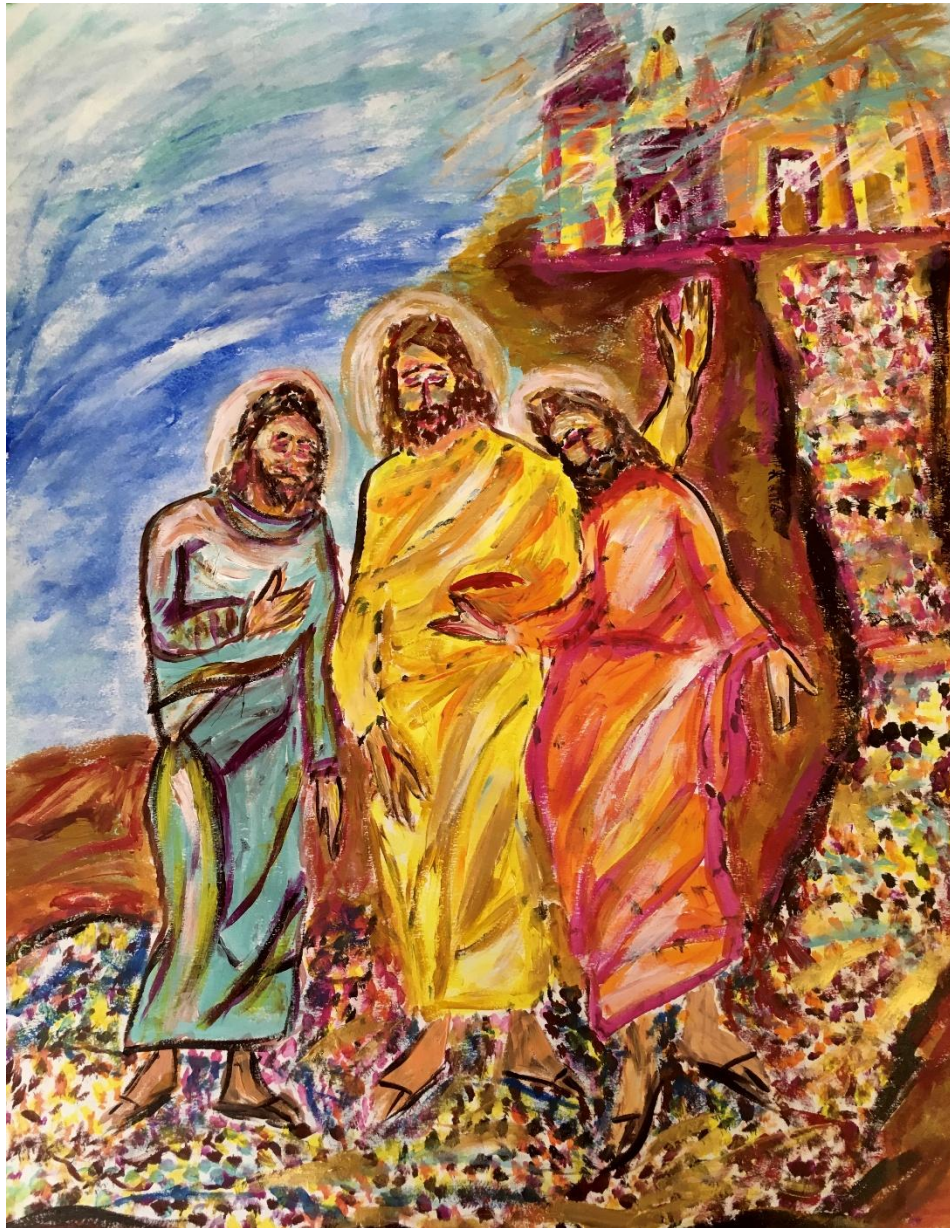


*Welcome to  
Bethlehem United Church of Christ*



*April 19, 2026  
Third Sunday of Easter*



## **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:63** (In Person:42, YouTube:18, 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

### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

### CENTERING MUSIC

*Day By Day*  
Naki Kripfgans, piano

- arr. Sinwoong Kim

### OPENING WORSHIP

#### † CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Praise the Lord, all you peoples and nations,

**All: for great and enduring is God's love and faithfulness!**

#### † OPENING HYMN

**NCH # 255**

*Jesus, Sovereign Savior*

#### † OPENING PRAYER (unison)

**Benevolent God, you sent Jesus into the world to live among us, and through him you have redeemed us. For this and all the blessings you have given us, we are humbled and grateful. Lord, walk beside us, as on the road to Emmaus, and guide us in your ways. Fill us with your spirit of generosity, compassion and mercy, so that all may know the abundance of your love. Amen.**

#### † PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you!

**All: And also with you!**

### PROCLAIMING THE WORD

#### MESSAGE IN MUSIC

Christ Has Broken Down the Wall  
Bethlehem Chancel Choir

- Mark Miller

Christ has broken down the wall. Let us join our hearts as one.

We're accepted as we are. Through God's love all is reconciled.

Cast aside your doubts and fears. Peace and love, freely offered here.

We will tear down the walls! God has called us, one and all.

Christ has broken down the wall.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**MUSICAL RESPONSE**            **NCH # 236 *Halleluja***    sung twice  
Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, Halleluja.  
Halle, halle, halleluja. Halleluja, halleluja.

## SCRIPTURE READING

**From the Gospel:**                            **Luke 24:13-35**

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

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

## MESSAGE

*Mighty in word and deed*

Pastor Dawn

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

## † HYMN OF REFLECTION

**NCH # 342 *Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread***

## 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 pow'r, 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**            *The Ash Grove*        - Welsh Folk Tune/arr. Dale Wood  
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:** Teresa Beagle

**Sound Technician:** Gary Rogers

**Videographer:** Dan Blakeney

**Streaming Technician:** Oliver Kripfgans

**Security Volunteer:** Volunteers needed, please contact church office

**Community Time Host:** Jacquie Katz

**Reach out to us:**

423 S. Fourth Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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

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



a just world for all