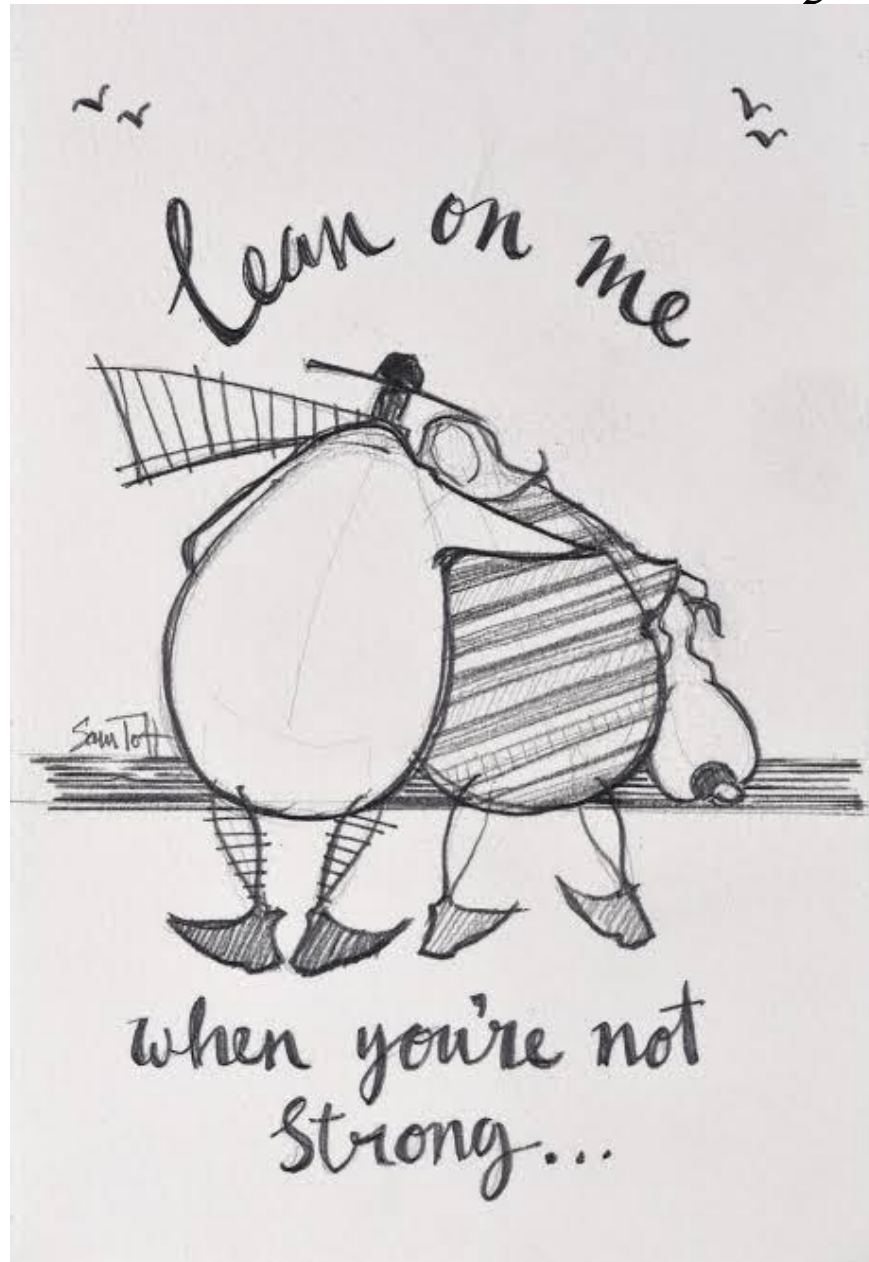


Welcome to
Bethlehem United Church of Christ



July 5, 2026
Sixth Sunday after 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

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

ATTENDANCE FOR LAST SUNDAY

Total: 83 (In Person: 60, 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.)

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

One: . . .Now, let us prepare our hearts. The Lord be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them to the Lord!

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High!

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise!

PRAYER OF BLESSING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE MEAL

SPP # 112

Come to the Table of Grace

(note: all bread is gluten-free; red cups contain juice; white cups contain wine; prepackaged elements also available; please place empty cups in the baskets)

Lyric order: grace, peace, love, joy

Come to the table of grace.

Come to the table of grace.

This is Christ's table not just yours or mine.

Come to the table of grace.

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

Holy One, we thank you for refreshing us at your table. We thank you and praise you for the gift of Jesus' redemptive love and for giving us new life in him! By your grace, help us to follow steadfastly in his ways. By your Spirit, strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another; and send us forth into the world with courage and mercy. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE

NCH # 793 *Holy, Holy, Holy (Sanctus)*

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy God.

Children may leave for Sunday School during the song.

SCRIPTURE READING

From the Gospel: Matthew 11:15-19 & 25-30

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MESSAGE

Lean on me

Pastor Dawn

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† HYMN OF REFLECTION NCH # 489 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

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

Improvisation

- Naki Kripfgans

† Hymn of Thanksgiving NCH # 780 *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)

Gracious God, all good gifts come from you. We thank you and praise you, for we and all of Creation are fearfully and wonderfully made by your hand. Bless our hands in service to you. Bless our time, talent and treasure, given in gratitude to you. Bless all that we offer such that it may bless others too. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

† CLOSING HYMN

NCH # 492

I Would Be True

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE

Variations on "America"

- Charles Ives/arr. Daniel Dorff

Jordan Smith, flute; Naki Kripfgans, piano

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

Soloist: Jordan Smith

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

Sound Technician: Gary Rogers

Videographer: Jennifer Vasquez

Streaming Technician: Dan Blakeney

Security Volunteer: Volunteers, please contact church office

Community Time Host: Nan Lefton

Reach out to us:

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

info@bethlehem-ucc.org

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



a just world for all