

*Welcome to
Bethlehem United Church of Christ*



*October 11, 2026
Twentieth 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:67 (In Person: 50, YouTube:14, 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

Halle, Hallelujah
Bethlehem Chancel Choir

- arr. John Michniewicz

Refrain: Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! hallelujah!

O God, the Rock of Ages, cleft for me. Oh, let me, let me hide myself in Thee.
You are the Rock of Ages, cleft for me. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

With nothing in my hands, myself I bring, for simply to the cross, I'll ever cling.
With nothing in my hands, myself I bring, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

OPENING WORSHIP

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Rejoice in the Lord always, in every season and circumstance.

All: We bring our celebrations and struggles into the presence of God.

One: The Lord is near, meeting us in the midst of this day.

All: Open our hearts to the little hallelujahs all around us.

One: Rejoice! Let us worship God together!

† OPENING HYMN

Chalice #53

Morning Has Broken

† OPENING PRAYER (unison)

† PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you!

All: And also with you!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

MESSAGE IN MUSIC *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* - arr. Mark Hayes
Bethlehem Chancel Choir

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love!

Here I find my greatest treasure; hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, how I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

Children's Time

Jesus loves me, this I know, as God loved so long ago, taking children on their knee, saying, "Let them come to me." Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! For the Bible tells me so.

SCRIPTURE READING **Philippians 4:1-9**

Leader: The Word of God, for the people of God!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

MESSAGE The Little Hallelujahs Rev. Matthew Hogue-Smith

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

† **HYMN OF REFLECTION** Chalice #561 **It Is Well with My Soul**

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 *Children of the Heavenly Father* - arr. J. Wayne Kerr
Naki Kripfgans, organ

† 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)

Generous God, we give thanks for the blessing woven through our daily lives. Receive these gifts and use them for hope, peace, and joy to our neighbors. May our giving become another small hallelujah, offered with grateful hearts. Amen

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

† CLOSING HYMN **Chalice #431** **Go, My Children, with My Blessing**

WORDS OF SENDING

POSTLUDE *Toccata in F, BuxWV157* - Dietrich Buxtehude
Naki Kripfgans, organ

OUR TEAM:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Matthew Hogue-Smith

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: Oliver Kripfgans

Community Time Host: Ron and Alice Dechert

Reach out to us:

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a just world for all