



**All who want to save their lives
will lose them.**

**But all who lose their lives
because of me
will find them.**

Matthew 16:25 CEB



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Lansing, MI 48910
517-482-3225
www.bethlutheran.org



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Worship Service – 10:00
August 30, 2026, Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Dear Lord Jesus, I ask for your blessing as I receive your Body and Blood with the bread and wine in Holy Communion today. I pray for the gift of a stronger faith and for the power and will to live as your disciple. Help me to show my thanks in greater love and service to you, and in greater love toward others. Hear my prayer, O Lord. Amen.

WELCOME

We count it a privilege to receive guests into our worship service. The ministry of Bethlehem Lutheran Church exists to bring glory to God and to serve you. We hope you sense that Jesus is at the heart of all we do.

If you are a guest, and would like more information about our ministries, please call the church office at 482-3225.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Bethlehem Lutheran is a praying church; this is one of our Faith Practices/Marks of Discipleship. A white card is provided in the pew rack for requesting petitions of concern or thanksgiving to be included in the prayers of the congregation. Fill out the card and hand it to an usher during the Hymn of the Day. If you would like the person named on the card notified about the prayer offered on their behalf, please include an address on the card.

If you would like your concern prayed for every day this week, please fill out a blue card, place it in the basket in our prayer corner, or hand it to an usher to bring forward.

Silencing cell phones and handheld devices and keeping conversation to a minimum during worship is appreciated.

PARISH NOTES

Lansing SAVE Today is our fifth Sunday offering for LansingSAVE. There are now 174 children in our group of students from BELC and the Baker Neighborhood. To give electronically click on the "Online Giving" link on our website.

ROOTBEER FLOATS Join us after the worship service next Sunday, **September 6th**, for rootbeer floats! Hope to see you!

RALLY SUNDAY AND THE CHURCH PICNIC



The official start of the new Sunday School year is on **September 13th**. We will have our church picnic after the worship service. There will be a potluck, then we will have games for all ages. Please join us in the church lower level for games, and more. **Our first day for class-crafts and fun will be September 20th at 8:45 a.m.** We are looking forward to another great year of Sunday School! **For the potluck, please bring enough for your family, a dish to pass and your tableware. More information will be coming soon.**

BELCW GENERAL MEETING AND POTLUCK ATTENTION ALL WOMEN! All women of Bethlehem Lutheran Church are invited to attend the General Meeting and Potluck! Join your friends for a yummy potluck, **Monday, September 21, at 6:30 p.m.** You don't have to be part of a Circle to attend!!!! Please bring: your own table service, a dish to pass and your September Gather magazine, if you have one.

WORSHIP LIFE The committee has a vacancy for a one-year term. Please contact Tim Nelson or the church office if you are interested.

HANDBELL DIRECTOR The church is looking for a director for the Handbell Choir. If you or someone you know might be interested, please let Tim Nelson or Susan Mahoney know.

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY All are welcome for Sunday Night Bible Study on the First and Third Sundays of every month at 7:00 pm. We will meet in the library. Our focus will be on the readings for that Sunday, and the sermon reflection questions... And whatever else might be on our minds. Please join us when you can!

WEDDING COMMITTEE Assistants needed! We are looking for ladies who would like to help with our weddings. We need ladies who are committed to assist during rehearsal time for a couple of hours and to assist during the wedding for several hours. Two or three assistants help with a wedding a few times a year. Thank you for your consideration in joining our Wedding Committee! For questions, see Audrey Olson or Sue Christiansen.

KIDS ACTIVITY NIGHT We need donations for our Baker/Donora Kids Night. Snack foods, drinks, games, anything would help. If you have time on a Wednesday evening, come join us! This is an opportunity to connect with our neighborhood children and make a difference in their lives! We thank you all for donating to this important ministry! **Thank you!** If you have any questions about donations or donating your time, please speak to Eliot Nutt or Shannon Nobles.

KIDS ACTIVITY NIGHT
Wednesday night, along with the Baker/Donora neighborhood Association, we are welcoming children and families for food, fun, and fellowship. Please join us!



Thought for the Week

At the very heart of the Christian gospel is a cross — the symbol of suffering and sacrifice, of hurt and pain and humiliation and rejection.

I want no part of a Christian message which does not call me to involvement, requires of me no sacrifice, takes from me no comfort, requires of me less than the best I have to give.

The duty of a Christian is to be faithful,
not popular or successful.

Rev. Donald Wildmon

ATTENDANCE Worship Attendance: 08/23/26, 49 in-person, with 39 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 33:09, 22 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

STEWARDSHIP NUGGET This morning we hear Jesus declare that he is willing to carry the cost of fulfilling his part in God's saving mission. In the same passage we are invited by Jesus to partnership in mission...Listen well to the assurance that in sharing the cross marked path with Jesus we journey towards fullness of life. Thanks to you who willingly share in the costly mission of God.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GUEST PASTOR – Pastor John Burow

GREETERS – Ralph & Margaret Sergent

USHERS – Cloyd Barnes, Don Cairns

ACOLYTE – Adreanna Fernandez

LAY READER – Susan Mahoney

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Tim Nelson, Kylee Nelson

ALTAR GUILD – Bob & Sue Christiansen

Our Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS and with your cards and visits:

*Marilyn Bass-Huyser, Independence Village, Grand Ledge
Larry & Virginia Bauman, 5214 Evergreen Ridge Dr. Cincinnati, OH
John Nelson, Grand Haven Living Center-Senior Care in Lansing
Betty Strother, Independence Village, East Lansing
Joe Skidmore, 475 Jacks Canyon Road, Apt. 229, Sedona, AZ
Julie Clark, Burcham Hills Residential, East Lansing*

Those at home: *Kaye Alden, John Bartel, Tosha Brisbo, Ron Clark
Crystal Collins, Keith Ferguson, Tom Finn, Carl Gallagher
Nancy Jackson, Mary Jakubiak, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan
Mark Nelson, Don Olson, Tharin Palmer, Bob & Gloria Robbins
Sandy Rollis, Connie Scott, Dana Stevens, Ken Teter
Betty VanConant, Cheryl VanPatten*

If you, as a member, would like to be included on this list or removed from it, please call the church office.

MISSION PARTNERS Pray for the people and ministry at Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Pray for the Baker/Donora Neighborhood Association.

THOSE WHO SERVE Please pray for those who are on active duty in the United States Military Services:

Chris Browne – U.S. Air Force (Member of the Kern family)
Isaiah Castellanos – U.S. Army (Margo Devine's great nephew)
Andrew Devine – U.S. National Guard (Margo Devine's nephew)
Anthony Erb – U.S. Army (family of Mary Jakubiak)
Carson Kosloski – U.S. Marines (Jeff Kosloski's great nephew)
Joshua Kosloski – U.S. Army (Laura Halbakken's cousin)
Christopher Morgan – U.S. Marines (friend of The Darling family)
Ben Painter – U.S. Air Force (Laura Halbakken's cousin)
Ryan Schiffner – U.S. Air Force (Rick & Jean Peckham's nephew)
Nicholas "Leo" Snow – U.S. Navy (cousin of Ferguson & Snider families)
Dayton Tucker – U.S. Marines (Friend of the Devine family)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR If you would like to sponsor the Altar flowers on a special Sunday, please sign up on the flower chart in the lobby. Don't forget to add if they are in honor of, in memory of, or celebration of.

PORTALS OF PRAYER July - September 2026 booklets are available on the Welcome Table in the lobby. If you would like a copy, call the church office, 482-3225, and we will send you one.

PRAYER PARTNERS Each Sunday we pray for a congregation in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod to offer our support and to emphasize the ministry that we share. This week we pray for Zion Lutheran Church in Woodland, Michigan, Rev. Ken Scheck.

ONLINE GIVING Did you know that you can contribute via our website and not create an account? Clicking on the online giving link and filling out the donation form is all you need to do to make an online contribution. If you would like to create an account, go to the 'Printables' page on the BELC website for instructions. **Scan this QR Code by putting your cell phone camera up to the code and follow the link to give electronically to Bethlehem.**



THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR WORSHIP

GUEST PASTOR – Rev. Christin Fawcett

ORGANIST – James Schippers

CHOIR DIRECTOR – Sue Nelson

PRAISE TEAM COORDINATORS – Debbie Simmons, Laura Halbakken

ASSISTING MINISTER – Crystal Collins

GREETERS – Matt & Cindy Marsh

USHERS – Jim Whitman, Ralph Sergeant, Don Romain

LAY READER – Tim Nelson

ACOLYTE – Alicia Fernandez

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Susan Mahoney, Peggy Teter, Keitha Snider

ALTAR GUILD – Joe & Cheryl Shreffler

A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, Marvin White, David Westover

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, August 30 10:00a Worship – Holy Communion

Pastor Christin Fawcett

LansingSAVE

TUESDAY 7:00p Senior Choir

WEDNESDAY 10:00a Capital Area Baby Café

TBD Staff Meeting

5:30p Kids Night

FRIDAY *Church Office closed (Labor Day weekend)*

7:00p N.A. meets

SATURDAY 9:30a F.A.B. meets

SUNDAY, Sept. 6 10:00a Worship – Holy Communion

Pastor John Burow 7:00p Sunday Night Bible Study

Foodbank Sunday

Rootbeer floats after Worship

***Baptismal Blessings* for the life of faith**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

- ✝ *to live among God's faithful people,*
- ✝ *to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,*
- ✝ *to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,*
- ✝ *to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,*
- ✝ *and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?*

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.¹

¹*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Affirmation of Baptism, Page 237.*