



549 E. Mt. Hope Ave.
Lansing, MI 48910
517-482-3225
www.bethlutheran.org



Worship Service – 10:00
May 1, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The Altar flowers given to the glory of God.

TAKING FAITH HOME Find a copy on Facebook in the BELC Worship Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/belcworship/>).

PORTALS OF PRAYER April - June booklets are available on the Welcome Table in the lobby. If you would like a copy, call the church office at 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 Trinity Lutheran Church in New Era Michigan, Rev. Sarah Samuelson.

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.

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

Worship Attendance: 109 – 65 in-person and 49 people viewed the 4/24/22 Live worship.

<i>Income received through March 31, 2022</i>	<i>\$76,167.21</i>
<i>Expenses through March 31, 2022</i>	<i>\$88,452.49</i>
	<i>(\$12,285.49)*</i>

**This includes an annual insurance bill of \$8,501.50. Taking only \$2,125.38 of this bill for the first quarter, our balance is (\$5,909.37)*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Dear Lord, into your holy presence I come this morning. I come as your child, received into your family through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. As your child, I enter this place of worship seeking your will for my life. Prepare me now, O Lord, to meet you in worship and when I depart, keep me strong in faith and in my determination to do your will. In Jesus' Name I pray. 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 send Pastor Matt a message at pastormattsmith@gmail.com or call the church office at 482-3225.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Bethlehem Lutheran is a praying church; this is one of our Marks of Discipleship. For prayers that you would like included in Sunday worship, please visit www.bethlutheran.org or click [HERE](#) for a direct link to send a prayer request to Pastor Matt.

Include an address if you'd like the person named in your request notified of the prayer offered on their behalf.

THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR WORSHIP

ORGANIST & HANDBELL DIRECTOR – James Schippers
CHOIR DIRECTOR – Sue Nelson
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP DIRECTOR – Laurey Wyble
ASSISTING MINISTER – Don Telles
LAY READER – Mel White
ACOLYTE – David Fernandez
GREETERS – Ron & Diane Miller
USHERS – Otto Kern, Ralph Sergent
ALTAR GUILD – Bob & Sue Christiansen
A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, Paul Schmidt, David Westover

Our Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS and with your cards and visits:
Shelby Waters in The Willows at Okemos
John Nelson in Grandhaven Living Center-Senior Care in Lansing
Rhoda Hunter in Prestige Way on Keller Road in Holt

Those at home: *Mary Ann Allen, John Bartel, Virginia Bauman
Tosha Brisbo Crystal Collins, Doug Griffin, Emma Hicks, Amy Hunter
Marilyn Bass-Huyser, Nancy Jackson, Carole Kienke
Marilyn Kostrzewski, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan
Yvonne Nelson, Don Olson, Tharin Palmer, John Ransom
Carol Roush, Connie Scott, Audrey Skidmore, Peggy Teter
Betty VanConant, Cheryl VanPatten, Emily Viele, Matthew White*

*If you know of a member you would like us to include on this list or
remove from this list, please call the church office.*

SEMINARY STUDENT Jason Mills, from BELC, is studying at
Gettysburg Theological Seminary. Please keep him in your prayers.

MISSION PARTNERS Pray for the people and ministry at Pine Ridge
Reservation in South Dakota. Pray for the Baker Neighborhood Partners
and Officer Sam Kandel, LPD Community Police Officer.

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)
Tyler Barnes – U.S. Marines (Candy & Cloyd Barnes' nephew)
Andrew Devine – U.S. Nat'l Guard (Margo Devine's nephew)
Darian Doan – U.S. Army (Marv & Laura Halbakken's nephew)
Carson Kosloski – U.S. Marines (Jeff Kosloski's great nephew)
Joshua Kosloski – U.S. Army (Laura Halbakken's cousin)
Rusty Landry – U.S. Air Nat'l Guard (Don & Audrey Olson's grandson)
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)

PARISH NOTES

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY We extend our deepest sympathy to the
family and friends of Marian Wilford, wife of Jon Wilford, who died
Sunday, April 24, 2022. May God comfort those who mourn with the
promise of eternal life for all those who trust and believe in Jesus Christ.

STEWARDSHIP PONDERING

*To change my morning into dancing, you took off my funeral clothes
and dressed me up in joy. ~ Psalm 30:11*

Because of Jesus' resurrection we have the gift of anticipatory joy even
in uncertain and difficult circumstances. In the Empty Tomb we can see
that our story ends well and we are assured that our efforts to live
faithfully and generously matter both now and forever.

TODAY IS FOOD BANK SUNDAY Feeding our community has never
been more important as we live through the Covid-19 pandemic. Although
physical donations of canned goods and other non-perishable items are not
possible at this time, we can contribute to the Food Pantry through the
BELC website. Click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

SABBATICAL BEGINS Pastor Matt's three-month Sabbatical begins
on Monday and continues through July 11. During this time of renewal
Pastor Matt will step away from Bethlehem to earn a certification in
Congregational Revitalization from Church Answers and place
emphasis on Prayer as well as Health and Wellness. Pastor John Burow
will handle all pastoral needs in his absence. Pastor John can be reached
through the church office or at (517) 614-4559. Please pray for
Bethlehem and Pastor Matt during this time of education, restoration,
and renewal, as he will be praying for you all.

WORSHIP FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS The 2022 Flower Chart is posted in the Lobby. If you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers for a Sunday, sign your name on that date with notes for the bulletin announcement. Please sign up at least one month in advance of the date requested. The arrangements are \$35 and may be taken home after the Sunday worship service. Thank you to all who sponsor Altar Flowers!

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS These instructions are also in the Worship Bulletin. Communion will be served continuously. Individual cups are still available for use in the pews. Please come forward in an orderly fashion to the side on which you are seated and pick up an empty cup from the communion tray if you wish to receive wine. After receiving the bread from the presiding or assisting minister (gluten free wafers and fish crackers available on request), then proceed to the side on which you are seated to receive the wine or grape juice. After receiving communion, you may kneel at the altar rail as you wish. Your empty cups may be left in the baskets on the stands as you return. If you would like to receive communion in your pew, but from the pastor rather than a pre-filled cup, just let the ushers know. The presiding minister will say the invitation to communion, which will include the words of distribution, “given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.” Then you may consume Christ’s body and blood immediately if you have chosen a prefilled communion wafer and cup.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE They is accompanying our companion churches in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, as well as such ecumenical partners as the Lutheran World Federation and Church World Service, in their humanitarian responses to the crisis. These partners provide refugees with immediate support and supplies such as food, blankets, water, and hygiene kits. Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has joined other religious leaders from Europe and around the globe in issuing an interfaith call for peace in the region. Your gifts will support Ukrainians and others. Gifts to “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be used in full (100%) to assist those affected by the crisis in Ukraine and neighboring countries. Our prayers abound for the loss and devastation experienced in Ukraine and Eastern Europe.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad!

From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise.

~Philippians 4:4 and 8

NEXT SUNDAY IS MISSION SUNDAY Gifts received in a special mission offering will be given to the Lutheran Lakota Shared Ministry at the Pine Ridge Retreat Center in South Dakota. Click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

MICHIGAN PARKINSON FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING WALK In lieu of funeral services, Marv Cole’s life will be honored by his family during the Michigan Parkinson Foundation’s fundraising walk on September 17th in Lansing at the MSU Campus Auditorium Building at 542 Auditorium Road in East Lansing. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. and the walk begins at 10:30 a.m.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY MAY 1

LAY READER – Debbie Simmons

ACOLYTE – Faith Halbakken

GREETERS – Marv & Laura Halbakken

USHERS – Susan Mahoney, Joann Dyer

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, May 1 10:00a **Worship – Holy Communion**
Worship (YouTube)

MONDAY 6:30p BELCW Board Mtg. Zoom
 8:00a Family Growth Center
 9:30a Staff Meeting zoom
 5:00p Board of Worship Life
 6:30p Bell Choir Rehearsal
 7:30p Choir Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center
THURSDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center
SATURDAY 9:30a F.A.B.

SUNDAY, May 8 10:00a **Worship – Holy Communion**
Mother's Day **Worship (YouTube)**

“Rise up in Joy!”

“RISE UP IN JOY!”

“RISE up in JOY!”

MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Jesus expects me to...

PRAY fervently

WORSHIP faithfully

ENCOURAGE one another

READ the Scriptures daily

GIVE freely of the gifts I have received from God

INVITE others to know Him

SERVE all people

*...and where I fall short of his expectations,
Jesus always offers me his love and forgiveness!*

POWER GiftS