



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



Worship Service – 10:00
October 27, 2024

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Betty Holmer & Dennis Hunt, in honor of Karl & Vanessa's first Wedding Anniversary!

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

PORTALS OF PRAYER October – December 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, Woodland, Michigan, Supply Pastors.

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.**



PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

God of history, of the past, we celebrate today the lives of women and men everywhere who followed you and sought to reform your church. God of history, of the present, we thank you for your spirit that works among us today. God of history, of the future, inspire your whole church; inspire us to be ever sensitive to your calling to serve those around us. May we each be willing, for your sake and the sake of your church, to reform our very lives. 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 Smith 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 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.

THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR WORSHIP

PASTORS – Rev. Matthew A. Smith, Rev. John W. Burow
ORGANIST & HANDBELL DIRECTOR – James Schippers
CHOIR DIRECTOR – Sue Nelson
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP DIRECTOR – Laurey Wyble
ASSISTING MINISTER – Nancy Holderread
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith
ACOLYTES – Annabel Halbakken, Abigail Brisbo
LAY READER – Sandra Westover
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Keitha Snider, Candy Barnes
GREETERS – Sandra Westover, David Westover
USHERS – Joe Shreffler, Bob Christiansen, David Snider
ALTAR GUILD – Carrie Rice
A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, David Westover

Our Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS and with your cards and visits:

John Nelson in Grand Haven Living Center-Senior Care in Lansing
Rhoda Hunter in Prestige Way on Keller Road in Holt
Marilyn Bass-Huyser in Independence Village, Grand Ledge
Betty Strother in Independence Village, East Lansing
Joe Skidmore, in Assisted Living, Sedona, AZ
Kurt Kollmeyer, Hamilton Trace Apartments, Fishers, IN

Those at home: *Kaye Alden, John Bartel, Virginia Bauman, Tosha Brisbo Kelly Carpenter, Crystal Collins, Ben Darling, Keith Ferguson Tom & Eleanor Finn, Emma Hicks, Nancy Jackson, Mike (Ferris) Kosloski Vicki Leighton Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan, Yvonne Nelson Tharin Palmer, Bob Robbins, Sandy Rollis, Connie Scott, Ken Teter Betty VanConant, Cheryl VanPatten*

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.

MISSION PARTNERS Pray for the people and ministry at Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Pray for the Baker Neighborhood Partners and our LPD Community Police Officer, D.J. Rudd, Interim.

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)
Isaiah Castellanos – U.S. Army (Margo Devine's great nephew)
Andrew Devine – U.S. Nat'l Guard (Margo Devine'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)
Dayton Tucker – U.S. Marines (Friend of the Devine family)

EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY If you are interested in occasionally taking sacrament to one of our homebound members, please talk to Judy Pardee, Pastor Matt, or someone on the Board of Worship Life.

PARISH NOTES

TODAY IS REFORMATION SUNDAY! Red is a liturgical color reserved for special days (Pentecost, etc.), and for Martyrs' Days.

Reformation Sunday, October 27, is one of those special days. The focus of Reformation Sunday is not on Martin Luther, but rather on justification by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. That is the heritage of the Reformation, because that is the heart of the Bible and the Church.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY Next Sunday is “**All Saints Sunday**”, **November 3**, we will remember the great cloud of witnesses that have gone before us in the faith. If you are grieving the loss of a friend or family member, from the past 12 months, we would like to remember them during the worship service. Call the church office by Monday, October 28, to include their name in worship.

SET YOUR CLOCK BACK!! On November 3, don't forget to set your clocks back one hour so you will be on time for Sunday's worship service.

EQUIPPING STEWARDS FOR THE LIFE OF FAITH

Our fall stewardship emphasis begins next week, Sunday, October 20. We are looking for members for someone each week who would be willing to give a 4-5 minute 'mission moment' regarding stewardship and the theme for the week. If you are willing to share in this way, please see Pastor Matt.

Oct. 20 – Equipped for a Purpose

Oct. 27 – Equipped to Serve

Nov. 10 – Equipped to Give

Nov. 17 – Equipped to Witness (Commitment Sunday)

LYONS SCHOOL CLOTHING COLLECTION BEGINS

NOVEMBER 3 Tubs will be set up in the church entryway beginning Sunday, November 3, and collection of items will run into December. If you would like to donate winter outerwear for the children at Lyons, you can bring boots (sizes 12, 13, 1, or 2), snow pants (sizes 8, 10, 12, or 14), and **waterproof** gloves to leave in the tubs. Boots and snow pants can be either new or gently used, but gloves should be new. Please try to avoid pink or purple, but those are still accepted! Thank you!



The Listening Life



ADULT FORUM: THE LISTENING LIFE

Each Sunday at 9 a.m. in the library we will continue to explore the gift, skill, healing and wholeness of authentic listening. This listening path includes: hearing God in scripture, creation and the needs of the neighbor; listening to another as a high form of hospitality and healing, and even listening

to our own life. Next Sunday we will continue to explore the many ways of listening to our God of faithful love. You are encouraged to partner with us in this time of learning and listening.

“THE DEDICATION OF CLIFFORD PARK’S NEW

TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL COURTS” On Friday, October 25, at 4:30 p.m., the City of Lansing will be having a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate Clifford Parks new Tennis and Pickleball courts. The parking lot will be reserved for their use from 3:00 p.m. on Friday, the 25th, until 6:00 p.m. The church members and neighbors are invited to attend this event.

COMMON ENGLISH BIBLE (CEB) Our scripture readings will continue to follow the Revised Common Lectionary, but they will be read from the Common English Bible (CEB) rather than the NRSV through the end of 2024. **There are some Common English Bibles on the cart in the back of the church for your use.** Please give any feedback on the CEB to Pastor Matt or any member of the Board of Worship Life.

COMMUNION Please fill out a communion card from the pew rack before you come forward to receive communion. Keeping track of who has attended worship will allow us to provide better pastoral care for our members. **Our Communion Bread** in worship is gluten free. Now, everyone in our congregation will receive the Body of Christ from the same loaf.

Thought for the Week

[Jesus said,] “The Human One didn’t come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people.” ~ Matthew 20:28

ATTENDANCE Worship Attendance 10/20/24: 60 in-person for our Worship and 33 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 32:44 and 16 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS *“You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teaching. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”*

This is the third Sunday in which we hear Jesus inviting us into a life of freedom. Freedom from selfishness and anxiety. Freedom from earning our way into God’s faithful love. The freedom to find joy and meaning in loving service and undying hope.

ALTAR FLOWER CHART Altar Flowers for November: If you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers for a Sunday in November please contact Kris Burow today or Monday as the November order will be placed on Monday, October 14th. Payment will need to be received this coming week. Thank you to all who sponsor flowers!

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Oct.27	8:45a	Sunday Church School
<i>Reformation Sunday</i>	9:00a	Adult Forum - library
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion
MONDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
TUESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:30a	Staff Meeting
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
WEDNESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
THURSDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:15p	T.N.T. Confirmation class
FRIDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	7:00p	Narcotics Anonymous
SATURDAY	9:30a	F.A.B. meets
SUNDAY, Nov. 3	8:45a	Sunday Church School
<i>All Saints Sunday</i>	9:00a	Adult Forum - library
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Christina Raia and family
USHERS – Don Cairns, Cloyd Barnes
ACOLYTE – Mila Thompson
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Bob Meeker, Don Telles
LAY READER – Kris Burow
ALTAR GUILD – Bob & Sue Christiansen

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 God,
SERVE all people,
*and, where I fall short of his expectations,
Jesus always offers me his love and forgiveness!*
POWER GIFTS



EQUIPPING STEWARDS FOR THE LIFE OF FAITH

Equipped to Serve



Jesus said, “A slave isn’t a **permanent** member of the household, but a son is. Therefore,

if the **Son** makes you free, you really **will** be free.” ~ John 8:35-36