



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



Worship Service – 10:00
September 1, 2024

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

I come to this place to receive your welcome, O God, in the name of Christ. In turn, I welcome your presence in my life. May this welcoming become contagious as I share love, acceptance, and appreciation with others who are here. Give me a heart that is ready to receive all the gifts you have for me in this worship service and in this gathering of your people. Bless us in our scattering. In Jesus' name. 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.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Mary Jakubiak in memory of Paul Jakubiak.

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

PORTALS OF PRAYER July-September 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 Saron Lutheran Church in St. Joseph, 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.**



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
ACOLYTE – Sabrina Prowdley
LAY READER – Don Telles
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Don Telles, Mila Thompson
GREETERS – Ralph & Margaret Sergent
USHERS – Cloyd Barnes, Don Cairns
ALTAR GUILD – Bob & Sue Christiansen
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, Joanne Dyer, 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 FOOD BANK SUNDAY Canned goods and other non-perishable items and gifts of money can be brought up to the altar during the "Offering of Gifts". You may bring your gifts to the altar after the passing of the offering plate. This special offering will be used to feed hungry people in our community through the FGC Resource Center, using our food pantry space. Monetary gifts will support the Greater Lansing Food Bank and our Mobile Food Distribution. If you are worshipping with us electronically, click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

CHURCH PICNIC/RALLY SUNDAY Next Sunday, September 8th is Rally Sunday following the Church Picnic and Potluck in the Social Hall. Bring a dish or two to pass and your own table service. There will be games for all ages! Our first day of Sunday School is September 15 at 8:45 a.m. Hope to see you all there!

CHRYSANTHEMUMS FOR BELC'S 100th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Yellow and white Fall "mum" plants are being ordered for worship on Sunday, September 22. Signup sheets to order plants are located on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Plants are \$14.00 each. If paying with cash please complete one of the envelopes located with the sign-up sheets. Deadline to order is September 8, and payment should be given to Kris Burow.

THE SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE The fall schedule begins on Sunday, September 15, with services at 10:00 a.m. and Sunday Church School classes and Second Breakfast (for high school aged youth) at 8:45 a.m. and Adult Forum at 9:00 a.m. in the Library.

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. If you are viewing this bulletin electronically, click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

BD. OF BUILDINGS & GROUNDS CHURCH CLEAN UP DAY On Saturday, September 7th, at 9:00 a.m. we will meet at the church to clean up the outside to get ready for our big 100th Anniversary Celebration!! We will be weeding, laying mulch, etc... to get the outside looking nice! Many hands will make the work go faster and help us to be able to get a lot of things done around the outside of the church that need to be addressed. Bring your gloves!!

RUMMAGE SALE New sale dates! Set-up will be Friday, September 27th, people will be able to drop off rummage; Friday from 9:30-6:30, Saturday September 28 from 9:30-5:00, Sunday September 29 from 10:00-4:30, and on Monday from 9:30-6:00. The sale dates are Tuesday October 1, 5:30-8:00, Wednesday October 2, 9:00-7:00p.m., and Thursday October 3, bag day, from 9:00-11:00 a.m. We will have workers and baked goods sign-up sheets posted in the gym. Also, **HELP!!** We need someone to make us new signs for the Rummage Sale! Our old signs are broken. Any creative ideas are wonderfully welcome! If this is something you would love to do, call Peggy Teter at (517) 281-2713.

ALTAR FLOWER CHART Smith Floral continues to provide beautiful Floral Arrangements for Bethlehem at a very reasonable price. The florist has recently begun a new billing system, and we will now be pre-paying for the arrangements rather than being billed at the end of the month. Bethlehem's order for the upcoming month is submitted near the 25th of every month and payment will be sent at that time. Thus, Sunday sponsors for Altar Flowers will need to pay well in advance. If you have any questions, please talk with Kris Burow.

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.

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE Larry and Virginia Bauman are looking for someone who can sit with Virginia for a few hours, on Mondays, Wednesdays, or Fridays, to help with her standing and with basic needs around the house so that Larry can run errands or go to appointments. If you can give of your time in this way, please call them at (517) 394-8237.

Thought for the Week

“In the light of eternity, we’re here for a very short time, really. We’re here for one thing, ultimately: to learn how to love, because God is love. Love is our origin, love is our ground, and love is our destiny.”

—Dr. James Finley of the Center for Action and Contemplation, student of Thomas Merton and Clinical Psychologist (emphasis added)

ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance: 74 in-person and 32 people viewed the Sunday 8/25/24 Live worship and the recorded service on YouTube.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS *You must be doers of the word and not hearers only. - James 1:22*

This week jot down something that you did or took note of because of this time in worship. Share with someone that experience.

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.

WEDDING COMMITTEE We are looking for several to assist with our committee. We assist the bride and wedding party to make sure their special day runs smoothly. It is a small commitment, it's fun, beautiful, and very much appreciated by the family. Please talk to Audrey Olson or Sue Christiansen for more details.

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Sept. 1 10:00a **Worship – Holy Communion**
MONDAY **Closed Memorial Day**
TUESDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center
9:30a Staff Meeting
WEDNESDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center
THURSDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center
FRIDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center
7:00p Narcotics Anonymous
SATURDAY **9:00a** **BG'S Outside clean-up**
9:30a F.A.B. Meets
SUNDAY, Sept. 8 10:00a **Worship – Holy Communion**
Rally Sunday / Church Picnic

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Bob & Sue Christiansen
USHERS – Phil Hassler, Jim Koessel, Ralph Sergent
ACOLYTE – Andrew Goff
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Mary Bartel, Kris Burow
LAY READER – Annabel Halbakken, Abigail Brisbo
ALTAR GUILD – Kris & John Burow, Faith Halbakken

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

You ignore **God's**
commandment while
holding on to rules
created by **humans**
and handed **down**
to you.

Mark 7:8