



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



Worship Service – 10:00
April 7, 2024

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Come, Lord Jesus, come into our midst. We await you, filled with the fears and anxieties of life; anxious about our employment, fearful of our health, anxious about our family, fearful about things we see happening in our nation and our world. May we see your hands and side, may we hear again your words of peace, may we know the joy of your presence with us. Come, Lord Jesus, come and be with us in this time of worship. 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.

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, 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 First Lutheran Church in Muskegon, Michigan, Rev. William Uetricht.

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 John W. Burow
ACOLYTE – Zella Brisbo
LAY READER – David Ware
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Don Telles, Mel White
GREETERS – Christina Raia and Family
USHERS – Don Cairns, Ralph Sergeant
ALTAR GUILD – Susan Mahoney, Linda Telles
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-Huysen in Independence Village, Grand Ledge
Betty Strother in Independence Village, East Lansing
Joe & Audrey Skidmore, in Assisted Living, Sedona, AZ
Kurt Kollmeyer, Ingham County Medical Care, Okemos
Cheryl VanPatten, Regency at Grand Ledge Rehabilitation Center
Michael Mahoney, in Mary Free Bed

Those at home: *Kaye Alden, John Bartel, Virginia Bauman*
Tosha Brisbo, Crystal Collins, Joann Dyer, Keith Ferguson
Emma Hicks, Nancy Jackson, Linda McClellan
Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, Sandy Rollis, Carol Roush
Connie Scott, Betty VanConant, 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.

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)

THRIVENT MEMBERS You can designate your choice dollars to go to Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Thank you!

PARISH NOTES

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Steve (Stevie) Kosloski, brother of Carolyn Kosloski, who died March 31, 2024. May God comfort those who mourn with the promise of eternal life for all those who trust and believe in Jesus Christ.

SERVICE OF "PRAYER FOR HEALING" During worship service today we will have a time of Prayer for Healing. If you would like a prayer, please fill out the prayer card from your bulletin. Bring it with you during communion. Remain at the altar rail after receiving communion, and give the card to the person that comes to pray with you. The card will be returned to you after the prayer for your confidentiality.

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.

COME CELEBRATE! Come celebrate Bethlehem's 3rd Quarter in History, next Sunday, April 14th. Our church service will include special music and guest preachers, former pastors, Jim Schalkhauser and Jim Lichtenberger. Following the service, we will gather for a potluck reception in the fellowship hall. The entrée' will be furnished along with your table service. **Please bring either a salad or dessert to share** (Pastor Jim S. loves pie!).

SPECIAL ADULT FORUM Next Sunday, April 14, we will gather at 9:00 a.m. with our honored guests to share memories from the years 1974-1999. Join us in the library as we share gratitude for past blessings.

LUTHER LEAGUE CAN/BOTTLE FUNDRAISER FOR THE GATHERING We want your returnable cans and bottles! We are collecting cans and bottles throughout the month of April to help raise funds for our trip to New Orleans. When bringing in cans/bottles, please make sure they are in a closed plastic bag and placed under the stairs in the gym. We appreciate your support!

LIVING LUTHERAN This wonderful magazine is now available in digital form only. You can find it at:
<https://www.livinglutheran.org/edigest-signup/>

STONY LAKE REGISTRATION Elementary, Confirmation and Senior High Camp is Week 4 of the camping season this year (July 7-12). Log on to <http://www.elcalivingwater.com/> and complete your camp registration.

FLOWER CHART Thank you to all who sponsor the flowers for Bethlehem's Worship on Sunday Mornings. The beautiful arrangements enhance the worship experience for all. The 2024 Flower Chart is now posted. Many like to commemorate a special person, date or event with altar flowers. If you have a special date in mind, sign up to save that Sunday. The cost for each arrangement is \$40. The flower order is submitted one month at a time so please sign up by the 15th of the month for the flowers to be ordered for the next month. Payment may be made in advance or on the Sunday for which the flowers are ordered. Checks should be made payable to Kris Burow.

COMMUNION CARDS 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.

COMMUNION BREAD Our Communion Bread in worship is gluten free. Now, everyone in our congregation will receive the Body of Christ from the same loaf.

SENSORY TOOL KIT To assist parents of children with sensory issues (on the Autism Spectrum) in worship, we now have a Sensory Tool Kit on the coat rack in the Lobby. If you cannot locate it, please ask an usher.

THRIVENT MEMBERS You can designate your choice dollars to go to Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

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.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

This is eternal life (literally "life of the age"),
life given to those who believe;
life given to those who are born of God;
life that, in John, transforms us from merely existing
to living in the abundance and eternity of God.

~ Frank Crouch

ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance: *Maundy Thursday*; 82 in-person, 125 viewed YouTube, *Good Friday*; 62 in-person, 42 viewed YouTube, *Easter Sunday*; 144 in-person, 56 viewed the service on YouTube.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS In all four Gospels the disciples are being sent with a message to share and to live. In Baptism, we too, as individuals and as congregation, are being sent to witness, to serve and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Jim & Liisa Whitman

USHERS – Phil Hassler, Jim Koessel

ACOLYTE – Mila Thompson

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Kris Burow, Susan Mahoney

LAY READER – Nancy Holderread

ALTAR GUILD – Kris & John Burow, Cheryl Thompson

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Apr. 7	8:45a	Children's Sunday School
<i>Healing Service</i>	9:00a	Adult Forum
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion
MONDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:30p	Bd. of Stewardship & Finance
TUESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:30a	Staff Meeting
	4:00p	Bd. of Outreach
	5:00p	Bd. of Worship Life
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
WEDNESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:00a	Quilting Day
	1:00p	Mobile Food Pantry Dist.
	6:30p	Harmony Circle
	6:30p	Board of Buildings & Grounds
THURSDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:15p	T.N.T.
	6:30p	Congregational Council meets
FRIDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	7:00p	Narcotics Anonymous
		Women's Retreat (19-21)
SUNDAY, Apr. 14	8:45a	Children's Sunday School
<i>Third Centennial</i>	9:00a	Adult Forum
<i>Celebration</i>	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion

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

As the
Father
has sent
me,
I am
Sending
you.
John 20:21