



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



Worship Service – 10:00
September 29, 2024

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Today, dear Lord, is a day that I feast on your amazing grace. All around me, in this congregation and community, there are many people who are lonely, hungry, and alienated from life and loved ones. Where I can be a conduit of your mercy, help me gain the vision of your amazing love and the willingness to carry the life-changing power of the gospel story to these. As I worship this day, fill my heart with peace and joy and give me the courage to claim my place in your story. In the name of Jesus, 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 BELC.

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 Augustana Lutheran Church in Tustin, Michigan, Rev. Sharon VanDam.

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 – Crystal Collins
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor Matthew Smith
ACOLYTES – Annabel Halbakken, Abigail Brisbo
LAY READER – Tim Nelson
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Michelle Smith, Mel White,
Tim Nelson, Susan Mahoney

GREETERS – Don & Linda Telles
USHERS – Jim Whitman, Don Romain, Dee Bernardi
ALTAR GUILD – Joe & Cheryl Shreffler
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
Ben Darling, Sparrow Hospital, Lansing

Those at home: *Kaye Alden, John Bartel, Virginia Bauman, Tosha Brisbo Kelly Carpenter, Crystal Collins, 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)

EUCCHARISTIC 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

THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING OUR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Thank you to everyone who was able to join us! A big **Thank you** to everyone involved in making our 100th Anniversary celebration a **SUCCESS!** It was a joyful celebration! Thanks for all the work each of you contributed! **IT TAKES A TEAM!** Here's to the next 100 years of ministry! THANKS BE TO GOD!!

NEW MEMBERS Today, Donna TenHave, Jennifer Jacobson-Goff, Peggy Gaspersohn, Ann Gienapp & Duane Berger, will be received into the fellowship of this Christian congregation by Affirmation of Faith. We welcome them as brother's and sister's in Christ and partners with us in the ministry we have as His people.

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.

Lansing SAVE Today is our fifth Sunday offering for LansingSAVE. There are now 192 children in our group of students from BELC and the Baker Neighborhood. To give electronically click on the "Online Giving" link on our website

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 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.

RUMMAGE SALE It's that time of year again, time to get ready for our rummage sale. You can drop off your rummage today until 4:30 and tomorrow 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. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Teter at (517) 281-2713.

TNT Confirmation classes for the 24-25 program year will begin on Thursday, October 10, at 6:15 p.m. in the library. The first session is for parents and youth.

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.

RUN THE RACE For the 7th year in a row, Matt Hicks ran the race for Living Water Ministries, raising funds so that the camp experience can be financially accessible for all of God's children! Matt was part of a team running a 200-mile relay race from Traverse City to Muskegon in 36 hours. Through LWM's annual Run the Race event, Matt and his teammates are hoping to raise \$100,000 for camp and Matt has a \$2000 goal to help make that happen! Camp experiences transform lives. Will you help Matt reach his goal? To donate scan the QR code here to access Matt's secure fundraising page, send a check to Living Water Ministries 7898 W Stony Lake Rd New Era, MI 49446 writing Matt Hicks on the memo line or visit www.elcalivingwater.com/runtherace, or. Campers will thank you for years to come!



Thought for the Week

"Inside each of us is a natural born storyteller just waiting to be released."

- Robin Moore

"Every story you tell is your own story."

- Joseph Campbell

ATTENDANCE Worship Attendance 9/22/24: 208 in-person for our 100th Anniversary Celebratory Worship and 80 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 58:52 and 22 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS For many a challenging aspect of stewardship is turning to others in the Body of Christ for help and healing, for prayer and forgiveness. In healthy Christ-centered relationships blessing flow in both (often surprising) directions

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.

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Sept. 29	8:45a	Sunday Church School
	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
	5:30p	Rummage sale
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
WEDNESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:00a	Rummage sale
	4:00p	Board of Outreach
THURSDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:00a	Rummage sale
FRIDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	7:00p	Narcotics Anonymous
SUNDAY, Oct. 6	8:45a	Sunday Church School
<i>Blanket Sunday</i>	9:00a	Adult Forum - library
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Laurey Wyble, Wendy Lamphier

USHERS – Ralph Sergeant, Cloyd Barnes

ACOLYTES – Faith Halbakken, Kylee Nelson

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Jim & Liisa Whitman

LAY READER – Dorothy Martin

ALTAR GUILD – Susan Mahoney, Linda Teles

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



Michael and All Angels

- Sunday, September 29, 2024 -