



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



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

Worship Service – 10:00
July 24, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by David & Sandra Westover in memory of Johnathan Westover.

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 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 Hope Lutheran church in Rockford Michigan, Rev. Julie Schneider-Thomas.

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.

THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR WORSHIP

ORGANIST & HANDBELL DIRECTOR – James Schippers
CHOIR DIRECTOR – Sue Nelson
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP DIRECTOR – Laurey Wyble
ASSISTING MINISTER – Bob Meeker
LAY READER – Joe Shreffler
ACOLYTE – David Fernandez
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Joe Shreffler, Sherry Bass-Pohl
GREETERS – Keitha & David Snider
USHERS – Ron Miller, Ralph Sergent
ALTAR GUILD – Cindy Marsh
A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, Paul Schmidt, David Westover

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

We praise you, O God, our redeemer and creator. We bless your holy name and sing your praises. You have been our companion in time of need, and with your help we begin this new week, confident that you will be at our side in times of trial and moments of rejoicing. We thank you for the gift of this community, gathered today to hear the story of your love and to learn how to love more boldly and faithfully. We know you will guide us, and for that we offer our songs of thanksgiving. We pray 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 John a message at pastorjohnburow@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.

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
Pat Lebsack in The Willows, East Lansing

Those at home: *Mary Ann Allen, John Bartel, Virginia Bauman
Tosha Brisbo, Lois Cairns, Crystal Collins, Gina DeWitt, Doug Griffin
Emma Hicks, Marilyn Bass-Huysen, Nancy Jackson, Carole Kienke
Marilyn Kostrzewski, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan
Yvonne Nelson, Andrea Norman, Tharin Palmer, Carol Roush
Connie Scott, Audrey Skidmore, Betty VanConant
Cheryl VanPatten, 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, has graduated from
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 our 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 Jody Gaugel, mother of Shannon Nobles, who died
Tuesday, June 19, 2022. May God comfort those who mourn with the
promise of eternal life for all those who trust and believe in Jesus Christ.

Lansing SAVE Our next 5th Sunday offering is next Sunday July 31st.
There are now 164 children in our group of students from BELC and the
Baker Neighborhood. To give electronically – click on the “Online
Giving” link on our website.

LUKE OUTLINED ON YOUTUBE Since most of our Sunday Gospel
readings through November will be from Luke, it is worthwhile to
invest 16-18 minutes on a delightful, clear overview. Just go to
YouTube and search “Overview: Luke 1-9” or click here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XIb_dCIxZr0. Part two will follow
or can be viewed another time.

THE BELCW RUMMAGE SALE IS BACK – SEPT. 28-30 The sale
is back with a few changes, so please read carefully. We will need
volunteers to help, without them there will be no sale. Sign-up sheets
will be available in the Fellowship Hall. We must have enough
volunteers signed up by September 14. Also, if COVID numbers rise we
might have to cancel. This year we will not be accepting computers,
printers and components, or televisions, VCR's, and speakers. You may
begin to drop off rummage no earlier than Friday, 9AM, September 23.
Do not put rummage on stage. (The reason for this is in case we need to
cancel the sale.) The last day to drop off is Tuesday, September 27.
When dropping off items please put your rummage out on the tables –
all tables will be labeled. If you have any questions, you can contact any
of the Rummage Sale Committee – Kelly Carpenter, Candy Barnes,
Joanna Alvera, Laura Halbakken, Sue Leimenstoll, Peggy Teter, or
Sandy Rollis.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has issued a pastoral
message on the Supreme Court's ruling on Roe v Wade. She
summarizes the ELCA's position on this contentious and difficult issue.
You can read it by entering “Bishop Eaton on Roe v Wade” in your
search engine or click here: <https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8158>.

SIGN UP FOR SUNDAY SNACKS On the table in the narthex is a sign-up sheet for those wishing to provide after service snacks throughout the summer.

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!

STEWARDSHIP PONDERING

Prayer is a wonderful declaration of dependence. It is a leaning into God's loving presence and trusting in God's goodness and mercy. May our persistent asking, seeking, knocking lead to loving fruitful service.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Connie & Bob Meeker

LAY READER – Tim Nelson

USHERS – Jim Whitman, David Snider, Bob Christiansen

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Susan Mahoney, Liisa Whitman

SABBATICAL THANK YOU! Thank you for providing me with a dedicated time for study and prayer to enrich the ministry here at Bethlehem. This time has been even more rewarding and energizing than I hoped it would be. My areas of focus were Prayer, Health and Wellness, and Church Revitalization. A report on all these areas will be included in future newsletters with electronic and print copies available. Stay tuned!



PRAYER WARRIORS Are you feeling called to serve as our lead prayer warrior for Bethlehem or to serve as a prayer warrior on the team? Please speak with Pastor Matt after you have taken time to pray over this calling God is placing in your life.

THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK

“Reading the First Nations Version of the New Testament is like listening to a wise elder pass down ancient teachings.”

– L. Daniel Hawk, Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Ashland Theological Seminary.

“God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.”

– Reinhold Niebuhr, Reformed theologian, ethicist, and professor at Union Theological Seminary

ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance: 99 – 58 in-person and 41 people viewed the 7/17/22 Live worship.

FIRST NATION’S VERSION Today’s Gospel Reading is taken from the *First Nation’s Version* (FNV) of the New Testament, translated by Native North Americans for Native North Americans and all English-speaking peoples. Many First Nations tribes communicate with the cultural and linguistic thought patterns found in their original tongues. The FNV recounts the Creator's Story—the Christian Scriptures—following the tradition of Native storytellers' oral cultures. This way of speaking, with its simple yet profound beauty and rich cultural idioms, still resonates in the hearts of First Nations people.

The FNV is a dynamic equivalence translation of the New Testament that captures the simplicity, clarity, and beauty of Native storytellers in English, while remaining faithful to the original language of the Bible. The culmination of a rigorous five-year translation process, this new Bible translation is a collaboration between OneBook and Wycliffe Associates, Indigenous North Americans from over twenty-five different tribes, and a translation council that consisted of twelve Native North American elders, pastors, young adults, and men and women from different tribes and diverse geographic locations. Whether you are Native or not, you will experience the Scriptures in a fresh and new way.

Psalms and Proverbs are in the works.

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, July 24 10:00a **Worship – Holy Communion**
Worship (YouTube)

TUESDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center
 9:30a Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center

THURSDAY 8:00a Family Growth Center

SUNDAY, July 31 10:00a **Worship – Holy Communion**
Worship (YouTube)

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

*I tell you, keep asking
and it will be given you,
keep seeking and you
will find —”
Keep knocking and it
will be opened
to you. JESUS*

Luke 11:9