



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
November 13, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by BELC in celebration of all the November Birthdays.

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

PORTALS OF PRAYER October - December 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, Rev. Joan Oleson.

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 compassion and faithful love, direct the eyes of our hearts to Jesus, our foot-washing, servant/king, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross. May we find meaning, fulfillment, fellowship, and joy in lives of loving service. 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 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 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.

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
LAY READER – Sherry Bass-Pohl
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Sherry Bass-Pohl
GREETERS – Mary Bartel, Carol Pride
USHERS – Phil Hassler, Joe Skidmore
ALTAR GUILD – Kris & John Burow
A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, Paul Schmidt, David Westover

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: *John Bartel, Virginia Bauman, Tosha Brisbo*

Crystal Collins, Joann Dyer, Doug Griffin, Emma Hicks

Marilyn Bass-Huyser, Nancy Jackson, Michael Mahoney

Linda McClellan, Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, Carol Roush

Connie Scott, Audrey Skidmore, Betty VanConant, Steve Viele

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.

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)

Thought for the Week

"...for the Son of Man¹ didn't come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people."

- Mark 10:45

A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none. A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.

- Martin Luther

PARISH NOTES

ALTAR ROSE Today the BELCW gives a rose in honor of the birth of Harrison Ray Andrews to Aaron and Jamie Andrews (Kenger) on Friday, October 4, and his baptism on Wednesday, October 9!

THANKOFFERING SUNDAY Today, BELCW members will gather their Thankofferings during worship. You may bring them in the container you have been using, write a check to BELCW or give a cash donation. The Women of the ELCA Thankofferings support the total outreach of the churchwide organization.

As we make our Thank-offerings today, we share in a tradition that goes back to the 1800s or even earlier. Then, when it seemed that there was not enough money to carry out the work of the church, the women would act together as "cent" or "mite" societies. Each woman would set aside offerings at home throughout the year in thanksgiving for blessings received. And on occasion, the women would come together as we do today, joining their offerings together to support ministry of many kinds.

When the Bethlehem Ladies Aid Society was organized by fifteen energetic women on July 30, 1924, we committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for blessings. And now carrying this forward, the BELCW (Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church Women) is one of 7000 congregational units of Women of the ELCA (WELCA). The BELCW invites women to experience the reconciling and transforming love of God through Jesus Christ, encouraging women to act on their baptismal covenant.

TODAY 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. Please give electronically by clicking on the "Online Giving" link on our website or mail your contribution to the church or by clicking here: www.tinyurl.com/BELCGiving.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Today, after our service of worship, we will meet as a congregation to discuss changes to our Food Pantry and the future of our Mission home.

DECK THE HALLS! The annual Church Christmas Decorating Party is **Friday, December 2, at 6:30 p.m.** Everyone is invited to help decorate the church for the season of Christmas. Bring along your favorite Christmas treat to share after the work is done.

ADULT FORUM - BEFRIENDING LUKE We will continue our overview of the Gospel of Luke. This presents an opportunity to join in the journey as we have two Sundays on Luke; two on John's Gospel, then a Sunday or two on wrap-up. This seems a small investment to enrich a lifetime relationship with the Spirit inspired witnesses to Jesus of Nazareth, Lord and Savior.

STEWARDS LIVING WITH PURPOSE This is the third week of our stewardship emphasis. Our theme this week is “Serve One Another.” Living a life of service is contrary to what our society promotes. We are told that we should seek worldly praise and aspire to fame, power, and wealth. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we are freed from the grip of the world, and we seek to fulfill our purpose to serve the Lord by serving others. We forego our self-interests and begin to live lives of Christian service. *“For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another”* (Galatians 5:13). Our freedom expresses itself in the form of service. We are brought into proper relationship with God so we can learn to serve others. Jesus continually served the hungry, disabled, and homeless, and we are called to be imitators of Christ (Ephesians 5:1). When we commit to serving others, it is not done for our own satisfaction or to put ourselves on a pedestal. We serve out of love for Christ and to be worthy of His calling (Ephesians 4:1). The theme for Commitment Sunday next week is “Be Generous in Every Way.”

THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET VOLUNTEERS The Board of Outreach is recruiting volunteers to help prepare the food baskets, pick up perishable food items, make reminder phone calls, and deliver to families who can't pick-up. We will distribute baskets Saturday morning, November 19. A sign-up sheet is in the lobby for those who would like to help. Thank you for supporting this Bethlehem ministry!

LYONS ELEMENTARY CLOTHING COLLECTION GOES UNTIL DECEMBER 4! Thank you to those who have donated clothing for the children at Lyons Elementary School! We are still in collection mode, hoping to deliver even more to them than we did last year! You can put items into the tubs in the church entryway through Sunday, December 4. The school needs boots (sizes 13 and sizes 1-3), snow pants (sizes 5-12), waterproof gloves or mittens, and underwear for both boys and girls (sizes 4t-12). This is a great opportunity to make a difference in the life of a child in our nearby community!

Stewards Living with Purpose

Week 3: “Serve One Another”

IN SERVING US, GOD EMPOWERS US TO SERVE OTHERS.

“For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another” (Galatians 5:13).



ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance: 145 – 94 in-person and 51 people viewed the 11/6/22 Live worship.

REVITALIZATION LISTENING SESSIONS Signup sheets are in the social hall for our Revitalization Listening Team sessions on:

- Wednesday, November 16 6:30-8:00 PM
- Sunday, November 20 11:15 AM-12:45 PM
- Tuesday, November 29 4:30-6:00 PM
- Tuesday, December 6 (if necessary) 4:30-6:00 PM

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!

POINSETTIAS – November 30 is the deadline for ordering a RED poinsettia to be used for Bethlehem's Christmas Worship. Sign-up sheets are on the table in the Entry Lobby or orders may be submitted to the church office or sent to Kris Burow. The plants are \$12.50 each, with checks payable to Kris Burow. Plants may be taken home after the latest Christmas Eve Worship Service. Thank you for sponsoring plants for Bethlehem's Christmas Worship!

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Nov. 13 8:45a **Sunday School (Lower Social Hall)**
Thankoffering 9:00a **Adult Forum (Library)**
Sunday 10:00a **Worship – Holy Communion**
Worship (YouTube)
11:30a **Special Meeting of the Congregation**

MONDAY 6:30p **Friendship Circle**
6:30p **Harmony Circle**
6:30p **Board of Stewardship & Finance**

TUESDAY 8:00a **Family Growth Center**
9:30a **Staff Meeting**
6:30p **Bell Choir**
7:30p **Senior Choir**

WEDNESDAY 8:00a **Family Growth Center**

THURSDAY 8:00a **Family Growth Center**
6:15p **T.N.T.**
6:30p **Congregation Council Meeting**

SATURDAY 10:00a **Distribution of Thanksgiving Baskets**

SUNDAY, Nov. 20 8:45a **Sunday School (Lower Social Hall)**
Commitment Sunday 9:00a **Adult Forum (Library)**
Christ The King 10:00a **Worship – Holy Communion**
Worship (YouTube)

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – David Westover, Sandra Westover
LAY READER – Sandra Westover
ACOLYTE – Allie Fernandez
USHERS – Ralph Sergent, Cloyd Barnes
COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Ron Miller

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



Whoever

wants to

become great

among you

Mark 10:43

must be your

servant.