



549 E. Mt. Hope Ave.  
Lansing, MI 48910  
517-482-3225  
[www.bethlutheran.org](http://www.bethlutheran.org)



Worship Service – 10:00  
October 20, 2024

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Mary Jakubiak in loving memory of her parents Bill & Dorothy Wagoner.

**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 Lebanon Lutheran Church, Whitehall Michigan, Rev. Douglas Ogden.

**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

*All-knowing one, mystery surrounds you. In our confusion, we question all that is unclear. We wander from your purpose for our life. We ask for answers we cannot accept or even comprehend. Let us not presume upon your love for us. Help us to remember always that the honor of being your followers is an honor that involves humility. When we clamor to know more or be more than we are able, deal gently with us, we pray. 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](mailto: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.*

## **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 – Susan Mahoney  
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith  
ACOLYTE – Sabrina Prowdley  
LAY READERS – Annabel Halbakken, Abigail Brisbo  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Tim Nelson, Kylee Nelson  
GREETERS – Sue & Tim Nelson  
USHERS – Ron Miller, David Westover  
ALTAR GUILD – Cindy Marsh, Eliot Nutt  
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, Ben Darling, 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

**WEAR RED ON REFORMATION SUNDAY!** Red is a liturgical color reserved for special days (Pentecost, etc.), and for Martyrs' Days. **Reformation Sunday, October 27**, is one of those special days. The focus of Reformation Sunday is not on Martin Luther, but rather on justification by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. That is the heritage of the Reformation, because that is the heart of the Bible and the Church.

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY** On **All Saints Sunday, November 3**, we will remember the great cloud of witnesses that have gone before us in the faith. If you are grieving the loss of a friend or family member, from the past 12 months, we would like to remember them during the worship service. Call the church office by Monday, October 28, to include their name in worship.

### **EQUIPPING STEWARDS FOR THE LIFE OF FAITH**

Our fall stewardship emphasis begins next week, Sunday, October 20. We are looking for members for someone each week who would be willing to give a 4-5 minute 'mission moment' regarding stewardship and the theme for the week. If you are willing to share in this way, please see Pastor Matt.

**Oct. 20 – Equipped for a Purpose**

Oct. 27 – Equipped to Serve

Nov. 10 – Equipped to Give

Nov. 17 – Equipped to Witness (Commitment Sunday)

### **LYONS SCHOOL CLOTHING COLLECTION BEGINS**

**NOVEMBER 3** Tubs will be set up in the church entryway beginning Sunday, November 3, and collection of items will run into December. If you would like to donate winter outerwear for the children at Lyons, you can bring boots (sizes 12, 13, 1, or 2), snow pants (sizes 8, 10, 12, or 14), and **waterproof** gloves to leave in the tubs. Boots and snow pants can be either new or gently used, but gloves should be new. Please try to avoid pink or purple, but those are still accepted! Thank you!

**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.



## 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 continue to 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.

## **“THE DEDICATION OF CLIFFORD PARK’S NEW**

**TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL COURTS”** On Friday, October 25, at 4:30 p.m., the City of Lansing will be having a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate Clifford Parks new Tennis and Pickleball courts. The parking lot will be reserved for their use from 3:00 p.m. on Friday, the 25<sup>th</sup>, until 6:00 p.m. The church members and neighbors are invited to attend this event.

**SOCKS, SOCKS AND MORE SOCKS** Because of your generosity we collected approximately 35 pounds of socks along with some monetary donations to deliver to Judson Baptist Church for their Love Clothing Center. The center is not a government agency and therefore does not receive government funds. Everyone working there is a volunteer donating their time to help those in need. Where there is a need Bethlehem fulfills! Thank you BELC!!!

**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.

## Thought for the Week

As **Stewards**, our *Purpose* is:

to be BRAVE  
to be AUTHENTIC  
to be FREE  
to be DISRUPTIVE  
to be DISCIPLES

**ATTENDANCE** Worship Attendance 10/13/24: 60 in-person for our Worship and 40 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 27:10 and 14 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS** *For the Son of Man didn't come to be served but to serve and to give his life to liberate many people.*

- Mark 10:45, In Jesus we have both the exquisite example of loving service and the capacity to rise above our self-centered perspectives. In Christ we are blessed to be a blessing and set free for holy work.

**ALTAR FLOWER CHART** Altar Flowers for November: If you would like to sponsor Altar Flowers for a Sunday in November please contact Kris Burow today or Monday as the November order will be placed on Monday, October 14th. Payment will need to be received this coming week. Thank you to all who sponsor flowers!

**THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

<b>SUNDAY, Oct.20</b>	<b>8:45a</b>	<b>Sunday Church School</b>
	<b>9:00a</b>	<b>Adult Forum - library</b>
	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Worship – Holy Communion</b>
<b>MONDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:30p	Friendship Circle
<b>TUESDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:30a	Staff Meeting
	1:00p	Rainbow Circle
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
<b>THURSDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:15p	T.N.T. Confirmation class
	7:00p	Climate Change-Chris Edwards
<b>FRIDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	4:00p	Dedication of Clifford Park Tennis & Pickleball Courts
	7:00p	Narcotics Anonymous
<b>SUNDAY, Oct.27</b>	<b>8:45a</b>	<b>Sunday Church School</b>
<i>Reformation Sunday</i>	<b>9:00a</b>	<b>Adult Forum - library</b>
	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Worship – Holy Communion</b>

**THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY**

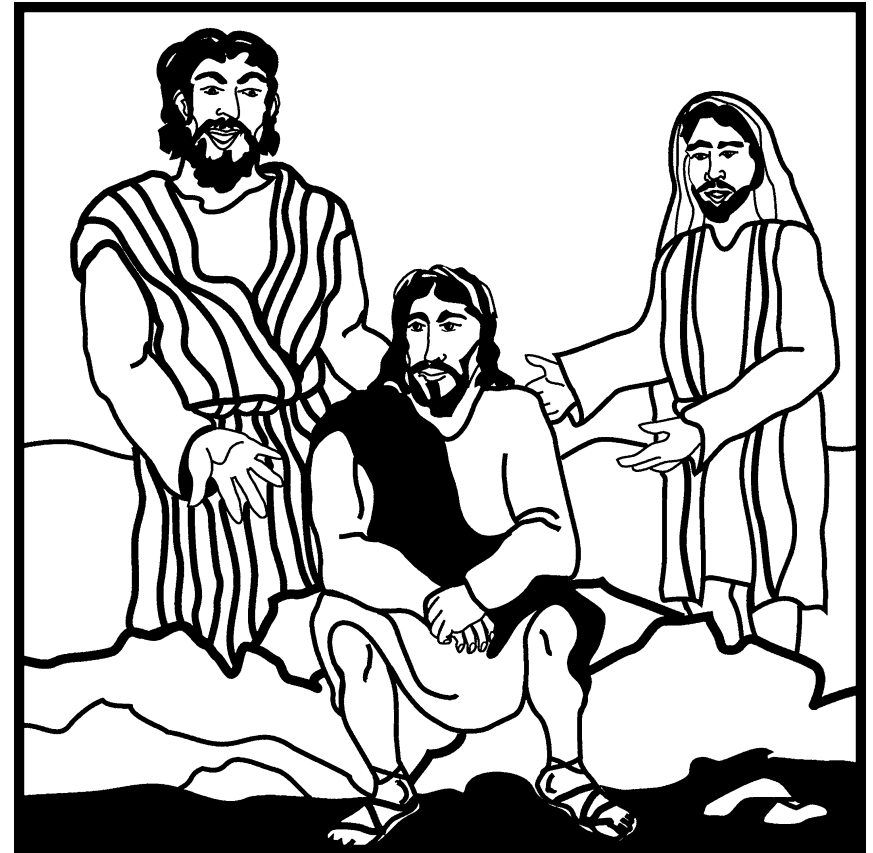
GREETERS – Sandra Westover, David Westover  
USHERS – Joe Shreffler, David Snider, Bob Christiansen  
ACOLYTES – Annabel Halbakken, Abigail Brisbo  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Keitha Snider, Mila Thompson  
LAY READERS – Sandra Westover  
ALTAR GUILD – Carrie Rice

**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

EQUIPPING STEWARDS FOR THE LIFE OF FAITH

*Equipped for a Purpose*



“But that’s **not** the way it will be with you.

**W**hoever wants to be *great* among  
you will be your **servant**.”

~ Mark 10:43