



Worship Service – 10:00
June 29, 2025

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



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

A 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 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 in celebration of Keitha & David Snider's 44th Wedding Anniversary.

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

PORTALS OF PRAYER July through September 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 St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan, Rev. Kyle Duff.

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 – James Schippers

GUEST ORGANIST – Takis Pizanis

CHOIR DIRECTOR – Sue Nelson

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP DIRECTOR – Laurey Wyble

ASSISTING MINISTER – Crystal Collins

CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith

GREETERS – Linda & Don Telles

USHERS – Jim Whitman, Don Romain, Dee Bernardi, Ralph Sergeant

LAY READER – Keitha Snider

ACOLYTE – Adreanna Fernandez

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Don Telles, Sherry Bass-Pohl

ALTAR GUILD – Michelle Smith, Cindy Marsh

A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, David Westover



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS and with your cards and visits:

Marilyn Bass-Huyser in Independence Village, Grand Ledge
Larry & Virginia Bauman, 5314 Evergreen Ridge Dr. Cincinnati, OH
Rhoda Hunter in Prestige Way on Keller Road in Holt
Kurt Kollmeyer, Hamilton Trace Apartments, Fishers, IN
John Nelson in Grand Haven Living Center-Senior Care in Lansing
Betty Strother in Independence Village, East Lansing
Peggy Walston (Gaspersohn), Memorial Healthcare Long Term Care,
Room 475, 826 W. King St., Owosso, MI 48867

Those at home: *Kaye Alden, John Bartel, Tosha Brisbo, Kris Burow*
Kelly Carpenter, Crystal Collins, Ben Darling, Keith Ferguson
Tom & Eleanor Finn, Carl Gallagher, Emma Hicks, Nancy Jackson
Mike (Ferris) Kosloski, John Leighton, Michael Mahoney
Linda McClellan, Mark Nelson, Tharin Palmer, Bob & Gloria Robbins
Sandy Rollis, Joe Skidmore, 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, Morgan Parrott.

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)
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)
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

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS Today we will install all the officers and Board members who were elected to office at our Congregation meeting.

Lansing SAVE Today is our fifth Sunday offering for LansingSAVE. There are now 176 children in our group of students from BELC and the Baker Neighborhood. To give electronically click on the "Online Giving" link on our website.

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME! Join us on August 16th at the



Lansing Lugnuts Ballpark! Tickets are \$12. Sign up in the gym! Grab your friends and let's hit the ballpark together!

SIGNIFICANT WOMEN! We are continuing our study of Significant women in the Bible. July's focus is Rahab, and we will have a Zoom call at 8 pm on the last Tuesday of the month, July 29th. Keep an eye out for the link in your email a few days ahead. The link will also be posted on the Facebook page, Significant Women.

As always, if you would like to get a copy of the book, or have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me (0818dis@gmail.com). It is never too late to join the study, or to enjoy the text on your own, or with a couple friends! There are a few copies left! Until then, enjoy your time with Rahab, and I look forward to our discussions on the 29th at 8 pm. Your Sister in Christ! Debbie Simmons.

NEXT SUNDAY IS FOOD BANK SUNDAY Canned goods and other non-perishable items and gifts of money can be brought to the altar during the "Offering of Gifts." This special offering will be used to feed hungry people in our community through the Food Bank pantry in our church. Items needed are jello, rice dinners, hamburger helper, egg noodles, cake mixes/frosting. Personal items such as bath soap, deodorant, toothpaste, hair shampoo, etc.

THE SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE This schedule will continue through Labor Day weekend with no Sunday school or Adult Forum. If you are going to be out of town on the weekend, find a gathering of Christians and worship with them or join our Live Streaming Worship on YouTube @bethlehemlansing, on Sunday's at 10 a.m.

While you are away, please continue to support the work of Bethlehem Lutheran Church with your prayers and offerings.

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. Everyone in our congregation will receive the Body of Christ from the **same** loaf.

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION Our next food pantry distribution will take place on Wednesday, July 9. Volunteers are needed to help distribute the food to our neighbors in need. Please sign up in the Social Hall if you would like to help with important ministry.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR We will no longer be using artificial flowers on the altar during worship services. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers on a Sunday, please add your name to the flower chart in the lobby on the date you wish to sponsor flowers. Don't forget to include if the flowers are in memory or, in honor of, or in celebration of. Here are the Sunday's during summer that no flowers have been reserved: July 6, 13, 27, and August 17, 24. Thank you to everyone who has sponsored the altar flowers!!!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY We are taking a break during the summer months, but we will meet again in September. For questions, see Jack Midgley or Pastor Matt Smith.

Thoughts for the Week

The purpose of life is a life of purpose.

Robert Byrne, Author

The purpose of life is not to win. The purpose of life is to grow and to share. When you come to look back on all that you have done in life, you will get more satisfaction from the pleasure you have brought into other people's lives that you will from the times that you outdid and defeated them.

Rabbi Harold Kushner

If you want to feel connected to your own purpose, know this for certain:
Your purpose will only be found in service to others, and in being connected to the something far greater than your mind/body/ego.

Wayne Dyer, Author

ATTENDANCE Worship Attendance 6/15/25: 49 in-person for our Worship and 25 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 37:07 and 17 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control... If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit.*

~ Galatians 5:21-22, 25.

When the Spirit moves us to properly ~receive the freedom we have in Christ, then our lives flourish in astonishing ways and we become a blessing to others.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Joe & Cheryl Shreffler

USHERS – Don Cairns, Ralph Sargent, Cloyd Barnes, Mike Vedrody

ACOLYTE – Sabrina Prowdley

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Susan Mahoney, Christina Raia

LAY READER – Jack Midgley

ALTAR GUILD – Bob & Sue Christiansen

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, JUNE 29	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion
<i>Installation officers</i>	2:00p	Quartet rehearsal
TUESDAY	9:30a	Staff Meeting
WEDNESDAY	10:00a	Capital Area Baby Café
THURSDAY	3:30p	Men's Bible Study
FRIDAY		INDEPENDENCE DAY
		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
	7:00p	N.A. meets
SATURDAY	9:30a	F.A.B. meets
SUNDAY, JULY 6	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion
	2:00p	Quartet rehearsal



***Baptismal Blessings* for the Life of Faith**

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

- + *to live among God's faithful people,*
- + *to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,*
- + *to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,*
- + *to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,*
- + *and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?*

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.¹



¹*Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Affirmation of Baptism, Page 237.*

Sunday, June 29, 2025