



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



Worship Service – 10:00
October 13, 2024

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O God, we come this day to worship you. We come singing your praises knowing that life is to be lived in praise of you, our Creator and Redeemer God. We come thanking you for the power of your Spirit that gives direction to our lives. Thank you for all these good gifts. And now in this hour of worship, we expect to receive even more of your love and grace as divine gifts. With grateful hearts 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 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 Tim & Sue Nelson in memory of Pastor Norman Nelson.

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 Grace Lutheran Church in Vassar, Michigan, Supply Pastors.

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 – Don Telles
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith
ACOLYTE – Adreanna Fernandez
LAY READER – Mel White
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Nancy Holderread, Peggy Teter
GREETERS – Cheryl Thompson and family
USHERS – Phil Hassler, Jim Koessel, Ralph Sergent
ALTAR GUILD – Donna TenHave, Cheryl Thompson
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-Huysen 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

TODAY IS "SOCK IT TO ME SUNDAY" Since opening in 1989, at Judson Baptist Church, the Love Clothing Center has provided new underwear, socks, and new/used clothing for children and teens in Pre-K through 12th grade. With school beginning, the Love Clothing Center provides hundreds of pairs of socks to school aged children in need. Through the "Sock It to Me Sunday" donation drive, they hope to fill their bins and shelves with enough items to provide each child with 7 brand new pairs of socks this year. If you'd like to make a monetary donation (say If you forgot your socks), please make the check payable to Judson Baptist Church/Love Clothing Center. Thank you!

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. If you are viewing this bulletin electronically, click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

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.

FROM OUR ROOFTOPS, WITNESSING TO THE RESURRECTION Even the smallest congregations can now implement God's gift of solar energy at modest or no cost. To learn how, we are invited to register for one of two hour-long Solar Faithful webinar, **October 17 at 7:00 p.m., using this link:**

- October 17 registration link/address:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcqdhqDgqE9R3IbfISD1ozuRvAx0NNSD2>

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.

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!

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.

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.

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)

Thought for the Week

Jesus looked at them carefully and said, "It's impossible with human beings, but not with God. All things are possible for God." ~ Mark 10:27

ATTENDANCE Worship Attendance 10/6/24: 69 in-person for our Worship and 27 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 30:38 and 14 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS In today's Gospel reading the man who Jesus loved found that his great wealth blocked him for accepting the greatest invitation anyone could ever receive. May the Spirit protect us so that our abundance remains a resource to be used gratefully and generously rather than a snare of selfishness and anxiety.

LYONS ELEMENTARY WINTER CLOTHING PROJECT

This School is in need of winter clothing donations. The Staff discreetly gives these items out to children who need them throughout the winter months. Boots, snow pants and waterproof gloves are desperately needed to keep children warm and dry and able to enjoy winter on the playground. These items are expensive enough that purchasing them can be unattainable for families with limited income. **Waterproof** is the key for the gloves – cloth ones will be soaked after one recess period, take too long to dry, and don't keep kids' hands warm enough. While new is best for boots and snow pants, gently used will be fine for those items if they are clean and in good shape. **A collection area will be set up at church November 3, so you can bring your stuff in.** We have an opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of our local children! I hope you will consider supporting this project. Shari Martinez, the school secretary, shared with me their specific needs for this year:

- Waterproof gloves or mittens - preferably not pink or purple.
- Boots, sizes 12, 13, 1 and 2 - preferably not pink or purple, and not indoor fashion boots.
- Snow pants, sizes 8, 10, 12 and 14 - preferably not pink or purple.

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Oct.13	8:45a	Sunday Church School
<i>Sock it to Me</i>	9:00a	Adult Forum - library
<i>Sunday</i>	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion
MONDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
TUESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:30a	Staff Meeting
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
WEDNESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	1:00p	Men’s Lunch – Leroy’s
	6:30p	Bd. Stewardship & Finance
THURSDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:15p	T.N.T. Confirmation class
	6:30p	Congregation Council meets
	6:30p	Capital City Quilters meet
FRIDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	7:00p	Narcotics Anonymous
SUNDAY, Oct.20	8:45a	Sunday Church School
	9:00a	Adult Forum - library
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Sue & Tim Nelson
USHERS – Ron Miller, David Westover
ACOLYTE – Sabrina Prowdley
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Tim Nelson, Kylee Nelson
LAY READERS – Annabel Halbakken, Abigail Brisbo
ALTAR GUILD – Carrie Rice, Cindy Marsh

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

So, Jesus told them again,
“Children, it’s difficult
to enter God’s kingdom!
It’s easier for a camel to squeeze
through the eye of a needle
than for a rich person to enter
God’s kingdom.”
~ Mark 10:24b-25

