



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



Worship Service – 10:00
October 15, 2023

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Sovereign God, as you bring us together this morning, quiet our hearts and minds and raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image this week; created for you, let us act for your glory in all we do; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 and place it in the basket in our prayer corner.

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 Mary Jakubiak in loving memory of 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 Oct. – Dec. 2023 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 Trinity Lutheran Church in Hillsdale, Michigan, Rev. Kara Shaw.

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 – Susan Mahoney
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor John Burow
ACOLYTES – Sabrina Prowdley, Annabel Halbakken
LAY READER – Susan Mahoney
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Zella Brisbo, Mel White
GREETERS – Audrey Olson, Keitha Snider
USHERS – Ron Miller, Ralph Sergent
ALTAR GUILD – Eliot Nutt
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 Grand Haven 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: *Kaye Alden, Marilyn Bass-Huyser, Virginia Bauman, Tosha Brisbo, Lois Cairns, Crystal Collins, Joann Dyer, Emma Hicks, 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, Morgan Shafer.

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)

FIRST NAMES ONLY? The complete names of people for whom we're praying will no longer be used in the prayers of intercession during worship. Rather only first names will be said, without the congregation repeating the names. This change will help to preserve individual privacy in online streaming.

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 29 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.

Lansing SAVE On Sunday, October 29, is our fifth Sunday offering for LansingSAVE. There are now 192 children in our group of students from BELC and the Baker Neighborhood. To give electronically click on the "Online Giving" link on our website.

ADULT FORUM – "IT'S ABOUT JESUS" Join us Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. to explore and share our experiences of Jesus. We have shared the music and people who nourish our faith and usher us into God's loving presence. In the coming weeks we will explore obstacles, favorite Gospel stories, moments of faith and so much more. Perhaps, if we act as if we are eager for these loving conversations, we will discover how significant and beautiful they can be.

COMMUNION CARDS 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.

MOBILE FOOD PANTRY Thank you to everyone who helped with our October 11 drive through mobile food pantry. We encourage anyone who hasn't helped before to please sign up. We can always use new people. The next mobile food pantry drive-through is November 8. Thank you!

PRAY & GO On the display board in the lobby you'll find the map of our progress, instructions on joining the effort, stakes and yard signs. If you'd like to join us in prayer, we are asking for 45 minutes of your time on a Sunday afternoon (or any other time that works in your schedule). Help us bless our community with the light and love of Christ through revitalizing prayer.



GOING SOLAR? Solar Faithful, an organization that facilitates installing Solar Power for congregations and other non-profits, is conducting a webinar hosted by our Synod's Environmental Stewardship Task Force, Thursday, 7 p.m., October 26th. Join us to learn about Solar Faithful and how your congregation can install clean, renewable solar power and do your part to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change, while saving money on your utility bills. To register go to Bethlehem's website and click on this connection:

<https://bit.ly/468ZUeT>

If that does not work, email pastorjburow@yahoo.com and he will send you the link.

AUDIO VISUAL ASSISTANCE Are you willing to be trained to fill in as an Audio/Visual Assistant? We need people to assist on Sundays, but especially during the week for funerals and other mid-week services as needed. If you are retired and looking for a new way to serve, here is your chance! Contact David Holderread if you are interested.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

DISCOVERING DISCIPLESHIP AT BETHLEHEM Would you like to know more about God's Mission and Ministry here at Bethlehem? Would you like to know more about what 'Discipleship' means for us at Bethlehem? The class typically meets on a Saturday for 2 hours in the morning, lunch with some of our members, and then another hour or so in the afternoon. We are gathering names now and encourage you to worship and participate as much as possible in God's ministry. The next course will be held early this Fall. If you are interested in this course that will begin your journey at Bethlehem, please call the church office at 517-482-3225.

WORSHIP FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS Thank you for sponsoring the Altar Flowers for Bethlehem Worship services. Many do this to celebrate an anniversary, birthday, or other occasions. Sign up for your special date on the Flower Chart in the lobby. The 2023 price is \$40. The order for the upcoming month is placed on the 20th of the current month, so plan to sign up at least six weeks in advance!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Therefore, as God's choice, holy and loved, put on compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Be tolerant with each other and, if someone has a complaint against anyone, forgive each other. As the Lord forgave you, so also forgive each other. And over all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.
~ Colossians 3:12-14 CEB

ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance: 81 in-person, 43 people viewed the 10/8/23 Live worship and the recorded service.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS *Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.* ~ Philippians 4:6-7

Throughout Philippians Paul urges us to practice faithful stewardship of our inner life – our habit of gratitude; our focus on what is good, beautiful and loving; opening to God's gift of Shalom, and putting on the mind of Christ.

SENSORY TOOL KIT To assist parents of children with sensory issues (on the Autism Spectrum) in worship, we now have a Sensory Tool Kit on the coat rack in the Lobby that contains: Noise Cancelling Headphones, an Iso-flex Ball, a Tangle Jr., a Magic Snake, and six other items. If you cannot locate it, please ask an usher.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – David Westover, Sandra Westover

USHERS – David Snider, Bob Christiansen, Joe Shreffler

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Mila Thompson, Peggy Teter

LAY READER – Sandra Westover

ACOLYTE – Kylee Nelson

ALTAR GUILD – Cindy Marsh, Michelle Smith

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| SUNDAY, Oct. 15 | 8:45a | Sunday School |
| | 9:00a | Adult Forum |
| | 10:00a | Worship – Holy Communion |
| MONDAY | 6:30p | Friendship Circle |
| TUESDAY | 8:00a | Family Growth Center |
| | 9:30a | Staff Meeting |
| | 1:00p | Rainbow Circle |
| | 6:30p | Handbell Choir |
| | 7:30p | Senior Choir |
| WEDNESDAY | 8:00a | Family Growth Center |
| THURSDAY | 8:00a | Family Growth Center |
| | 6:15p | TNT |
| | 6:30p | Congregation Council |
| FRIDAY | 6:00p | Narcotics Anonymous |
| SUNDAY, Oct. 22 | 8:45a | Sunday School |
| | 9:00a | Adult Forum |
| | 10:00a | Worship – Holy Communion |

HUNGRY? Many of God’s children, locally and globally, will go to bed tonight with their stomach growling. Help fight hunger by participating in or donating to the **CROP hunger walk**.

The Greater Lansing CROP hunger season is October 1-8.

The walk is TODAY, October 8th. For more information contact Nancy Holderread. (nancy.holderread@gmail.com)

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

