



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



Worship Service – 10:00
September 18, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Yvonne Nelson in celebration of her 94th birthday and by Nancy Jackson in memory of Peter Jackson and their wedding anniversary and in memory of Deanna Darling and her birthday.

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 at 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 Our Saviour Lutheran Church in Saginaw 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.

THOSE WHO SERVE IN OUR WORSHIP

ORGANIST & HANDBELL DIRECTOR – James Schippers
CHOIR DIRECTOR – Sue Nelson
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP DIRECTOR – Laurey Wyble
ASSISTING MINISTER – Susan Mahoney
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith
LAY READER – Ron Miller
ACOLYTE – Allie Fernandez
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Dorothy Martin
GREETERS – Diane & Ron Miller
USHERS – Ralph Sergent, Cloyd Barnes
ALTAR GUILD – Dorothy Martin, Candy Barnes
A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, Paul Schmidt, David Westover

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O God, you created the world and all that is in it, and it was good. You entrusted your creation to us, but we have not been faithful stewards. Greed, the desire for power, and the wish to control others have caused us to create problems rather than solve them. May this time of worship enable us to see, once again, our responsibility as your stewards, and to realize that we cannot serve both God and money. 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 John a message at pastorjohnburow@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.

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: *Mary Ann Allen, John Bartel, Virginia Bauman
Tosha Brisbo, Crystal Collins, Doug Griffin, Emma Hicks
Marilyn Bass-Huyser, Nancy Jackson, Carole Kienke
Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan, Yvonne Nelson
Tharin Palmer, Carol Roush, Connie Scott, Audrey Skidmore
Betty VanConant, 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)

PARISH NOTES

FOUR VIEWS OF JESUS Beginning this morning the Adult Forum
resumes with an exploration of the Four Gospels. We will listen
carefully and prayerfully to each distinctive presentation of the Good
News of Jesus Christ. We hope to discover how and why each of the
four Gospels is a gift and guide to the church at this present moment.

2022 CROP WALK The Greater Lansing CROP Hunger Walk will be
Sunday October 9th. It is sponsored by Church World Services. 25% of
the funds raised help local organizations. 75% helps people in other
states (the areas of Kentucky suffering from tornados and flooding) as
well as around the world (people affected by the Ukrainian war). Please
help those who are hungry and hurting by participating in the CROP
walk or supporting a walker. If you have any questions contact Nancy
Holderread (Nancy.holderread@gmail.com).

CALLING ALL WOMEN – YOU ARE INVITED

General Meeting tomorrow September 19 @ 6:00pm. It will be a
potluck dinner starting at 6:00. Please bring a dish to pass and your own
table service. Beverages & rolls will be provided. After dinner Pastor
Matt will kick off our Bible Study from the September Gather
magazine, it is a good one! Please bring your September Gather
magazine with you if you have one. There will be a General Meeting
following the Bible Study. Hope to see you there!!

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!

SABBATICAL THANK YOU! Thank you for providing me with a
dedicated time for study and prayer to enrich the ministry here at
Bethlehem. This time has been even more rewarding and energizing
than I hoped it would be. My areas of focus were Prayer, Health and
Wellness, and Church Revitalization. A report on all these areas will be
included in future newsletters with electronic and print copies available.
Stay tuned!

PASTOR MATT'S OFFICE HOURS As we move forward into this new program year of opportunity, my office hours (the hours I will endeavor to normally be physically in the church) will be Monday afternoon (12:00 - 4:00 pm) and Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9:00 am until *at least* 2:30 pm.

I am aware that if you total up those hours that I make an effort to be in the church office it only totals twenty-six (26) hours. After consulting with Bishop Satterlee from the N/W Lower Michigan Synod he assures us that this is actually MORE than is standard practice across the ELCA and other protestant denominations. The standard is closer to the 20 hours that were previously published. The remaining 24 hours of my 50-hour work week are used for home and hospital visits, sermon writing, phone contacts with members and prospective members, other pastoral responsibilities and prayer (and anything else that I intended to do at the church that I was not able to get to because of our active, vibrant ministry.

I am available by phone (517-881-9890) from 9:00 am - 9:00 pm Sun., Mon., Tue., Wed., Thu., and Sat. If I am not able to answer your call I will call you back as soon as I am able. FRIDAY will continue to be my scheduled day off (unless there is a wedding or funeral or an emergency requiring my attention). If you need me in an emergency between 9:00 pm and 9:00 am please call me a second time after my voicemail answers, and my phone will ring.

I am here for you. ~ Pastor Matt

SUPPORT MY RIDE FOR LIVING WATER MINISTRIES Annually,



RUN THE RACE
2022 TEAM BASECAMP

Living Water Ministries engages in a 200-mile relay race to raise funds to support the organization. While I do not have the ability to run, I am very interested in supporting what God is up to at Living Water Ministries and have joined "Team Basecamp" to support this effort.

As a member of Team Basecamp I've committed to raising \$2,000 to support Living Water Ministries and I need your help to reach my goal. Instead of running three legs of the race of varying distances, I will ride my three-wheeled recumbent bike in distances as Runner #5 which includes distances of 6, 3.2, and 7.2 miles at the same time those legs are being run. The last leg is the distance from Frankfort to Benzonia. I am committed to go the distance to help Living Water Ministries continue to bring together all of God's children for years to come. Thank you for your support!

Below is the link to sponsor me in Team Basecamp for Living Water Ministries' Ragnar race September 23 & 24. Click 'Donate Now >' and be sure to select Pr. Matt Smith from the drop-down menu. Thank you for your sponsorship and prayers!

<https://bit.ly/MattSmith4LWM>

Thought for the Week

We must take full responsibility for who and WHOSE we are, where we are, and where we want to go.

~ Thom Rainer *Anatomy of A Revived Church* (2020)

STEWARDSHIP PONDERING

In today's Gospel, Jesus invites us to consider what it might cost to be his disciple. Will we choose to ignore or minimize what Jesus requires. Or will we struggle with the impact of this difficult passage? Wrestling with God occurs frequently in Scripture and may well lead to growth in our faith and in our serving.



Scan this QR Code by putting your cell phone camera up to the code and follow the link to give electronically to Bethlehem.

ATTENDANCE

Worship Attendance: 101 – 69 in-person and 32 people viewed the 9/11/22 Live worship.

THE BELCW RUMMAGE SALE IS ON - SEPT. 28-30, 2022

We have enough volunteers signed up. We can still use more volunteers to help on Friday, 9/30 with clean up. We will not be accepting computers, printers and components, or televisions, VCR's, and speakers. We are accepting furniture. You may begin to drop off rummage no earlier than **Friday at 9AM, September 23.**

Do not put rummage on the stage. The last day to drop off is Tuesday, September 27th. When dropping off rummage, if you can, please put your rummage out on a table – **all tables will be labeled.** If you have any questions you can contact anyone from the Rummage Sale Committee – Kelly Carpenter, Candy Barnes, Joanna Alvera, Laura Halbakken, Sue Leimenstoll, Peggy Teter and Sandy Rollis.

T.N.T. *Thursday Night Thriller*, our confirmation program typically for 6-8th grade students is set to begin on Thursday, September 22 at 6:15 pm (until 7:55). In the sanctuary with a lesson and orientation for students AND parents.

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Sept. 18	8:45a	Sunday School (in person)
	8:45a	Adult Forum
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion Worship (YouTube)
MONDAY	6:30p	Stewardship & Financing
	6:30p	BELCW Board Meeting
TUESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:30a	Staff Meeting
	5:00p	Board of Worship Life
	5:00p	Board of Outreach
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
WEDNESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:00a	Quilting Day
	6:30p	Board of Buildings & Grounds
THURSDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:30p	Congregation Council Meeting
SUNDAY, Sept. 25	8:45a	Sunday School (in person)
	8:45a	Adult Forum
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion Worship (YouTube)

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Otto Kern & Ellie Ibarra
LAY READER – Mel White
ACOLYTE – Faith Halbakken
USHERS – Bob Christiansen, Joe Shreffler, David Snider
COMMUNION ASSISTANT – Sherry Bass-Pohl, Mary Jakubiak

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

Luke 16:10

The
one
who is
faithful
in a
very
little is
FAITHFUL
also in
much.

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