



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



Worship Service – 10:00  
October 6, 2024

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by council in honor of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee and all volunteers who made the Anniversary Celebration so memorable!!

**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 St. Peter Lutheran Church in Unionville Michigan, Rev. Jeffrey Bonn.

**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

*O God, you make yourself known in the stillness; make me to know your presence in this sacred place; make me receptive to your Word and help me praise you with my whole heart. O Lord, purify my life that, going back into the world, I may go with your strength and your love; through Jesus Christ my 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](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 – Bob Meeker  
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor John Burow  
ACOLYTES – Faith Halbakken, Kylee Nelson  
LAY READER – Dorothy Martin  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Jim & Liisa Whitman  
GREETERS – Laurey Wyble, Wendy Lamphier  
USHERS – Cloyd Barnes, Ralph Sergent  
ALTAR GUILD – Susan Mahoney, Linda Telles  
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  
*Ben Darling*, Sparrow Hospital, Lansing

**Those at home:** *Kaye Alden, John Bartel, Virginia Bauman, Tosha Brisbo Kelly Carpenter, Crystal Collins, 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)

**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

**BLANKET SUNDAY** Today the sanctuary is adorned with the quilts made by our BELCW Quilters from Bethlehem. They have made 120 quilts going to LWR and have sent 19 quilts to Pine Ridge. They put together 14 fabric kits, 15 baby kits, 19 personal kits, and 24 school kits. The BELC women will be collecting funds to help defray the cost of shipping to Lutheran World Relief. Checks can be made out to BELCW with a notation for "shipping" on the memo. Cash is also accepted. Thank you!

**TODAY IS FOOD BANK SUNDAY** Canned goods and other non-perishable items and gifts of money can be brought up to the altar during the "Offering of Gifts". You may bring your gifts to the altar after the passing of the offering plate. This special offering will be used to feed hungry people in our community through the FGC Resource Center, using our food pantry space. Monetary gifts will support the Greater Lansing Food Bank and our Mobile Food Distribution. If you are worshipping with us electronically, click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

### *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 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.

**MOBILE FOOD PANTRY** Please sign up to help next Wednesday, October 9, for our next drive through mobile food pantry. We encourage anyone who hasn't helped before to please sign up. We can always use new people. Thank you!

**TNT** Confirmation classes for the 24-25 program year will begin on Thursday, October 10, at 6:15 p.m. in the library. The first session is for parents and youth.

**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 27, using this link:

- October 27 registration link/address:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91288277593?pwd=Zm9uZGpE9R3IbfISDlozuRvAx0NNSD2>

**NEXT SUNDAY 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.

**ALTAR FLOWER CHART** Smith Floral continues to provide beautiful Floral Arrangements for Bethlehem at a very reasonable price. The florist has recently begun a new billing system, and we will now be pre-paying for the arrangements rather than being billed at the end of the month. Bethlehem's order for the upcoming month is submitted near the 25<sup>th</sup> of every month and payment will be sent at that time. Thus, Sunday sponsors for Altar Flowers will need to pay well in advance. If you have any questions, please talk with Kris Burow.

**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.

**Thought for the Week**

He is the head of the body, the church,  
who is the beginning,  
the one who is firstborn from among the dead  
so that he might occupy the first place in everything.  
Because all the fullness of God was pleased to live in him,  
and he reconciled all things to himself through him—  
whether things on earth or in the heavens.  
He brought peace through the blood of his cross.  
- Colossians 1:18-20

The Word became flesh  
and made his home among us.  
We have seen his glory,  
glory like that of a father's only son,  
full of grace and truth. - John 1:14

*This is what God planned for the climax of all times:  
to bring all things together in Christ, the things in  
heaven along with the things on earth.*  
- Ephesians 1:10

**ATTENDANCE** Worship Attendance 9/29/24: 74 in-person for our Worship and 27 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 41:12 and 19 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

**STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS** You made them only slightly less than divine, crowning them with glory and grandeur. A significant aspect of our glory is our capacity to worship God and to participate in holy work. May we more and more live into God's gracious intent for our lives.

**THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

<b>SUNDAY, Oct. 6</b>	<b>8:45a</b>	<b>Sunday Church School</b>
<i>Blanket Sunday</i>	<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	BELC Board meeting
<b>TUESDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:30a	Staff Meeting
	5:00p	Board of Worship Life
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:00a	Quilting Day
	1:00p	Mobile Food Distribution
	6:30p	Harmony Circle
	6:30p	Bd. Buildings & Grounds
<b>THURSDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
<b>FRIDAY</b>	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	7:00p	Narcotics Anonymous
<b>SUNDAY, Oct.13</b>	<b>8:45a</b>	<b>Sunday Church School</b>
<i>Sock it to Me</i>	<b>9:00a</b>	<b>Adult Forum - library</b>
<i>Sunday</i>	<b>10:00a</b>	<b>Worship – Holy Communion</b>

**THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY**

GREETERS – Cheryl Thompson and family  
USHERS – Ralph Sergent, Phil Hassler, Jim Koessel  
ACOLYTE – Adreanna Fernandez  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Nancy Holderread, Peggy Teter  
LAY READER – Mel White  
ALTAR GUILD – Donna Tenhave, Cheryl Thompson

**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**



“Jesus is not ashamed  
to call them (and us)  
brothers & sisters....”

~ Hebrews 2:11