



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



Worship Service – 10:00
February 2, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God.

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

PORTALS OF PRAYER January through March 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 Zion Lutheran Church in Cadillac, Michigan, Rev. Scott Torkko and Chrisy Bright, Assistant to the Bishop/NWLM Synod.

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.**



A PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Be still, my soul. Be still. Let the quiet peace of God rest upon my jumbled thoughts and my tangled feelings. My soul, be still. Know that the Lord is God. Know that God is exalted among the nations, exalted in the earth. Know that the Lord, in all his glory, still loves his people, still loves me. Be still, my soul. Be still. For the Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. 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.

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
GREETERS – Cindy & Matt Marsh
USHERS – Cloyd Barnes, Don Cairns
ACOLYTE – Andrew Goff
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Faith Halbakken, Peggy Teter
LAY READER – Vicki Leighton
ALTAR GUILD – Susan Mahoney, Linda Telles
A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, David Westover



PARISH NOTES

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
Larry & Virginia Bauman, 5314 Evergreen Ridge Dr. Cincinnati, OH

Those at home: *Kaye Alden, John Bartel, Virginia Bauman, Tosha Brisbo Kelly Carpenter, Crystal Collins, Ben Darling, Keith Ferguson Tom & Eleanor Finn, Carl Gallagher, Peggy Gaspersohn, Emma Hicks Nancy Jackson, Jeff Kosloski, Mike (Ferris) Kosloski, Vicki Leighton Michael Mahoney, Mark Nelson, Linda McClellan, Yvonne Nelson Tharin Palmer, Bob & Gloria Robbins, Sandy Rollis, Connie Scott Ken Teter, Betty VanConant, Cheryl VanPatten, Rob 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)
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)
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.

TODAY IS FOOD BANK SUNDAY Canned goods and other non-perishable items and gifts of money can be brought up to the basket at 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.

CHILI COOK-OFF On Saturday, February 15, we will have our Chili Cook-off at 6:00 p.m.! Sign-up sheets are in the social hall if you'd like to enter your winning chili! Enjoy a night out, sampling tasty chili, fellowship and friendly competition. The Luther League Youth are planning fun activities for the children and youth too!!

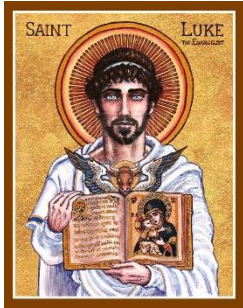
NEXT SUNDAY IS MISSION SUNDAY Gifts received in a special mission offering will be given to the Lutheran Lakota Shared Ministry at the Pine Ridge Retreat Center in South Dakota. If you are viewing this bulletin electronically, click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

BETHLUTHERAN.ORG Our website continues to be updated with weekly Parish Notes and our monthly Bethlehem Star newsletter and calendar. In addition to these downloadable files in the 'Printables' section, our entire Calendar is on our website from the Events menu this is the most up-to-date information and does not require any downloads. The Events page is also updated weekly with events from our Parish Notes.

PEER MINISTRY LOCK-IN From Friday, February 7, at 8:00pm to Saturday, February 8, at 3:30, Bethlehem's Luther League will be hosting high school aged youth from across the state to be trained in Peer Ministry skills. This training helps youth learn listening skills to help them form intentional faith and life connections.



ADULT FORUM: LUKE'S STORY OF JESUS In January and



February, our study will cover Jesus' Baptism; the temptation in the wilderness, plus the first 3 chapters of Jesus' Galilean ministry. These passages align with the Gospel readings for the Season of Epiphany and will provide both inspiration and guidance for our Life of Faith Initiative. Looking for a great New Year's resolution? Commit to investing 45 minutes Sunday mornings "following" Jesus in his mission of healing and faith format.

CAMP REGISTRATION Camp this year will be Week 4 of the camping season at Stony Lake, July 6-13. Week Four will host Explorers, grades 1-3 (Sun-Wed), Discoverers, grades 3-6, Challengers (Confirmation), grades 6-8, Servant Hearts, grades 9-12. Living Water Ministries is continuing their Welcome to All pricing where campers pay either full, half, or NO price, as they are able. Visit elcalivingwater.com for more information and to register.



THE 2025 FLOWER CHART Posted on the wall in the lobby and ready for new sign ups! If you have a special date in mind to sponsor Altar Flowers, please reserve that date on the flower chart. The monthly order is submitted during the third week of the month. Payment is made to the florist in advance, so payment needs to be submitted by the first day of the month with checks made out to Kris Burow. Cost is \$40 per arrangement. Envelopes for payment are in the rack by the flower chart. Thank you to all who sponsor Altar Flowers for the Bethlehem Worship!

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.

Thought for the Week

“As a church, we are called to speak up when the government distorts or denies the image of God in each person by endangering access to protection, peace and daily bread. Where harm or inequity occur, we are called by God to respond with love and advocacy.”

~ ELCA Presiding Bishop Eaton,
Pastoral Message on Executive Orders, *January 24, 2025*

ATTENDANCE Worship Attendance 1/26/25: 81 in-person for our Worship and 33 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 33:59 and 19 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS An aspect of faithful Stewardship is to open ourselves more fully to God's work. Even when the message challenges our complacency and disturbs our comfort. How might you deepen your spiritual practice of pondering Scripture. Hint: group Bible Study can be especially fruitful.

OFFERING ENVELOPES AND THE 2025 G.R.I.D The 2025 offering envelopes are available to pick up in the Social Hall. Also, on a table is the 2025 January – April GRID. It is also posted in the lobby on the wall by the phone. Thank you.

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 May 2027 so that we experience the entire three-year lectionary cycle using this translation. **There are some Common English Bibles on the cart in the social hall for your use.** Please give any feedback on the CEB to Pastor Matt or any member of the Board of Worship Life.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Jim & Liisa Whitman
USHERS – Phil Hassler, Jim Koessel, Ralph Sergent
ACOLYTE – Sabrina Prowdley
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Jim & Liisa Whitman
LAY READER – Mila Thompson
ALTAR GUILD – Cheryl Thompson, Donna TenHave

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Feb. 2	8:45a	Sunday School
	9:00a	Adult Forum
	0:00a	Worship – Holy Communion
MONDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:30p	BELCW Board Meeting
TUESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:30a	Staff Meeting
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
WEDNESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	4:00p	Board of Outreach
	TBD	Bible Study Leaders Meet
THURSDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
FRIDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	7:00p	N.A. meets
		Youth Lock-in whole church
SUNDAY, Feb. 9	8:45a	Sunday School
	9:00a	Adult Forum
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion



*“Today this scripture has been fulfilled just as you heard it.”
~ Luke 4:21*

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.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, Affirmation of Baptism, Page 237.