



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



Worship Service – 10:00
February 9, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God in celebration of the birthdays of all God's children born in January, February and March. The Altar flowers for January 26th were given in memory of the birthday of Debbie Taylor, sister of Connie Meeker.

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 Peace Lutheran Church in Charlotte, Michigan, and Rev. Neil Brady.

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

Gracious God, I offer you these brief moments of my attention. Anytime I turn to you, there are many distractions. I so easily turn away from you; instead I turn to my worries. I long for you, but my mind wanders. Quiet me so I may hear your voice; so I may hear your call again, your invitation to trust, to follow, to serve. Thank you, God, for knowing and loving me and calling me to be your child. In Jesus' name. 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 – Nancy Holderread
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith
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 – Donna TenHave, Cheryl Thompson
A/V PRODUCTION – David Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Meeker, Kevin Peckham, David Westover



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.

PARISH NOTES

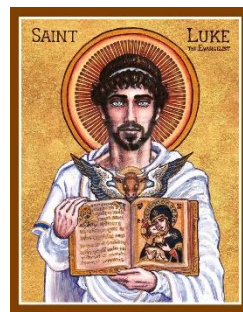
TODAY IS MISSION SUNDAY Gifts received in a special mission offering will be given to the Lutheran Lakota Shared Ministry at the Pine Ridge Retreat Center in South Dakota. If you are viewing this bulletin electronically, click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

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!!



MOBILE FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTION Wednesday, February 12, is our next mobile food distribution. There is a sign-up sheet in the social hall or see Dave Ware. Many hands help make the work lighter.

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.



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.

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.

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.



Thought for the Week

The more we love, the more love we have to offer. So it is with God's love for us. It is inexhaustible.

Dr. Mary C. Neal, NYT Best-Selling author of *To Heaven and Back* and *7 Lessons from Heaven*

ATTENDANCE Worship Attendance 2/2/25: 70 in-person for our Worship and 52 views on YouTube with an average viewing duration of 32:47 and 26 peak concurrent viewers for the live worship and the recorded service.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTIONS Our prayer for worship today asks that God would “enlarge our vision to see God’s power at work in the world.” As we become more attuned to the vision, may we place our resources and opportunities at God’s disposal, as the power of love is at work within and through us.

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.

THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP NEXT SUNDAY

GREETERS – Don & Linda Telles

USHERS – Ralph Sergent, David Westover

ACOLYTE – Adreanna Fernandez

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Christina Raia, Sherry Bass-Pohl

LAY READER – Mel White

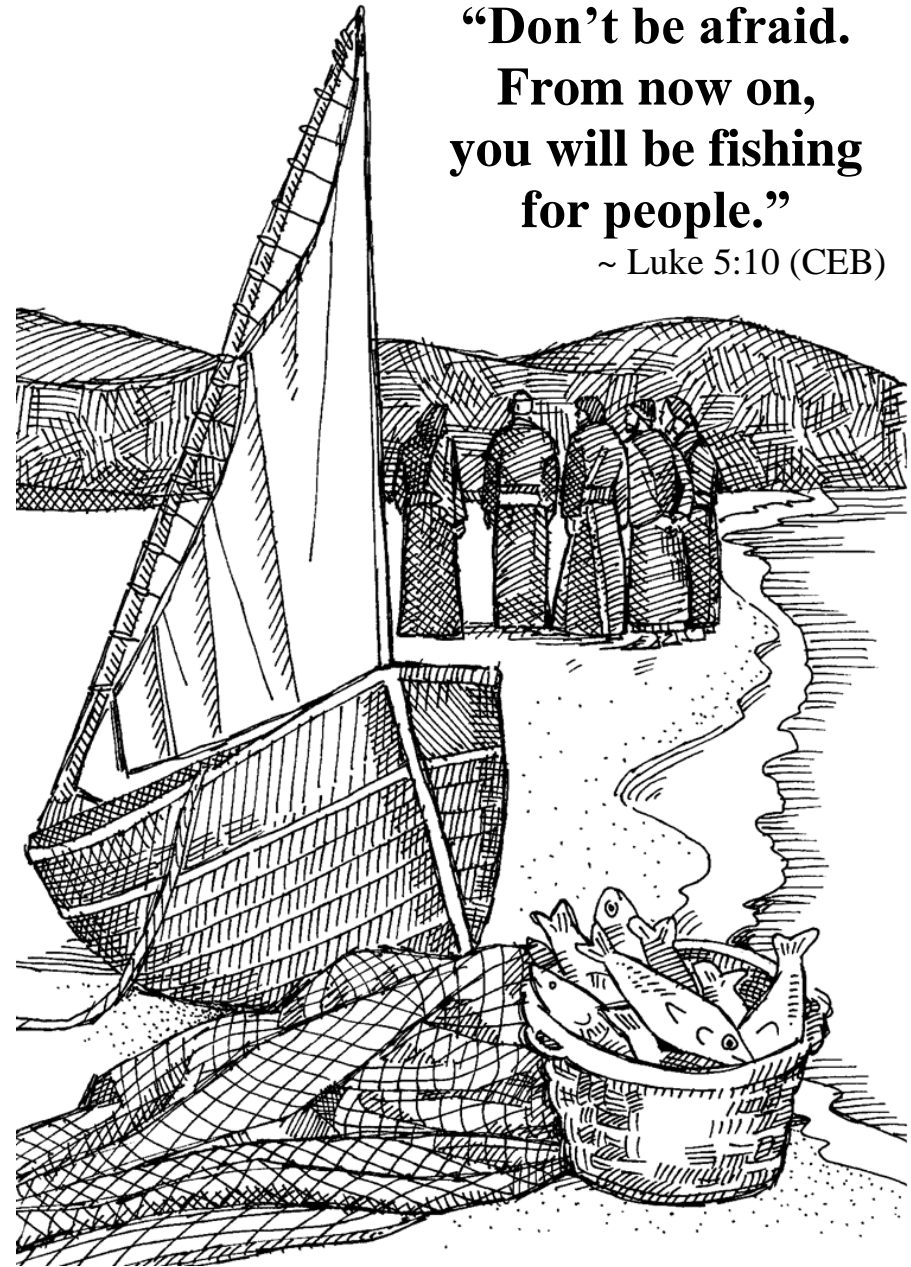
ALTAR GUILD – Carrie Rice, Eliot Nutt

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Feb. 9	8:45a	Sunday School
	9:00a	Adult Forum
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion
MONDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:30p	Board of Stewardship & Finance
	7:30p	Life of Faith (zoom)
TUESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:30a	Staff Meeting
	5:30p	Board of Worship Life
	6:30p	Handbell Choir
	7:30p	Senior Choir
WEDNESDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	9:00a	Quilting Day
	1:00p	Mobile Food Pantry
	6:30p	Harmony Circle
	6:30p	Board of Buildings & Grounds
THURSDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	6:15p	T.N.T.
FRIDAY	8:00a	Family Growth Center
	7:00p	N.A. meets
SATURDAY	6:00p	Chili Cook-off
SUNDAY, Feb. 16	8:45a	Sunday School
	9:00a	Adult Forum
	10:00a	Worship – Holy Communion

**“Don’t be afraid.
From now on,
you will be fishing
for people.”**

~ Luke 5:10 (CEB)



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.