



Worship Service – 9:30  
November 8, 2020

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



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

## PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

*Blessed Father, you who cause all things to exist and give us all things to enjoy and to use well in your service, attend our worship this day, and grant that we may so hear you and learn from you that we may be strengthened in our faith and bring praise and glory unto your name. We ask it through Jesus Christ our brother and our savior. 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 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 Marks of Discipleship. For prayers that you would like included in Sunday worship, please visit [www.bethlutheran.org](http://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.

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

**ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN** Our Children's Worship Bulletin is available for Download on the BELC Worship Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/belcworship/>).

**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 St. Peter Lutheran Church in Unionville Michigan and The Northwestern Minnesota 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 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**

PASTORS – Rev. Matthew Smith, Rev. John Burow

ORGANIST & HANDBELL DIRECTOR – James Schippers

CHOIR DIRECTOR – Sue Nelson

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP DIRECTOR – Laurey Wyble

ALTAR GUILD – Kris Burow

ASSISTING MINISTER – Susan Mahoney

CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith

SOUND SYSTEM – Dave Holderread, Kevin Peckham

Jon Holderread

VIDEO PRODUCTION – Andrew Snider

# Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...



**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** and with your cards and visits:

*Shelby Waters in The Willows at Okemos*

*Rhoda Hunter in Holt Senior Care and Rehab Center*

**Those at home:** *Mary Ann Allen, Virginia Bauman, Mary Brenke  
Marv Cole, Crystal Collins, Ruth Ferguson, Doug Griffin  
Ernie Hassell, Jim Hicks, Ellie Ibarra, Carole Kienke, Kurt Kollmeyer  
Marilyn Kostrzewski, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan  
John Nelson, Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, John Ransom  
Gloria Robbins, Bob Robbins, Carol Roush, Audrey Skidmore  
Don Spencley, Cheryl VanPatten, Ron Wescott, 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.*

**SEMINARY STUDENT** Jason Mills, from BELC, is studying at Gettysburg Theological Seminary. Please keep him in your prayers.

**MISSION PARTNERS** Pray for the people and ministry at Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota and the Baker Neighborhood Partners.

**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)

**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)

**Jake Sonnenberg – U.S. Army** (Ed & Ellie Sonnenberg's grandson)

**Eric Wheeler – U.S. Army** (Laurey Wyble's cousin)

*If you know of others in the service that you would like to have put on our prayer list, please call the church office.*

## 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. Please give electronically by clicking on the "Online Giving" link on our website or mail your contribution to the church or by clicking here: ([www.tinyurl.com/BELCGiving](http://www.tinyurl.com/BELCGiving)).

**THANKOFFERING SUNDAY** This year's Thankoffering Sunday will be different, because we are not able to worship in church, so we are asking that you mail a check for the total of your Thankoffering container. Please make your check payable to BELCW and mail to Carole Kienke at 13625 Pearwood, Dewitt, 48820, by November 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Teter at 281-2713.

**THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS** Your generous support in monetary donations makes our Outreach Ministry possible. This year due to the Covid Pandemic, it is difficult for us to coordinate food donations, so if you are in a position to do so, please consider making a monetary donation to this important ongoing mission of our Outreach Board. Thank you, and God bless you in your giving.

**NOVEMBER 16 BELCW BIBLE STUDY** All women of Bethlehem are invited to join the Zoom Bible Study. The Study is based on the November Gather magazine. Your Circle chair will send out the Zoom invitation via email on November 15 with the information to join the meeting. If you are not in a Circle but would like to participate please contact Jamie Andrews (president) or any BELCW board member for the invitation.

**SENIOR DINNER** Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church is pleased to announce that the Annual Senior Dinner will take place on Sunday, December 13, 2020! Those Seniors that would like to indulge will need to call the church office to place your "take out" order and indicate how many meals per household. More information regarding the pick-up process to come, but we wanted to let you know that your special day will still take place.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** We have begun our Sunday School Classes via Zoom. Classes will begin each Sunday morning at 8:45 and go to approximately 9:15. Please contact the office if you would like to be included in the invitation.

**“TEMPLE” TALKS** As our streaming of services continues for the foreseeable future we want as many people as possible involved in our worship in meaningful ways. **WE WANT TO KNOW YOUR STORIES.** We are asking all our members, young and young-at-heart, to make a video of themselves using their computer or smartphone answering one of the following:

- What does my faith mean to me, and how has Bethlehem been part of that?
- What difference has Bethlehem and my faith made in my life?
- Why do I belong at Bethlehem?

These “Temple Talks” will be included in worship at the usual offering time. The video should be no more than five minutes in length. Be sure to state the question that you are answering at the beginning. After you record the video, upload it to an online service like Dropbox, Google Drive, Microsoft OneDrive, and then share it with me ([pastormattsmith@gmail.com](mailto:pastormattsmith@gmail.com)).

**UPCOMING BOOK STUDY** The next book we will explore in our ‘Racial Justice’ journey is *Plantation Jesus: Race, Faith & a New Way Forward*. Written by Skot Welch & Rick Wilson and published by Herald Press, the book is available in paperback and hard cover. Our first class, covering chapter 1, Where We Start, will take place on Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-7:30 pm. Please contact Pastor Matt @ [pastormattsmith@gmail.com](mailto:pastormattsmith@gmail.com) to be included in the ZOOM invitation.

### **ATTENDANCE AND GIVING**

Worship Attendance: Due to technical difficulties, the attendance numbers for the All Saints service on November 1 are not accurate.

***Operating income through September 30, 2020 \$221,934.61***

***Operating expense received through September 30, 2020 \$235,666.78***  
***SHORTFALL \$13,732.17 (numbers will be updated monthly)***

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP** In these closing weeks of the Church Year our readings turn to the day of the Lord's judgement and restoration. Like the faithful bridesmaids in today's Gospel, may our lives be aglow with Jesus' love. May our compassionate actions and grateful generosity shine as witness to God's grace.

**BEING A PART OF WORSHIP** If you would like to contribute to worship with a vocal solo or instrumental piece, please contact Sue Nelson at 517-896-3565.

**CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS** Given this unusual year, Bethlehem will not be ordering Poinsettias for Christmas. To all those who have ordered poinsettias to adorn the Sanctuary for Christmas in past years, we say thank you. We hope to carry on this tradition in 2021!

**2020 CHEER BAGS/BOXES** Because of the pandemic we need to organize and deliver our Cheer Bags differently. This year we are asking you to drop off your items at the church where they will be put in a tub. Laura Halbakken and Joanna Alvera will be filling decorative boxes that will be mailed to the recipients. Watch your email for a message from your Circle Chair with the items your Circle has been assigned and the deadline for the donations. The BELCW Board thanks you in advance for your donations.

## THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Nov. 8	8:45a	Sunday School Zoom
	9:30a	Worship Facebook Live Stream
MONDAY	6:30p	Bd. Stewardship & Finance Zoom Mtg.
TUESDAY	9:30a	Staff Meeting Zoom
	6:15p	T.N.T. Zoom Class
WEDNESDAY		<b>VETERANS DAY</b>
	6:30p	Bd. Buildings & Grounds Zoom Mtg.
	6:30P	Pastor Matt Book Study Zoom
SUNDAY, Nov. 15	8:45a	Sunday School Zoom
<i>Thank Offering</i>	9:30a	Worship Facebook Live Stream
<i>Sunday</i>		

### 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**



(c) Laura R. Norton