



Worship Services – 8:15 & 10:30
March 1, 2020

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



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

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Dear Lord, my God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, you have called me to follow you. Help me in this Lenten season to examine every aspect of my life, repent of sin, and seek to do your will in all my words and deeds. As I worship you in this community of believers, bless me with the gifts of your grace. In Jesus' name I pray. 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 that you sense that Jesus is at the heart of all we do.

If you are a guest, you are encouraged to use a "WELCOME" card in the pew rack and hand it to the pastor as you leave. You are also invited to sign the Guest Book in the main lobby. If you would like more information about our ministries, please talk to Pastor Matt or Pastor John or call the church office at 482-3225.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Bethlehem Lutheran is a praying church; this is one of our Marks of Discipleship. There are two opportunities for your petitions to be shared with our prayerful community. Prayer cards are in the pew rack and are color coded.

- **The White Card:** provided for petitions of concern or thanksgiving to be included in the prayers during the worship service. Include an address if you'd like the person, named on the card, notified of the prayer offered on their behalf. Hand the card to an usher during the Hymn of the Day. **If you attend the 8:15 service, please indicate if you would like the prayer repeated at both services.**
- **The Blue Card:** provided if you would like your concern prayed for every day this week. Please fill out this card and place it in the basket in our prayer corner, located in the back of the church.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Ethel Holm, who died February 19, 2020. She is the mother of Dick Holm. May God comfort those who mourn with the promise of eternal life for all those who trust and believe in Jesus Christ.

ALTAR FLOWERS The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God by Jeff Kosloski in memory of Robin Kosloski's birthday.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES Available for those who have difficulty hearing; these are wireless receivers with a small earphone. Contact one of the people at the sound system area if you are interested.

ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG CHILDREN Small chairs and tables are located at the front of the church to keep little ones occupied (and present) during worship. Adult sized chairs are provided for parental supervision. Activity bags, filled with coloring/activity books, crayons and sewing cards can be found on the front pew and in the Narthex at the back of the church. If you need to leave with your child, please use the exit door to the left of the keyboard. The unstaffed nursery, located at the northeast corner of the lower level, is available as a crying room. Diaper changing stations are located in each of the main level restrooms and in the nursery.

TAKING FAITH HOME After worship, pick up a copy of this week's Bible readings from the ushers or the usher table in the social hall.

PORTALS OF PRAYER January - March booklets are available on the Welcome Table in the lobby.

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 – Sue & Bob Christiansen

Susan Mahoney, Betty Bonney

ASSISTING MINISTER – Bob Meeker

CHILDREN'S SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith

ACOLYTE – 8:15 Nick Boyd, 10:30 Ava Meeker

LAY READER – Ron Miller, Mel White

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Carol Kinney, Mel White, Mary Bartel

GREETERS – Ralph & Margaret Sergeant

Larry & Virginia Bauman, Pat Lebsack

USHERS – John Ransom, Brian Pickford, Susan Mahoney, Jeff Kosloski

Don Cairns, Judy Pardee, Tom Armstrong

SOUND SYSTEM – Dave Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Peckham



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS and with your cards and visits:

Janenne Grinnell in Ingham Co. Medical Care Facility

Shelby Waters in The Willows at Okemos

Rhoda Hunter in Holt Senior Care on Willoughby in Holt

Those at home: *Mary Ann Allen, Virginia Bauman, Mary Brenke, Crystal Collins, Ernie Hassell, Kurt Kollmeyer, Marilyn Kostrzewski, Susan Mahoney, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan, Kevin Meeker, Nancy Miesner, Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, Chris Ransom, Bob Robbins, Carol Roush, Audrey Skidmore, Ken Teter, Cheryl VanPatten, Ron Wescott*

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)

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.

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. Timothy Lutheran Church in Midland, Michigan and for the Oregon Synod.

PARISH NOTES

SUNDAY SCHOOL CARNIVAL Join us in the Lower Social Hall **today between services from 9:15 to 10:15** for the children's Sunday School Carnival. A representative from Potter Park Zoo will be with us again this year. Enjoy games, prizes, and fun!

LENTEN POTLUCK SUPPERS A potluck precedes the Lenten Services each Wednesday, beginning on Wednesday, March 4. The **potluck meal begins at 6:30 p.m.** in the social hall. Bring your evening meal (a dish or two to pass - enough food for your family) and share it with the rest of the church family. Beverages will be provided. Please bring your own table service. **Lenten services begin at 7:30 p.m.**

TODAY IS FOOD BANK SUNDAY Canned goods and other non-perishable items and gifts of money can be brought to the altar during the "Offering of Gifts". Please wait to come forward until instructed by the pastor. This special offering will be used to feed hungry people in our community through the Food Pantry in our church.

ADULT FORUM Four readings from John's gospel beginning next Sunday, St. John's story of Jesus will tell us of four remarkable encounters:

- A nervous and confused religious leader;
- A foreign woman with a broken past;
- A man, blind from birth,
- Two grieving sisters

Today the Adult Forum will look ahead to next Sunday's Gospel story. **Please join us in the Sanctuary today** to explore the words of Jesus to these and other folks and to ponder what Jesus may be sharing with us.

SPECIAL LENTEN OFFERING ENVELOPE Our Lenten Offering (My Lenten Gift) will go to support the ministry of **"The House of Promise"**, a 501c3 nonprofit organization that provides survivors of sex abuse and sex trafficking unconditional love, acceptance, and a place to heal. Please write **"My Lenten Gift"/House of Promise on your envelope**. You may place your envelope in the offering plate on a Sunday morning or mail it to the church office. You may also use a pew envelope and designate your gift for "House of Promise".

THE 28TH BELCW RETREAT!! Our retreat this year will be held at Beechpoint Christian Camp in Allegan, Michigan. The dates are **April 17th, 18th and 19th**. **ALL** women of Bethlehem, their family and friends (females 18 and older) are invited to join us. The cost of the weekend includes lodging, food, activities and programming. We were able to keep the price at \$98.00 per person with a \$30 deposit to hold your spot. If you have any questions please contact Laura Halbakken at 517-281-3133 or Joanna Alvera at 517-388-1263.

RUMMAGE SALE The BELCW Annual Rummage Sale is three months away. For the past few years, donations have been allowed to come in early and be stored on the stage. Due to our battle against church mice, the Board of Building and Grounds is requiring that no more early donations be stored on the stage or any other spot within the church building. The BELCW would very much appreciate it if you would store the items that you plan on donating in your own home and bring to the church starting **Sunday, April 12th**. This is two weeks prior to set up and sorting for the rummage sale. If you have any questions, please call Laurey Wyble or Kelly Carpenter.

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.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP March 4, Lenten Service
Ushers – Tim Nelson, **need someone**

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP March 8, 2020

Assisting Minister – Bob Meeker

Children's Sermon – Liisa Whitman

8:15:

Acolyte – Megan Jones

Lay Reader – Mary Jakubiak

Greeters – Joe & Cheryl Shreffler

Ushers – Ron Miller, Kurt Kollmeyer

10:30:

Acolyte – Kyra Pohl

Lay Reader – Judy Pardee

Communion Assistants – Jim Whitman, Hunter Whitman, Ken Teter

Greeters – Ben Darling, Dave Holderread

Ushers – Otto Kern, Phil Hassler, Joe Skidmore, Michael Kern

Thought for the Week

What might God have in store for you if you turn around?

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

Worship Attendance: 8:15: 50, 10:30: 64, total: 114

Church School Attendance: 34; adults 18, children 16

Church School Offerings: \$2.00

Needed through Feb. 23 to meet 2020 Budget: \$60,309.52

Received through Feb. 23 to meet 2020 Budget: \$47,406.27

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP In today's Gospel, Satan strikes at Jesus seeking to lure him from the way of God's Mission. May the Spirit keep us aligned to what God is doing in our midst. We at Bethlehem are blessed to be a blessing and authorized to share God's love. Thank you for your generous sharing.

2020 FLOWER CHART Thank you, to everyone who sponsor the flowers for Bethlehem's Worship on Sunday Mornings. If you want to sponsor flowers for a specific Sunday, please sign up on the Flower Chart posted in the lobby. The cost for flowers is \$35. If there is not a sponsor for a given Sunday, an alternative to fresh flowers may be used. The flower order is sent to the florist the last few days of the month. Please sign up by the 15th for flowers to be ordered for the next month. Payment may be made in advance or on the Sunday for which the flowers are ordered. Please make checks payable to Kris Burow.

STONY LAKE REGISTRATION Elementary, Confirmation and Senior High Camp is the week of July 12–17. Camp registration began on **January 15, 2020**. Log on to <http://www.elcalivingwater.com/> and complete your camp application. **No deposit is required.** If you need any financial assistance, speak with Pastor Matt as soon as possible, so that your deposit can be mailed after you complete the online app.

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, March 1	8:15	Worship – Holy Communion
Foodbank Sunday	8:30	Junior Choir
	9:15	Sunday School Carnival
	9:30	Adult Forum
	10:30	Worship – Holy Communion
	12:00	Worship Survey Forum
MONDAY	6:30	BELCW Board Meeting
TUESDAY	8:00	Family Growth Center
	9:30	Staff Meeting
	6:00	BELCW Bible Study Leaders Meeting
	6:15	T.N.T.
WEDNESDAY	8:00	Family Growth Center
	5:30	Handbell Choir
	6:30	Potluck dinner
	7:30	Lenten Service
	8:30	Senior Choir
THURSDAY	8:00	Family Growth Center
FRIDAY	7:00	N.A. Meeting
SATURDAY	9:30	F.A.B. Meets
SUNDAY, March 8	8:15	Worship – Holy Communion
Mission Sunday	8:30	Junior Choir
<i>Daylight Savings</i>	9:15	Sunday School
<i>Time Begins</i>	9:30	Adult Forum
	10:30	Worship – Holy Communion
	11:45	Sound System Training

MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Jesus expects me to...

PRAY fervently

WORSHIP faithfully

ENCOURAGE one another

READ the Scriptures daily

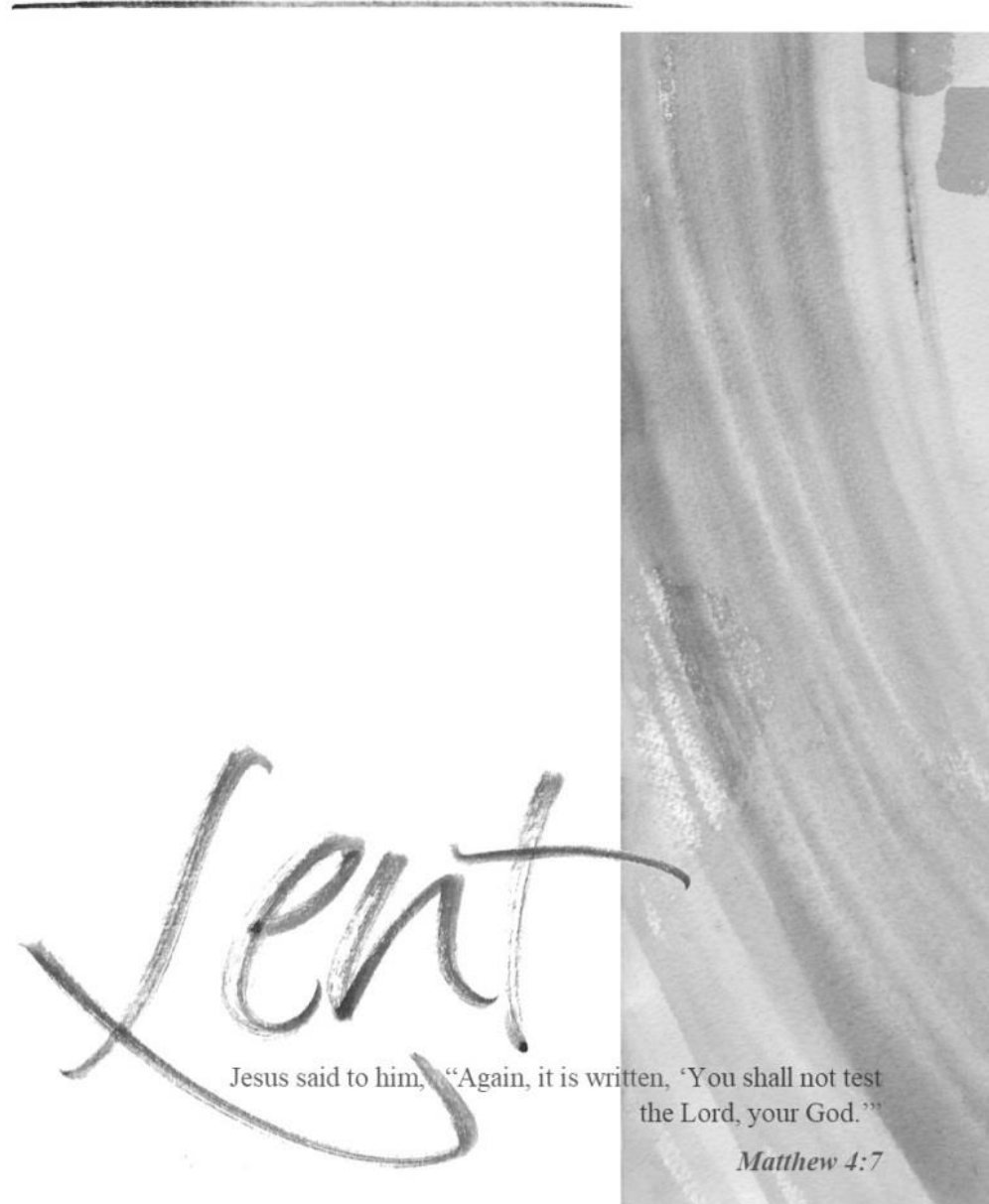
GIVE freely of the gifts I have received from God

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



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LIVING GOD'S MISSION



Our theme for the 2020 program year is "Living God's Mission." We will be exploring each of the five areas in our Mission Plan; focusing on the stated objectives in each area. We will also emphasize how our Purpose Statement and Guiding Principles tie in, as well as the faith practices that are our Marks of Discipleship.

And we will even fit in some of the Building Blocks for A Lifetime of Stewardship along the way! This week our area of emphasis in our Mission Plan is:

Community Ministry (Outreach)

Goal: Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church will actively seek and develop community connections with residents, faith communities, schools, and other organizations and will be a resource for community activity. We will do this by:

- Expanding the use of the church building for community activities
- Emphasizing ministries addressing basic needs
- Working collaboratively with neighborhood organizations
- Encouraging members to increase engagement with neighborhood residents and our community

We Bow Our Hearts to You *Prayer in All Its Wondrous Variety and Blessing*

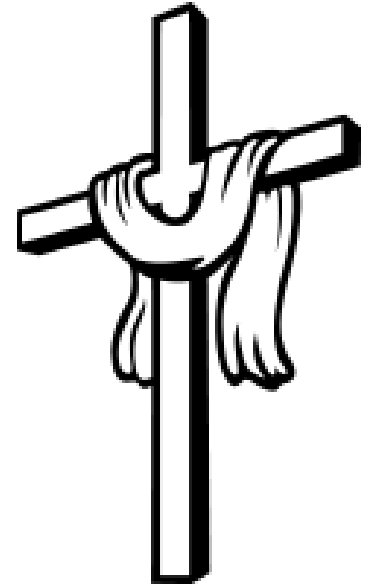
Wednesday, March 4
Intercession

Wednesday, March 11
Praise & Adoration and Thanksgiving

Wednesday, March 18
Contemplation

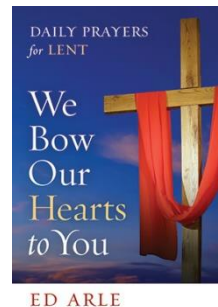
Wednesday, March 25
Listening to God

Wednesday, April 1
Prayer in All Its Wondrous Variety and Blessing



"Come and be present to our gracious God who is already present in us."

All Lenten services begin at 7:30 with a potluck at 6:30.



DEVOTIONAL "We Bow Our Hearts to You"
St. Paul has said, "At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth, and under the earth" (Philippians 2:10). During this season of Lent, join Ed Arle in these Scripture lessons and prayers. As we bow our hearts together, may every word become a blessing as we draw near to the cross and the glory of Jesus on Easter morning. Booklets are available on the Welcome Table in the lobby and in the social hall.