



Worship Service – 9:30
June 14, 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

Compassionate God, you seek us out no matter who we are or what we have done. Not only do you invite us to enjoy the benefits of your reign, you commission us to share the glad tidings of your redemption with others, the kind of people with whom Jesus spent so much time. Sensitize us to the depths of your compassion and strengthen us for effective service in the mission to which you have called us. 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, and would like more information about our ministries, please send Pastor Matt 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 Marks of Discipleship. For prayers that you would like included in Sunday worship, please visit 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 by Keitha and David Snider in celebration of Amanda and Noah Schneider's anniversary.

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 July -September 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 Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Portage Michigan.

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 – Phil Frame

CANTOR – Caitlin McDougall

Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS and with your cards and visits:

Shelby Waters in The Willows at Okemos

Those at home: Mary Ann Allen, Virginia Bauman, Mary Brenke
Crystal Collins, Ernie Hassell, Rhoda Hunter, Kurt Kollmeyer
Marilyn Kostrzewski, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan
Margaret Nelson, Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, Chris Ransom
Bob Robbins, Carol Roush, Jim Schalkhauser, Audrey Skidmore
Don Spencley, Cheryl VanPatten, Matthew White, 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)
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

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Janice Graebner who died Thursday June 11, 2020. May God comfort those who mourn with the promise of eternal life for all those who trust and believe in Jesus Christ.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES! The following are our members who are graduating who are known to the church office; Kyra Pohl from Holt High School and Jeffrey Quinn from Waverly High School. We congratulate them and all others who have completed their courses of study.

BIBLES FOR GRADUATES Now is the time when the congregation would normally be asked to begin signing Bibles for each of our high school graduates: **Kyra Pohl** and **Jeffrey Quinn**. **"IT'S NOT TOO LATE"** to send an email (bethlehemlansing@gmail.com) and write a note to encourage them in their faith. Maybe even list your favorite Bible verses. The emails will be compiled into sheets of paper, printed, and placed in the Bibles. Please send your messages no later than Wednesday, June 10. The bibles will be presented to them virtually on Sunday, June 14, at the 9:30 service of worship, and then delivered to their porches.

TOP TEN FAVORITE HYMNS Do you have a favorite hymn? Do you wonder if it is in the Top Ten Favorite Hymns? Through Sunday, June 21, you will be able to cast your vote. We will sing the Top Ten Hymns beginning on Sunday, June 28 and ending on Sunday, August 30 with the "Number One Most Favorite Hymn". Listen to see if yours is among them. Please vote by emailing Tracy at bethlehemlansing@gmail.com

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Congregational Council has voted to extend the terms of all officers holding current office. More information will be shared.

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 Printable's page on the BELC website for instructions?

MID-MICHIGAN FLOODING The North/West Lower Michigan Synod has six congregations in the affected area. All of the rostered leaders and church buildings are safe. The congregations are assisting their communities in a variety of ways including providing shelter and food assistance.

The North/West Lower Michigan Synod is in contact with the ELCA Lutheran Disaster Response and our synod's Lutheran Disaster Response Coordinator, Rev. David Sprang, Assistant to the Bishop and Director for Evangelical Mission, is working with Bishop Craig A. Satterlee to assess needs and provide assistance. We are focused on providing assistance with immediate needs as well as long term recovery efforts.

Right now, the best way to provide assistance is to donate to the North/West Lower Michigan Synod Disaster Relief Fund. **All funds will be used for direct support of affected residents.** More information can be found on the Mitten Synod website. You may donate through the website or send your offering through BELC. Note that it is for the Mid-Michigan Flood.

"TEMPLE" TALKS As our streaming of services continues for the foreseeable future we want as many people 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/my faith made in my life?
- Why do I belong at Bethlehem?
- *Or a question of your choosing...*

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).

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

Worship Attendance: 149 people viewed the 6/7 worship service, 129 on Facebook Live and 20 on the BELC Website

Needed through June 7 to meet 2020 Budget: \$173,389.87

Received through June 12 to meet 2020 Budget: \$137,098.39

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP The astonishing possible impacts of our gratitude and generosity: In 1847 the Choctaw people sent \$170 to help during the potato famine. Irish donors are citing that gesture as they help two tribes during the Covid-19 pandemic. As of early May Irish donors have contributed \$1.8 million to two tribes dealing with the pandemic. Thank you for your gifts of gratitude. Celebrate the creativity and abundance of God.

WAKING UP WHITE Please join us for a book study on *Waking Up White, and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debby Irving (Elephant Room Press, 2014). I am planning to start Wednesday, June 17 at 6:30. The idea is not that you would have read the whole book cover to cover, but read one section a week, journaling on the questions that the author puts forth. Each section contains around five short chapters with questions after each. This class is about us doing the work of waking up white, and I do hope you'll join us. If you are able to join us on Wednesday evenings, please send me an email at pastormattsmith@gmail.com that you would like to be part of the study so that I can include you in the Zoom link.

TABS, CANS & BOTTLES The BELCW is collecting tabs from aluminum beverage cans to help raise money for the Ronald McDonald House. Drop your tabs in the container on the shelf in the social hall. Also, the Luther League is collecting returnable cans and plastic bottles in the box under the stairs in the social hall to support ongoing activities. Thank you for your support of these two ministries.



THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, June 14 9:30a Worship Facebook Live Stream

Recognition of Graduates

TUESDAY 9:30a Staff Meeting

SUNDAY, June 21 9:30a Worship Facebook Live Stream

Happy Father's Day

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

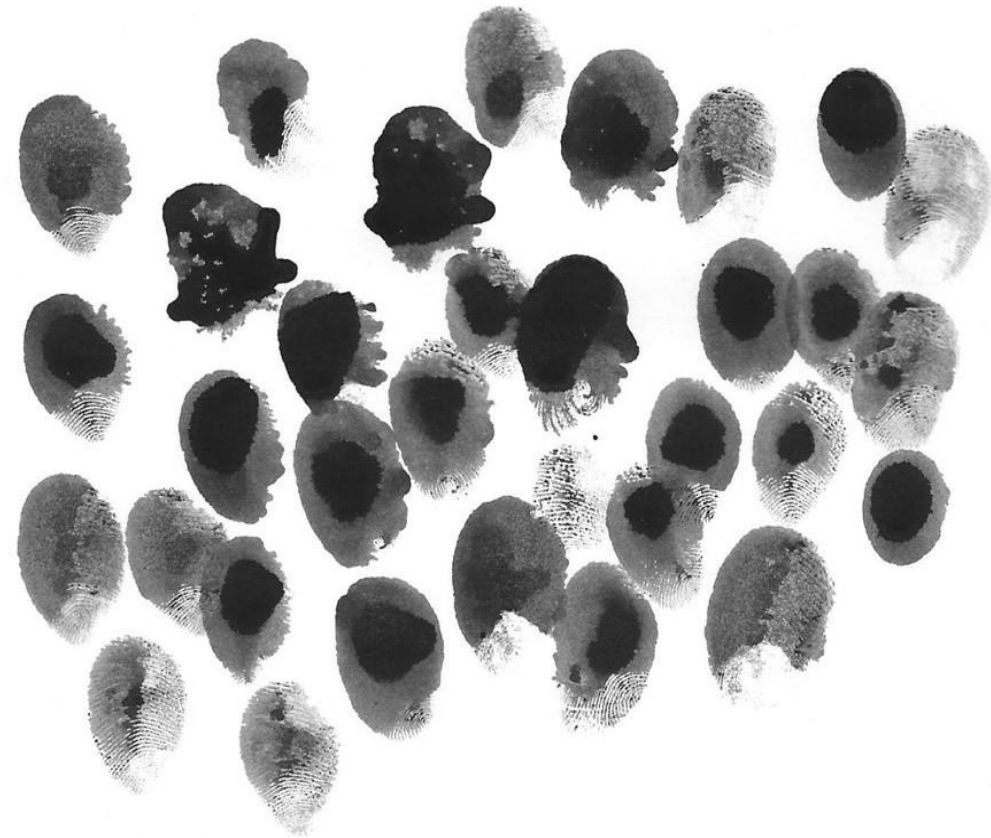
INVITE others to know Him

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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But when he saw the

multitudes

he was moved with

compassion

for them because they were harassed...

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Matthew 9:36a