



Worship Service – 9:30  
February 28, 2021

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

*Dear God of love, hear my prayer. As I prepare for worship this day, help me to remember that I am your child...and that I will always belong to you. May your Word reach my heart. May the gifts of your grace make me strong in faith and ready to serve you. Help me to sort through the confusion of choices that confront me every day, and help me to see what you would have me do. 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 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 by The Ferguson and The Snider families in celebration of Ruth Ferguson's birthday.

**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** January - March 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 Battle Creek Michigan, Rev. Jennifer Michael.

**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

CHILDREN'S SERMON – Pastor Matt Smith

ASSISTING MINISTER – Don Telles

ALTAR GUILD – Kris Burow

SOUND SYSTEM – Dave Holderread, Kevin Peckham

Jon Holderread

# Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...



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

*Shelby Waters* in The Willows at Okemos

*John Nelson* in Grandhaven Living Center-Senior Care in Lansing

**Those at home:** *Mary Ann Allen, Virginia Bauman, Mary Brenke, Lois Cairns, Marv Cole, Crystal Collins, Duane Everett, Ruth Ferguson, Doug Griffin, Jim Hicks, Rhoda Hunter, Kurt Kollmeyer, Marilyn Kostrzewski, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan, Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, John Ransom, Bob Robbins, Carol Roush, Audrey Skidmore, Don Spencley, Cheryl VanPatten, Dorothy Weber, 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. Pray for the Baker Neighborhood Partners and Officer Jake Kocan, LPD Community Police Officer and other first responders.

**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)

**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

SECOND SUNDAY IN  
**LENT**

**LENTEN SERIES** Our theme is 'Lutheran Heroes', using Lent as a time for us for 'hero' training. Midweek services will be Pastor Matt on video with prayer, scripture, a message, and a training practice. Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. on Facebook and available on YouTube.



3/3 – Courage

3/10 – Love

3/17 – Gratitude

3/24 – Curiosity

3/28 – Palm Sunday – Humility

4/1 – Maundy Thursday – Hero Training

4/2 – Good Friday – Wisdom

Please join us on Facebook ([facebook.com/groups/belcworship](https://facebook.com/groups/belcworship)) or on YouTube.com (search Bethlehem Lansing) at 6:30 PM.

**ANTI-RACISM EVENT** On Tuesday, March 23, at 7pm, the Lansing ELCA Churches (St. Stephen, Calvary, Redeemer, Grace, and Bethlehem) will be hosting an anti-racism event via Zoom. Pastor Ken Ponds will join us and give a presentation introducing us to key terms in doing anti-racism work. This presentation will be followed by a time of Q&A. Please follow the link below to register for the event. This event is free. Registration: <https://forms.gle/e34cX7yohFRgBUhA6>

**2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES** If you are mailing in your offering using the new offering envelope, please put the churches zip code on the front, (48910). Thank you and sorry for any inconvenience.

**NEXT SUNDAY IS FOOD BANK SUNDAY** Feeding our community has never been more important as we live through the Covid-19 pandemic and the Governor's stay-at-home order. Although physical donations of canned goods and other non-perishable items are not possible at this time, we can contribute to the Food Pantry through the BELC website. Click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

**ONLINE WORSHIP** For the sake of freeing up time and resources for God's ongoing mission and ministry through Bethlehem, we are making some changes to the worship experience we share on the third Sunday of the month. Starting January 17, the worship we share on Facebook and YouTube will be a spoken worship experience recorded by Pastor Burow, Bishop Satterlee, or one of his Assistants. It will still be uploaded and shared as usual, and there will be Parish Notes for the week. We pray that you will continue to feel the Spirit's presence in our worshipping.

**RETURNING TO CHURCH** Considering the recent acceleration of cases, following DHHS guidelines, Council will consider the possibility of small groups meeting when the test positivity rate drops below 5% for 14 consecutive days and the rate of transmission is below 1 for those same days in Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties. To follow these numbers, visit [covidactnow.org/us/mi/](https://covidactnow.org/us/mi/).

Council is monitoring these numbers daily, and our pandemic response and Reopening Plan is revisited at every council meeting. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Matt (881-9890), Council Chair, Susan Mahoney (944-1068) or Congregational President, Jim Whitman (927-0114).

### Thought for the Week

It has been said that we in the church are making a great mistake by trying to make Christianity popular and pleasant. We have taken the cross away and substituted cushions.

### **ATTENDANCE AND GIVING**

Worship Attendance: 148 people viewed the 2/21/21 worship service on FB and 139 people viewed the Wednesday Lent Service, 123 on FB and 16 on YouTube

***Operating expense through December 31, 2020*** **\$324,838.34**

***Operating income received through December 27, 2020*** **\$293,508.12**  
***(*****\$31,330.72**)****

***After \$38,700 in PPP funds received, net GAIN in 2020*** **\$7,369.28**

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP**

*All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross and follow me.* - Jesus of Nazareth

Being a "Lutheran Hero" means saying, "No," both to saving ourselves and to serving ourselves alone. May our serving and giving be a joyful response to the grace and mercy we so freely receive.

**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.

**THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH**

<b>SUNDAY, Feb. 28</b>	<b>9:45a</b>	<b>Sunday School Zoom</b>
	<b>9:30a</b>	<b>Worship Facebook Live Stream</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>9:30a</b>	<b>Staff Meeting Zoom</b>
	<b>6:15p</b>	<b>T.N.T. Confirmation Class Zoom</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>6:30p</b>	<b>Lent Service (<i>courage</i>) Zoom</b>
<b>SUNDAY, March 7</b>	<b>9:45a</b>	<b>Sunday School Zoom</b>
	<b>9:30a</b>	<b>Worship Facebook Live Stream</b>

**MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP**

Jesus expects me to...

**PRAY** fervently

**WORSHIP** faithfully

**ENCOURAGE** one another

**READ** the Scriptures daily

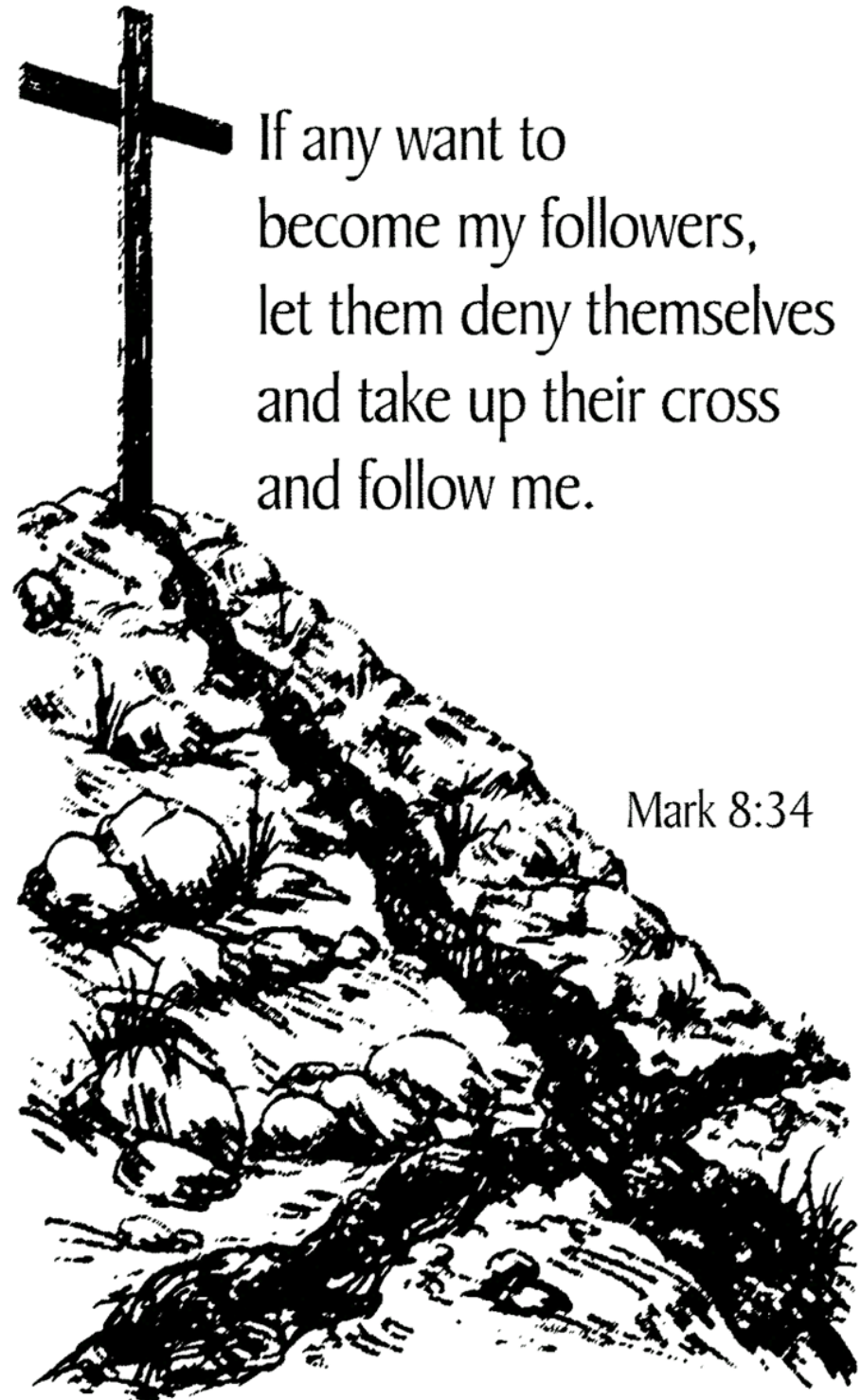
**GIVE** freely of the gifts I have received from God

**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**



If any want to  
become my followers,  
let them deny themselves  
and take up their cross  
and follow me.

Mark 8:34