



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



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

Worship Services – 8:15 & 10:30
January 12, 2020

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Of all the fears that plague me, Lord, the thought of rejection is the worst. The idea that I might be unacceptable weighs terribly on me. Help me to remember my baptism today as I hear of the baptism of Jesus. Show me once again the joy of my acceptance that you have also spoken to me as a beloved child. 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

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Ken & Peggy Teter in celebration of their 49th wedding anniversary.

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 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 – James Schippers

CHOIR DIRECTOR – Sue Nelson

HANDBELL DIRECTOR – James Schippers

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP DIRECTOR – Laurey Wyble

ALTAR GUILD – Kris Burow, Barb Raia, Linda Telles

ASSISTING MINISTER – Susan Mahoney

CHILDREN'S SERMON - Liisa Whitman

ACOLYTE – Amaya Fernandez, Easton Matteson

LAY READER – Mary Jakubiak, Carole Kienke

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS – Mary Jakubiak, Dave Holderread

GREETERS – Dorothy Martin, Susan Mahoney

USHERS – Ron Miller, Ralph Sergent

Otto Kern, Phil Hassler, Joe Skidmore, Michael Kern

SOUND SYSTEM – Dave Holderread, Jon Holderread, Kevin Peckham

Our Thoughts & Prayers are with...



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

Kurt Kollmeyer in McLaren Hospital

Ernie Hassell in Sparrow Hospital

Those at home: *Mary Ann Allen, Virginia Bauman, Mary Brenke, Crystal Collins, Deanna Darling, Rhoda Hunter, Ray Kenger, Marilyn Kostrzewski, Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan, Kevin Meeker, Nancy Miesner, Stephanie Money Penny, Yvonne Nelson, Tharin Palmer, Chris Ransom, Bob Robbins, Carol Roush, Paul Schmidt, 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)

Jim Church – U.S. Navy (Ron & Diane Miller's nephew)

Darian Doan – U.S. Army (Marv & Laura Halbakken's nephew)

Ty Doan – U.S. Army (Marv & Laura Halbakken's nephew)

Carson Kosloski – U.S. Marines (Robin & 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 Ben & Deanna Darling)

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.

PARISH NOTES

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Donna Clarizio, who died January 2, 2020. May God comfort those who mourn with the promise of eternal life for all those who trust and believe in Jesus Christ.

BY HOLY BAPTISM Xaviar Alexander White and Addiline Pearl Petersen will be made children of God and heir to all His promises. Xaviar was born on December 22, 2016 and Addiline was born on July 5, 2011. Their parents/guardians are Matt & Susie White. Xaviar's sponsors are Susan Banner & Robert Wing-Proctor and Addiline's sponsors are Robert & Shelia Wing-Proctor. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we welcome Xaviar and Addiline as partners with us in the ministry we have as Christ's people.

NEW MEMBER Today, Barb Goris, Sandy Crambell, and Dale & Sue Meyer will be received into the fellowship of this Christian congregation by affirmation of faith. We welcome them as brothers and sisters in Christ and partners with us in the ministry we have as His people.

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. The offering box used to receive the offerings is called a 'parfleche'. Made of deer or buffalo hide that has been cured, the Lakota people have used parfleches for centuries to transport and keep valuable items secure.

SOUND SYSTEM TRAINING Basic training for services and funerals will be held today, February 16, and March 8. Training will follow the 10:30 service today. Anyone interested please attend.

BETHLEHEM NIGHT OUT (a.k.a.-BNO) We will be going to Lucky's Steak House in Okemos on January 18 at 6:30 p.m. RSVP to Rebecca Jordan, no later than January 16, at (517) 303-6701 or email rebeccaxjordan@gmail.com. There is more information on our website.

BETHLEHEM BOOK CLUB (a.k.a.-BBC) Our next meeting is Wednesday, January 28th at 6:00 p.m. We'll be discussing "Where the Crawdads Sing" by Delia Owens.

Lansing SAVE December's Advent envelope offerings were designated to Lansing SAVE. Along with our December 29th, 5th Sunday special offering, Bethlehem members contributed \$1753. A total of \$6530 was given for the entire year of 2019. Thank you BELC! We are truly making an impact in these children's lives!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING January 26th after 10:30 worship.

THE 2020 GRID The 2020 January through March “GRID” (for those assisting in worship services) is available on a table in the social hall. If you don’t see your name on one and you know you assist in worship, please pick up an unlabeled copy for your convenience.

STONY LAKE REGISTRATION Elementary, Confirmation and Senior High Camp is the week of July 12–17. Camp registration begins on **January 15, 2020**. You will 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 application on January 15.

JANUARY LIVING LUTHERAN: A good place to begin with this outstanding issue is "Unwrap the Gifts of Discipleship" p.26. Then explore the connections between discipleship and white privilege p.11; the testimony of one whose vocation is theatre, p.18, and an initiative of the Rocky Mountain Synod that seeks to develop excellence in leadership, p.16. There are also glimpses of what it means to be a Lutheran disciple in Russia and how our friendships can enrich discipleship. There is much more to explore so pick up a copy at the Welcome Center at the top of the main stairway.

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:

Youth Ministry

Goal: Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church will nurture, develop, and support all young people, while engaging them in the faith community. We will help young people grow in their discipleship by:

- Providing engaging educational programs
- Participation in camping ministries and synod and national youth gatherings
- Creating family and multigenerational opportunities for young people to engage with others in the faith community

Thought for the Week

As we focus on Youth Ministry today in Living God’s Mission, how are you encouraging our youth to live out their baptismal callings?

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

Worship Attendance: 8:15: 26, 10:30: 80, total: 106

Church School Attendance: 40; adults 24, children 16

Church School Offerings: \$3.00

Needed through Dec. 31 to meet 2019 Budget: \$386,591.00

Received through Dec. 31 to meet 2019 Budget: \$336,872.17

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP Just as Jesus’ baptism begins his public ministry; in baptism we are all called to live God’s mission. May the grace of this life giving water, flow through our serving and giving.

2020 FLOWER CHART Do you have a special date, event or person that you would like to commemorate with altar flowers? Sign up to provide flowers on the 2020 Flower chart, displayed on the lobby wall. Cost per arrangement is \$25.00. Please make checks payable to Kris Burow. Payment does not have to accompany order.

OFFERING ENVELOPES The 2020 envelopes are available in the lobby.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Please have your articles into Tracy by January 15th in Word format. Thank you!

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP January 19, 2020

Assisting Minister – Don Telles

Children’s Sermon – **Need someone**

8:15: Acolyte – Justyn Prowdley

Lay Reader – Vicki Leighton

Communion Assistants – Margaret Sergent, Vicki Leighton

Greeters – Sue & Bob Christiansen

Ushers – Ralph Sergent, Tim Stanley

10:30: Acolyte – Nick Boyd

Lay Reader – Ron Miller

Communion Assistants – Ben Darling, Otto Kern, Judy Pardee

Greeters – Jim & Liisa Whitman

Ushers – Kelly Carpenter, Joanne Dyer, Carol Kinney

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Jan. 12	8:15	Worship – Holy Communion
Mission Sunday	8:30	Junior Choir
New Members	9:15	Sunday School
Baptism	9:30	Adult Forum
	10:30	Worship – Holy Communion
	12:00	Board of Education
MONDAY	6:30	Harmony Circle
	6:30	Stewardship & Finance
TUESDAY	8:00	Family Growth Center
	9:30	Staff Meeting
	6:15	T.N.T. Class and dinner
	6:30	Board of Outreach
WEDNESDAY	8:00	Family Growth Center
Newsletter deadline	9:00	Quilting Day
	6:30	Board of Buildings & Grounds
	7:30	Senior Choir
THURSDAY	8:00	Family Growth Center
	6:30	Congregation Council
FRIDAY	7:00	N.A. Meeting
SATURDAY	6:30	Bethlehem Night Out
SUNDAY, Jan. 19	8:15	Worship – Holy Communion
Baptism	8:30	Junior Choir
	9:15	Sunday School
	9:30	Adult Forum
	10:30	Worship – Holy Communion

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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Jesus, when he was baptized, went up directly from the water:
and behold, the heavens were opened to him.

Matthew 3:16