



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 Service – 9:30 & 11:00
September 20, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by Don Telles in memory of Jan Telles.

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 New Life Lutheran Church in Spruce 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 – Don Telles
CHILDRENS SERMON – Pastor John Burow
CANTOR – Caitlin Schippers

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Come to us, O Lord, in the quiet of this place. Center our hearts and minds on you alone. Open us to the power and presence of your Holy Spirit and teach us that your love, mercy and grace come to us unasked for and free. 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 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.

Our Thoughts &
Prayers
are with...



REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS and with your cards and visits:

Ruth Ferguson & Shelby Waters in The Willows at Okemos

Chris Ransom in McLaren Hospital

Rhoda Hunter in Holt Senior Care and Rehab Center

Those at home: *Mary Ann Allen, Virginia Bauman, Mary Brenke
Marv Cole, Crystal Collins, Doug Griffin, Ernie Hassell, Jim Hicks
Carole Kienke, Kurt Kollmeyer, Marilyn Kostrzewski
Michael Mahoney, Linda McClellan, Teri Meeker, 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

SUNDAY OUTSIDE WORSHIP As is true with most of our 'returns
to normal', this is a hybrid of safe social distancing under a tent, as well
as distancing by remaining in your vehicle. Our plan is to distribute
pre-packaged communion elements, having those who wish to be
outdoors bring chairs, using the FM broadcast for those who wish to
stay safely in their cars. The recorded songs will be played, the readings
shared, the sermon presented, and Holy Communion observed. Entrance
to the church building is not possible due to the current pandemic.

NEW/USED ORGAN! Confident that we WILL worship together in
person, using monies approved by the Memorial Fund, Bethlehem
purchased a used Allen Organ at auction for \$1,900.00. This is a great
replacement for our current Conn Organ from the 1950s that is on its
last breaths. New, a comparable organ would have cost Bethlehem \$30-
50,000. The purchase includes a speaker system that should work well
in our sanctuary. There will be some additional moving, installation,
and tuning costs. It is in excellent working condition from the mid-
eighties. What a wonderful addition this will be for our music ministry.
The new organ was delivered and the old removed on Friday.
Installation and tuning will occur when the contractor can schedule the
work. So excited for our new and improved sound!

BOOK STUDY The new book for our Racial Justice book study via
Zoom is *So you want to talk about race* by Ijeoma Oluo (Seal Press,
2019). The book is widely available. It is written in a conversational
style that will help us answer the difficult questions as we continue to
develop our antiracist selves. We will look at questions such as, 'What
is Racism?', 'Is police brutality really about race?', 'What is the school-
to-prison pipeline?', 'Why can't I say the 'N' word?', and much, much
more (including planning for practical steps that we can all take). The
study started Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30 pm. Please email me if
you would like to join the study at pastormattsmith@gmail.com so that
you can be included in the Zoom invite on Wednesdays.

“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/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).

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.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Lutheran Disaster Response brings God’s hope, healing, and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need.

- [U.S. Wildfires](#)
- [Hurricane Response](#)
- [U.S. Severe Storms](#)
- [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\)](#)
- [U.S. Tornadoes](#)
- [U.S. Flooding](#)
- [South Sudan Relief](#)
- [Middle East and Europe Refugee Crisis](#)
- [AMMPARO: Protecting Migrant Minors](#)

Thought for the Week

Most important, live together in a manner worthy of Christ’s gospel. ~ Philippians 1:27a CEB

ATTENDANCE AND GIVING

Worship Attendance: 120 people viewed the 9/13 worship service, 95 on Facebook Live and 20 on YouTube. Unofficial count at Outdoor Worship was 50.

Needed through September 6 to meet 2020 Budget: \$271,392.84

Received through September 11 to meet 2020 Budget: \$203,938.43

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP In today’s parable the first workers feel cheated because they did not receive extra for working the full day. What if their (and our) great blessing is to participate with God in bringing life to the world? Might we rejoice in every opportunity have each day filled with meaningful labor in God’s mission field?

LWR QUILTS AND KITS We learned that in addition to the devastating loss of life, injuries and widespread damage caused by the Beirut explosion, three containers of LWR Quilts and Kits amounting to more than 47,000 items were also destroyed. These items were at the port of Beirut, on their way to families hit hard by the increasingly dire economic situation in Lebanon, including refugee families who fled conflict in Syria.

Your gift to our **World of Good Emergency Response Fund** will do so much. You will provide food and shelter for desperate families in Beirut and get quilts and kits into the hands that need them in Lebanon. This is a difficult time in the world, but God’s love is faithful and so are you. Please give your best gift today, so that we can work to make sure your love reaches every neighbor. Click [HERE](#) to make your monetary contribution.

THIS WEEK AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, Sept. 20 9:30a Worship Facebook Live Stream
11:00a **Outdoor Worship in the Parking Lot**
MONDAY 6:30a BELCW Zoom Bible Study
TUESDAY 9:30a Staff Meeting Zoom
6:30p Sunday School Teachers Zoom Mtg
WEDNESDAY 6:30p “So you want to talk about race”
Zoom Bible Study
SUNDAY, Sept. 27 9:30a Worship Facebook Live Stream
11:00a **Outdoor Worship in the Parking Lot**

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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Matthew 20:11-12