

North/West Lower Michigan Synod ELCA

Proclaiming Christ and prayerfully participating in Jesus' own work of reconciling the world to God's very self!



We are the North/West Lower Michigan Synod. As one of the 65 synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, we work to support the congregations and pastors across our geographic region.

In supporting congregations, the Synod provides resources for candidates for rostered leadership, mission, outreach, renewal, youth, faith formation, outdoor ministry, social ministry, worship, public engagement, global mission, and much more.

As part of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, your congregation is part of nearly 3.3 million people in more than 8,900 worshiping communities across the 50 states and in the Caribbean region that form the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. You are also part of the Lutheran World Federation, which has 145 national church bodies in 72 countries with over 72 million members. Together we are the Church and many expressions of it.

Connect with the North/West Lower Michigan Synod!

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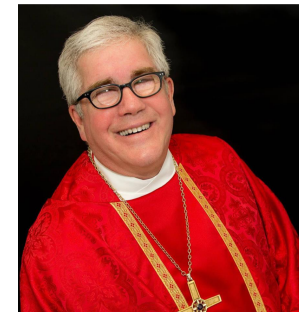
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The Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee. Ph.D., Bishop

Bishop Satterlee finds visiting the congregations of our synod to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments a great joy and Bishop Satterlee and his wife Cathy are excited to be with us today for worship!



Ordained in 1987, Bishop Satterlee has served congregations in Upstate New York and Michigan. Prior to being elected Bishop, he served as Professor of Homiletics (preaching) at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Dean of the ACTS Doctor of Ministry in Preaching Program and adjunct professor in the Department of Theology at The University of Notre Dame. Learn more at <https://craigasatterlee.com>.

When they arrive, Bishop Satterlee and Cathy will want to settle in and see the worship space. Since the bishop is focused on worship and concentrating on the sermon, conversations on other matters are best had after the service. Bishop Satterlee either holds a forum as part of his visit or is around after the service to meet people and answer questions informally. During worship, Cathy does her best to be available to the bishop if needed.

Bishop Satterlee is legally blind and generally leads worship from memory. Memorizing is a prayerful and time-consuming discipline for him. Bishop Satterlee invites the assembly to put down their bulletins and watch and listen to the service. When his words differ from what is printed, Bishop Satterlee's are the "right" words. In fact, since he has a reservoir of liturgical texts in his head and at his disposal, Bishop Satterlee has been known to spontaneously, yet intentionally, change the liturgy.

In keeping with *The Use of the Means of Grace*, Bishop Satterlee's default practice is to commune baptized children. Children and adults who receive a blessing can aid him by folding their arms across their chests when they come forward.

Bishop Satterlee genuinely desires to meet you. Please understand that he cannot recognize people by sight and sometimes by voice. When you greet Bishop Satterlee, it is best to remind him of your name. Although we call this "The Bishop's Visit," Bishop Satterlee is our synod's pastor and he and Cathy are among us as partners in the gospel and siblings in Christ. Please welcome them!