



24th Sunday
After Pentecost

NOVEMBER 15, 2020

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
14531 Old Olga Road
Fort Myers, FL**

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Sunday School & Bible Class: 11:30 AM

Church Office: (239) 694-3878

E-Mail: bethlehemlc@gmail.com

Rev. Karl P. Glander, Pastor

Pastor's Cell Phone: (239) 293-1489

Pastor's E-Mail Address:

pastorkarlglander@gmail.com

Linda Kirsch, Church Secretary

Jesus' parable of the talents makes a strong case for every Christian to have a calling, to use one's gifts and passions to serve the church and the world. Make a list of how to use your gifts and talents to serve the church and world around you. A talent in Jesus' day was money. Jesus tells a story about three servants. One hid his money and never used it. In our day, we think of a talent as a natural ability to be good at something. If we are good at something, we should not hide our talent but use it to the best of our ability. Drawing,

singing, and dancing are a few talents. Think of what talent(s) you have and in what ways you can tell others about Jesus by using that talent. Each day this week choose one talent to use and say this prayer: Dear God, help me to use my talents, whether big or small, so that others know you.

Amen.



**IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU IN WORSHIP
WITH US TODAY!**

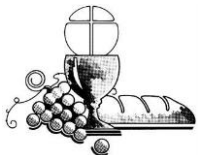
Here at Bethlehem Lutheran we believe in the teachings of the Bible as taught by Jesus and the apostles and strive to live our lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all fellow sinners who live together in the mercy and grace of Jesus. Jesus is the heart and center of all that we say and do as we serve Him and live in Christian love with one another.

If you would like to learn more about this church, or are looking for a church family, please talk to our pastor or one of the ushers or elders. They would be happy to talk with you! Regardless of whether you join or not, we welcome you and your family to worship with us any time!

Should you have something we could privately pray about for you this week, we invite you to let

our pastor or one of our members know so we can seek the Lord's face together.

Come visit us again sometime soon and may the Lord richly bless you!



ATTENDING COMMUNION AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN

The Lord's Supper was established as a meal of fellowship and confession. In this meal, we confess together our one faith in Christ and our Confessions, especially the doctrine set forth in Luther's Small Catechism. Therefore, those who are not one in membership in The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod are asked to speak with the pastor or one of the elders prior to approaching the altar. Children who are not yet confirmed are invited to come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.

For those with medical or personal reasons to abstain from alcohol, individual cups at the center of the trays contain white grape juice.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER **PENTECOST**

November 15, 2020

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

660 STAND UP, STAND UP FOR JESUS (Stanzas 1, 4)

- 1 Stand up, stand up for Jesus,
Ye soldiers of the cross.
Lift high His royal banner;
It must not suffer loss.
From vict'ry unto vict'ry
His army He shall lead
Till ev'ry foe is vanquished,
And Christ is Lord indeed.
- 4 Stand up, stand up for Jesus;
The strife will not be long;
This day the din of battle,
The next the victor's song.
The soldiers, overcoming,
Their crown of life shall see
And with the King of Glory
Shall reign eternally.

(please rise)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

PIn the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CAmen.

PIf we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

CBut if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

PLet us then confess our sins to God our Father.

CMost merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve

Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

(please be seated)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 90:1–12

Book Four

From Everlasting to Everlasting

P Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

C Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the
world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

P You return man to dust
and say, “Return, O children of man!”

C For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.

P You sweep them away as with a flood;
they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning:

C in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

P For we are brought to an end by your anger;
by your wrath we are dismayed.

C You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.

P For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

C The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

P Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?

C So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(please rise)

KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation
let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

♪ THIS IS THE FEAST ♪

C This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING Zephaniah 1:7–16

The Day of the LORD Is Near

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.

⁸And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—

“I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

⁹On that day I will punish

everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house

with violence and fraud.

¹⁰“On that day,” declares the LORD,
“a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.

¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
‘The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do ill.’

¹³Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.”

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.

¹⁵A day of wrath is that day,

a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

The Day of the Lord

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others

do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(please rise)

♪ ALLELUIA AND VERSE ♪

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

PThe Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

CGlory to You, O Lord.

The Parable of the Talents

¹⁴[Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And he

also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

CPraise to You, O Christ.

(please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

655 LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

SERMON

"find Peace in the Cross"

. . . Pastor Karl

(please rise)

NICENE CREED

CI believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation
came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of
the virgin Mary

and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under
Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried.

And the third day He rose again
according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to
judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son,
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and
apostolic Church,

I acknowledge one Baptism for the
remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life ✝ of the world to come.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in Your mercy

C Hear our prayer.

(please be seated)

OFFERING

□ OFFERTORY RESPONSE □

805 PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

△ 1 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

♪ SANCTUS ♪

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone,

O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

PO Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

♪LORD'S PRAYER♪

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
Forever. Amen.

PThe peace of the Lord be with you always.

CAmen.

♪ AGNUS DEI ♪

CLamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

784 TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.

4 Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose,
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.

628 YOUR TABLE I APPROACH

- 1 Your table I approach;
Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Let not an unrepentant heart
Prove hurtful to me there.
- 2 Lord, I confess my sins
And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find
Forgiveness at Your hands.
- 3 Your body and Your blood,
Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table, Lord,
In blest reality.
- 4 Search not how this takes place,
This wondrous mystery;

God can accomplish vastly more
Than what we think could be.

5 O grant, most blessed Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.

6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

(please rise)

♪ THANK THE LORD ♪

☐ Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell
ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly
bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His
people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia,
alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(please be seated)

CLOSING HYMN

806 GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

1 Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given

Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say “I am strong,”

Let the poor say “I am rich,”

Because of what the Lord has done for us.

And now let the weak say “I am strong,”

Let the poor say “I am rich,”

Because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks, give thanks.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE



Rev. Karl P. Glander
Organist: Holly Bell
Elders: Edison Johnson
Altar Guild: Karen Johnson, Betty Willis
Ushers: Bob Jurs, Paul Rugenstein
Reader: Pam Rugenstein
Acolyte: Jake Stecklein

Birthday Greetings!! 11/15: Lester Bradtmiller

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving
Offerings: \$5807
Expenses: \$9979

Weekly Attendance
Worship Service - 45
Adult Bible Class - 20
Sunday School -



The Flowers at our altar this morning was given to Glory of God by Bethlehem Lutheran

SPECIAL NEWS & NOTES



Today,
November
Bible class and
11:30 a.m.



Sunday,
15th, 2020 adult
Sunday school at



Today, Sunday, November 15th, 2020

Church council will meet at 12:30 p.m.



Wednesday Bible study in the fellowship hall on Wednesday's, at 10:30 a.m. and also remains on Zoom.



We would like to thank everyone who made donations for our Thanksgiving food baskets. Whether you donated canned goods, turkeys, or money, we truly appreciate your generosity which helped many who are struggling during this holiday season. We will be continuing to collect food items for the Christmas food baskets. Some items needed are box of mashed potatoes, bag of stuffing, cranberry sauce, cake mix, can of frosting, boxes of pudding or Jell-O, boxes of cornbread mix, boxes of macaroni and cheese, can of sweet potatoes or yams, gravy, jars of peanut butter & jelly,

packages of ramen noodles, rice & dry beans, pasta & canned sauce, canned soup, canned tuna or spam, canned pork & beans or chili. canned vegetables or fruit, and boxes of crackers. Thank you for supporting our outreach to feed families in need.

Prayer Focus: Please help us pray for the tangible and evident love of Christ to be made known as these baskets and meals are provided. Please help us pray for a boldness for the giver to share the message of Christ and His great love for us and for the receiver to have open ears to hear it, and an open heart to receive it!



2020 Operation Christmas Child Came to an end!

We would like to thank everyone who helped in spreading joy to children around the world this Christmas. Through your generosity, we collected and delivered 83 gift-filled shoeboxes to children.





Flower Calendar: The 2020 Flower Chart is up in the narthex. The flowers decorating the chancel at Bethlehem are placed there as an act of worship and devotion to glorify God. They are also, an expression of the beauty and goodness of God. Members of the congregation may donate altar flowers as an expression of thanksgiving to God, in remembrance of departed loved one, on the occasion of a special event, such as a baptism, birthday, wedding anniversary, or simply to praise God. If you wish to donate flowers for use on the chancel, the cost is \$40.00 for two vases, if you would like to just purchase 1 vase at \$20.00 that's okay, but please put up there 1 vase and someone can sign up with you for the other. It is also, tax deductible. Please place money in an envelope marked flowers in the offering basket. We have openings for November 29, December 6 & 13.



Thanksgiving Eve Service
Wednesday, November 25th, 2020
at 7:00 P.M.

Giving with a thankful heart blesses both the **giver and the receiver of one's generosity.**



Decorate the Church for Christmas Sunday, November 29th, 2020 right after service. Join in some great fellowship!



Mark your calendars for the upcoming Christmas Services coming up next month.

Christmas Eve Service

Thursday, December 24th at 7:00 P.M.

Christmas Day Service

Friday, December 25th at 10:30 A.M.

New Year's Eve Service

Thursday, December 31st at 7:00 P.M.



At Christmas, we decorate the church in celebration of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you would like to present a poinsettia in honor, memory, or celebration of a person or event, please fill out this form and place it, with payment, in the offering plate. Each poinsettia costs \$7.00. All poinsettia donations will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve Worship Bulletin.

_____ Poinsettia @ \$7.00 each = _____

Presented by:

Please note whether this/these plant(s) are: In Loving Memory of

In Honor of

In Celebration of

To the Glory of God for

Place this form with proper payment in an envelope and place in offering plate or send to Bethlehem Lutheran Church 14531 Old Olga Road, Fort Myers, FL 33905

“Lord, here I am, send me...”



The members of Bethlehem proudly invite you to join us as we celebrate the Installation of Pastor Karl P. Glander. We will celebrate this blessed occasion through worship and with God’s Word. Your presence will make this event a memorable experience for Rev. Karl P. Glander and his wife Ginny and family.

Sunday, November 22nd at 4:00 P.M.

at Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Reception will be held immediately following the service.