



**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

In 1 Corinthians 8, it was not good enough that people had the right information, even the right understanding of the Christian faith. They needed to act out of love because "Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up." Think of someone with whom you have differing opinions. Pray that you may be able to see beyond your differences and reach out to the other person with a spirit of love and a listening ear.

February 2 is the Church festival day for the "Presentation of the Lord." The festival recalls that forty days after his birth, Jesus was presented at the temple in Jerusalem. This festival is also known as "Candlemas" because of the tradition of blessing candles for use throughout the coming year. This is associated with Simeon's words about Jesus being "a light to reveal God to the nations." Choose a new candle to light and use this year as part of your devotions.

Then end with this prayer: **Lord God, thank you for giving us Jesus as a bright light in our lives. Bless us as we gather around this candle this year. May it remind us that Jesus is with us. 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!

## **FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

*January 31, 2021*

### **PRELUDE**

### **✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠**

## HYMN OF INVOCATION

### 528 OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING

(Stanzas 1–3)

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of His grace!
- 2 My gracious Master and my God,  
Assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad,  
The honors of Thy name.
- 3 Jesus! The name that charms our fears,  
That bids our sorrows cease;  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears,  
'Tis life and health and peace.

*(please rise)*

#### **+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

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

**C** **But 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.)*

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most 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 111*

**Great Are the LORD's Works**

**P** Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**C** **Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.**

**P** Full of splendor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

**C** **He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

**P** He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

**C** **He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

**P** The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy;

**C** **they are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

**P** He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name!

**C** **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever!**

*(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.

### **♪ GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ♪**

**C1** To God on high be glory  
And peace to all the earth;  
Goodwill from God in heaven  
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!  
We praise and bless You, Father;  
Your holy name, we sing—  
Our thanks for Your great glory,  
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

**2** To You, O sole-begotten,  
The Father's Son, we pray;  
O Lamb of God, our Savior,  
You take our sins away.  
Have mercy on us, Jesus;  
Receive our heartfelt cry,  
Where You in pow'r are seated  
At God's right hand on high—

**3** For You alone are holy;  
You only are the Lord.  
Forever and forever,  
Be worshiped and adored;  
You with the Holy Spirit  
Alone are Lord Most High,  
In God the Father's glory.  
"Amen!" our glad reply.

### **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all

temptations; 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)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Deuteronomy 18:15–20*

**A New Prophet like Moses**

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. <sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE**

*1 Corinthians 8:1–13*

**Food Offered to Idols**

<sup>1</sup>Concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

<sup>4</sup>Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”— <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

**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.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Mark 1:21–28*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

### **Jesus Heals a Man with an Unclean Spirit**

<sup>21</sup>They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(please be seated)*

## SERMON HYMN

### **528 OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING**

*(Stanzas 4–7)*

- 4** He breaks the pow’r of canceled sin;  
He sets the pris’ner free.  
His blood can make the foulest clean;  
His blood avails for me.
- 5** Look unto Him, ye nations; own  
Your God, ye fallen race.  
Look and be saved through faith alone,  
Be justified by grace.
- 6** See all your sins on Jesus laid;  
The Lamb of God was slain.  
His soul was once an off’ring made  
For ev’ry soul of man.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love  
Be now and ever giv'n  
By saints below and saints above,  
The Church in earth and heav'n.

**SERMON**      **"We Have HOPE!"**      . . . Pastor Karl

*(please rise)*

**NICENE CREED**

**☩** I 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.

**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 trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☉ Amen.

*(please be seated)*

**CLOSING HYMN**

**770 WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS**

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
All our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
Oh, what needless pain we bear—  
All because we do not carry  
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

- 2** Have we trials and temptations?  
 Is there trouble anywhere?  
 We should never be discouraged—  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Can we find a friend so faithful  
 Who will all our sorrows share?  
 Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3** Are we weak and heavy laden,  
 Cumbered with a load of care?  
 Precious Savior, still our refuge—  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
 Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
 In His arms He'll take and shield thee;  
 Thou wilt find a solace there.

**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**

**Birthday Greetings!!** 1/31: Linda Hedrick, 2/3: Al Vine

**Anniversary Greetings!!** 2/2: Lori & Chris Jensen (36yrs.)

***Stewardship & Attendance***

**Monthly Giving**

Offerings: \$11,801  
 Expenses: \$9,695

**Weekly Attendance**

Worship Service – 51  
 Adult Bible Class – 20  
 Confirmation – 3



**The Flowers** at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* by Chip Rinehart for His many blessings.



Rev. Karl P. Glander  
 Organist: Holly Bell