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

To care for someone is to listen to them as Samuel listened to God when God called out to him. Is there someone who could use your attentive listening this week?

Psalm 139 is a beautiful and reflective psalm. Read Psalm 139:1-6 this week using a meditational tradition called *Lectio Divina*. Read it once slowly and pause for reflection. Read it again and pick out a word or phrase that stands out for you. Pause, then read it one last time and wonder how the verses can guide your life this week. Conclude by praying the Lord's Prayer.

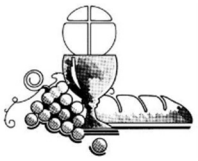
IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU IN WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!

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.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

January 17, 2021

PRELUDE

✢ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✢

HYMN OF INVOCATION

394 SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE

(Stanzas 1–2, 5)

1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem
In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man-made manifest.

2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest
In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in pow'r divine,
Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man-made manifest.

5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,
Present in Thy holy Word—
Grace to imitate Thee now
And be pure, as pure art Thou;

That we might become like Thee
At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God in man-made manifest.

(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 139:1–10*

Search Me, O God, and Know My Heart

℗ O LORD, you have searched me and known me!

ℂ You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.

℗ You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.

ℂ Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.

℗ You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

ℂ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.

℗ Where shall I go from your Spirit?
Or where shall I flee from your presence?

C If I ascend to heaven, you are there!
If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

P If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,

C even there your hand shall lead me,
and your right hand shall hold me.

(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 everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; 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 *1 Samuel 3:1–20*

The LORD Calls Samuel

1 The young man Samuel was ministering to the
LORD under Eli. And the word of the LORD was rare
in those days; there was no frequent vision.
2 At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to
grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down
in his own place. 3 The lamp of God had not yet
gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the
temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was.
4 Then the LORD called Samuel, and he said,
"Here I am!" 5 and ran to Eli and said, "Here I am,
for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie
down again." So he went and lay down.
6 And the LORD called again, "Samuel!" and
Samuel arose and went to Eli and said, "Here I
am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call,
my son; lie down again." 7 Now Samuel did not yet

know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him.
8 And the LORD called Samuel again the third time. And he arose and went to Eli and said, “Here I am, for you called me.” Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the young man. 9 Therefore Eli said to Samuel, “Go, lie down, and if he calls you, you shall say, ‘Speak, LORD, for your servant hears.’” So Samuel went and lay down in his place.
10 And the LORD came and stood, calling as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel said, “Speak, for your servant hears.” 11 Then the LORD said to Samuel, “Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which the two ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. 12 On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. 13 And I declare to him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. 14 Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli’s house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”

15 Samuel lay until morning; then he opened the
doors of the house of the LORD. And Samuel was
afraid to tell the vision to Eli. 16 But Eli called
Samuel and said, “Samuel, my son.” And he said,
“Here I am.” 17 And Eli said, “What was it that he
told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so
to you and more also if you hide anything from me
of all that he told you.” 18 So Samuel told him
everything and hid nothing from him. And he said,
“It is the LORD. Let him do what seems good to
him.”
19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him
and let none of his words fall to the ground. 20 And
all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that
Samuel was established as a prophet of the LORD.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE *1 Corinthians 6:12–20*

Flee Sexual Immorality

12 “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things
are helpful. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will
not be enslaved by anything. 13 “Food is meant for
the stomach and the stomach for food”—and God

will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. 14And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. 15Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! 16Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two will become one flesh.” 17But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. 18Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. 19Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

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 *John 1:43–51*

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael

43 The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee.
He found Philip and said to him, “Follow me.”
44 Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of
Andrew and Peter. 45 Philip found Nathanael and
said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses
in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of
Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” 46 Nathanael said to
him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”
Philip said to him, “Come and see.” 47 Jesus saw
Nathanael coming toward him and said of him,

“Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!” 48Nathanael said to him, “How do you know me?” Jesus answered him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” 49Nathanael answered him, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” 50Jesus answered him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” 51And he said to him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

411 I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.
The star of my life is Jesus. **Refrain**

ref In Him there is no darkness at all.
The night and the day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God.
I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,
And show me the way to the Father. **Refrain**

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race,
We shall know the joy of Jesus. **Refrain**

SERMON **"Not All Beneficial"** . . . Pastor Karl

(please rise)

NICENE CREED

C 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.

+ 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, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. 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.**

P O 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

C 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.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

♫AGNUS DEI♫

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

(please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

392 GOD LOVES ME DEARLY

1 God loves me dearly,
Grants me salvation,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me. **Refrain**

ref Therefore I'll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.

2 I was in slav'ry,
Sin, death, and darkness;
God's love was working
To make me free. **Refrain**

ref Therefore I'll say again:
God loves me dearly,
God loves me dearly,
Loves even me.

3 He sent forth Jesus,
My dear Redeemer,
He sent forth Jesus
And set me free. **Refrain**

4 Jesus, my Savior,
Himself did offer;
Jesus, my Savior,
Paid all I owed. **Refrain**

5 Now I will praise You,
O Love Eternal;
Now I will praise You
All my life long. **Refrain**

395 O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT

1 O Morning Star, how fair and bright!
You shine with God's own truth and light,
Aglow with grace and mercy!
Of Jacob's race, King David's son,
Our Lord and master, You have won
Our hearts to serve You only!
Lowly, holy!
Great and glorious,
All victorious,
Rich in blessing!
Rule and might o'er all possessing!

2 Come, heav'nly Bridegroom, Light divine,
And deep within our hearts now shine;
There light a flame undying!
In Your one body let us be
As living branches of a tree,
Your life our lives supplying.
Now, though daily
Earth's deep sadness
May perplex us

And distress us,
Yet with heav'nly joy You bless us.

3 Lord, when You look on us in love,
At once there falls from God above
A ray of purest pleasure.
Your Word and Spirit, flesh and blood
Refresh our souls with heav'nly food.
You are our dearest treasure!
Let Your mercy
Warm and cheer us!
O draw near us!
For You teach us
God's own love through You has reached us.

4 Almighty Father, in Your Son
You loved us when not yet begun
Was this old earth's foundation!
Your Son has ransomed us in love
To live in Him here and above:
This is Your great salvation.
Alleluia!
Christ the living,
To us giving

Life forever,
Keeps us Yours and fails us never!

5 O let the harps break forth in sound!
Our joy be all with music crowned,
Our voices gladly blending!
For Christ goes with us all the way—
Today, tomorrow, ev'ry day!
His love is never ending!
Sing out! Ring out!
Jubilation!
Exultation!
Tell the story!
Great is He, the King of Glory!

6 What joy to know, when life is past,
The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning!
He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place
Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen!
Come, Lord Jesus!
Crown of gladness!

We are yearning
For the day of Your returning!

(please rise)

♫THANK THE LORD♫

C 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

895 NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD

1 Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
In whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blest us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.

2 Oh, may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessèd peace to cheer us
And keep us in His grace
And guide us when perplexed

And free us from all ills
In this world and the next!

△ **3** All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

BENEDICTION

℗ 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.
℃ **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

This Week's Calendar

TODAY – JANUARY 17, 2021
10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class & Sunday school

TODAY, JANUARY 17, 2021 Church council will meet at 12:30 p.m., right after Adult Bible class.

WEDNESDAY – JANUARY 20, 2021
10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Class

SPECIAL NEWS & NOTES

Sunday, January 31st, 2021 Each board will present it's planned programs and activities for the year.

Flower Calendar: The 2021 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.

Your **offering envelopes** have arrived and are on the table in the narthex, please pick them up.

LWML will be selling plants $15.00 each to raise money for mission grants. Will be selling them February 7th through February 14th. Next meeting is February 1st at Caloosa Grill in River Hall at 12:00 p.m. All ladies are welcome.

Volunteer Sign Up: People are needed every Sunday to make our worship special. Please

consider helping in one or more ways to make others feel welcome at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Please sign up in the fellowship hall if you would like to serve the Lord!

Refreshments were provided by the Betty Willis. Thank you!

Birthday Greetings!! 1/20: Linda Kirsch. 1/22: Ann Gallipo

Anniversary Greetings!! 1/17: Debbie & Frank Jackow *(45 yrs)*, 1/22: Gale & Melvin Smith *(10 yrs)*

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving	**Weekly Attendance**
Offerings: $11,801	Worship Service – 54
Expenses: $9,695	Adult Bible Class - 19
	Confirmation – 3

The Flowers at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* by Pam and Paul Rugenstein.

Prayer Chain: Life presents challenges to all of us, but sometimes those challenges can feel like it's just too much. If you are experiencing situations, whether physical, emotional, or spiritual, you may give your prayer requests to Linda Kirsch 239-693-5026 or e-mail: jlkirsch3@comcast.net or call or email Linda if you would like to become a part of our Prayer chain. "Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy."

Please continue to remember Jan who is in the hospital, you can send cards and letters to him. Address below:

Select Specialty Hospital
C/O Jan Larson
Room #320
3050 Champion Ring Rd, Fort Myers, FL 33905

Rev. Karl P. Glander
Organist: Holly Bell
Elder: Gary Lohr
Altar Guild: Karen Johnson, Betty Willis
Ushers: Darrell Erdman, Bob Jurs
Reader: Pam Rugenstein
Acolyte: Jase Albert