

Fifth Sunday In
Lent



Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

14531 Old Olga Road
Fort Myers, FL

March 21, 2021

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

14531 Old Olga Road S.E.

Ft Myers, FL 33905

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Sunday School & Bible Class: 11:30 AM

Church Office: **(239) 694-3878**

bethlehemlutheranfortmyers.org

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

Psalm 51 is a prayer for cleansing and pardon. Christian prison ministries reach out to inmates with the love and hope of Jesus Christ. There are many who care for the children and families of prisoners and lead Bible studies and prayer with the prisoners. Pray for those who work with inmates and their families this week.

This is our fifth week suggesting the discipline of using the *Daily Bible Readings*. At the core of new beginnings for Christians is the work of God revealed from the cross and in the Bible. Begin each day's reading by reciting Psalm 51:10: *"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me."* Say the *Prayer for the Week* after each reading, add your own prayers, and end by saying: **Remember that you are God's, and to God you shall return.**



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

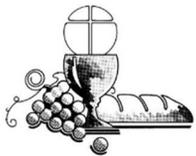
Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, we believe in the teachings of the Bible as taught by Jesus and the apostles and strive to live our lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all fellow sinners who live together in the mercy and grace of Jesus. Jesus is the heart and center of all that we say 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! Please sign our guest register in the lobby and fill out the Communication Card in the bulletin and place in the offering plate in the Narthex. Please include your local contact information and email. Members, please fill in your name for attendance. Thank you!

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.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 21, 2021

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

392 GOD LOVES ME DEARLY

(Stanzas 1, ref, 2–3)

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**

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

(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.

C**But if we confess our sins, God, who is
faithful and just, will forgive our sins and
cleans 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.

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.

☐ 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.

☐ Amen.

(please be seated)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 119:9–16

BETH

P How can a young man keep his way pure?
By guarding it according to your word.

C **With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!**

P I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.

C **Blessèd are you, O LORD;
teach me your statutes!**

P With my lips I declare
all the just decrees of your mouth.

C **In the way of your testimonies I delight
as much as in all riches.**

P I will meditate on your precepts
and fix my eyes on your ways.

C I will delight in your statutes;
I will not forget your word.

(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.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

PThe Lord be with you.

CAnd also with you.

PLet us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

CAmen.

(please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 31:31–34

The New Covenant

³¹“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³²not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they

broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 5:1–10

¹Every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. ³Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. ⁴And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
after the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. ⁸Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. ⁹And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, ¹⁰being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(please rise)

♪ALLELUIA AND VERSE♪ (LENT)

☩ Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and abounding in steadfast love.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 10:32–45

☩ The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.

☩ Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus Foretells His Death a Third Time

³²And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. And taking the twelve again, he began to tell them what was to happen to him, ³³saying, “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise.”

The Request of James and John

³⁵And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.”

³⁶And he said to them, “What do you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”

³⁸Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?” ³⁹And they said to him, “We are able.” And Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.” ⁴¹And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John.

⁴²And Jesus called them to him and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ⁴³But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.

⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

685 LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS

(Stanzas 1–3)

1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father’s bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

SERMON

"God's Love Written On Our Heart"

. . . 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

(please rise)

△ **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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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

COur 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

(please rise)

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C Amen.

♪ NUNC DIMITTIS ♪

☩ Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace;
Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation which
You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry
people:
A light to reveal You to the nations and the
glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to
the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will
be forever. Amen.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

☩ 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.

☩ 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.

☐ Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

This Week's Calendar



TODAY, SUNDAY ~ MARCH 21, 2021

11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class and
Confirmation Class



**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ MARCH 24,
2021 10:30 a.m. Kings that followed Samuel**

SPECIAL NEWS & NOTES



SUNDAY ~ MARCH 28, 2021

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Class and Confirmation
Class



**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ THERE WILL
BE NO BIBLE STUDY, MARCH 31, 2021 at
10:30 a.m.**



THURSDAY ~ APRIL 1ST

Maundy Thursday Service at 7 pm



FRIDAY ~ APRIL 2ND

Good Friday at 7 p.m. Service



SUNDAY ~ APRIL 4TH

Easter Celebration Service at 10:30 a.m.



MONDAY ~ APRIL 5, 2021

Last get together is April 5th at Caloosa Grill in River Hall at 11:00 a.m. All ladies are welcome. Please sign up in fellowship hall if you're attending.



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.



The Flowers at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* by Dennis Hartmann in honor of Sue's birthday on the 25th.



Birthday Greetings!!
3/23: Kay Remmers, 3/25: Sue Hartman,
3/26: Robert Hedrick



Anniversary Greetings!!
3/21: Audrey & Al Vine
3/22: Barbara & Gary Schaeffer (6 yrs.)

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving

Offerings: \$8928

Expenses: \$9080

Weekly Attendance

Worship Service – 48



Air Conditioning Fund:

Air Conditioning Fund: The air conditioning units for the sanctuary were installed about 15 years ago. They have required more frequent

maintenance and repair in the last year. We have begun raising funds to replace these units. The estimated replacement cost is approximately \$25,000. We have raised \$7350 so far. Please label your donations as “A/C Fund “.

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.”



Bertha Bos

Vi Hacker

Harrison and Joyce Kimbrell

Jan and Emy Larson



Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Elder: Paul Rugenstein

Altar Guild: Karen Johnson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Paul Rugenstein, John Wittenberg

Reader: Pam Rugenstein

Acolyte: Jake Stecklein



It is time to order Easter Lilies - If you are interested in having an Easter Lily on the altar this Easter, they are \$8, please fill out this form and place it, with payment, in the offering plate. We need your order by March 28th, 2021.

_____ Easter Lily @ \$8.00 each = _____

Occasion:

Donated by:

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