



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

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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

In Mark 10, the rich man left Jesus grieving because he was attached to his wealth. Money and having possessions can cause us to be selfish and only care for ourselves. Another way to use wealth can be to serve others and show our love for God and all humanity. How can you serve others with your wealth this week?

Hebrews 4:12 says that the word of God is “living and active”. There are many Bible translations. The NRSV (New Revised Standard Version), NIV (New International Version), KJV (King James Version), and CEV (Contemporary English Version) are just a few of many others. During devotions this week, look up the *Daily Bible Readings* using different translations and note what is similar and what is different. Think or talk about how the scripture you read is alive and active in your life.



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!

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 10, 2021

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

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.

(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 90:12–17; antiphon: v. 1

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

C **Return, O LORD! How long?
Have pity on your servants!**

P Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast
love,
that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

C **Make us glad for as many days as you have
afflicted us,
and for as many years as we have seen evil.**

P Let your work be shown to your servants,
and your glorious power to their children.

C **Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon
us,**

**and establish the work of our hands upon us;
yes, establish the work of our hands!**

(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 ♪

**1 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.

Lord Jesus Christ, whose grace always precedes and follows us, help us to forsake all trust in earthly gain and to find in You our heavenly treasure; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Amos 5:6–7, 10–15

⁶Seek the LORD and live,
lest he break out like fire in the house of
Joseph,
and it devour, with none to quench it for Bethel,

⁷O you who turn justice to wormwood
and cast down righteousness to the earth! . . .

¹⁰They hate him who reproves in the gate,
and they abhor him who speaks the truth.

¹¹Therefore because you trample on the poor
and you exact taxes of grain from him,
you have built houses of hewn stone,
but you shall not dwell in them;
you have planted pleasant vineyards,
but you shall not drink their wine.

¹²For I know how many are your transgressions
and how great are your sins—
you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe,
and turn aside the needy in the gate.

¹³Therefore he who is prudent will keep silent in
such a time,
for it is an evil time.

¹⁴Seek good, and not evil,
that you may live;
and so the LORD, the God of hosts, will be with
you,
as you have said.

¹⁵Hate evil, and love good,
and establish justice in the gate;

it may be that the LORD, the God of hosts,
will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 3:12–19

¹²Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴For we share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end. ¹⁵As it is said,

“Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.”

¹⁶For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses?

¹⁷And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who

were disobedient? ¹⁹So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

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 10:17–22

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The Rich Young Man

¹⁷As [Jesus] was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” ¹⁸And Jesus said to him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.

¹⁹You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.’” ²⁰And he said to him, “Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth.” ²¹And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, “You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” ²²Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

CPraise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

850 GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

1 God of grace and God of glory,
On Your people pour Your pow’r;
Crown Your ancient Church’s story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow’r.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

2 Lo, the hosts of evil round us
Scorn the Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

3 Cure Your children's warring madness;
Bend our pride to Your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Your kingdom's goal.

4 Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of Your salvation
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,

Serving You whom we adore,
Serving You whom we adore.

SERMON

"What are you seeking?"

... Pastor Karl

(Please rise)

APOSTLES' CREED

**☐ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the
dead.**

**He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the
Father Almighty.**

From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✝ everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Lord, in Your mercy

C Hear our prayer.

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.**

LORD'S PRAYER

☐ Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

☑ 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.**

(Please be seated)

CLOSING HYMN

809 GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

1 Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail
not;

As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

**ref Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy
faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to
guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,

Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Refrain

**ref Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy
faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

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



Serving the Lord with Gladness

Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Elder: Paul Rugenstein

Altar Guild: Pam Rugenstein, Betty Willis

Ushers: Steve Hempel

Reader: Pam Rugenstein

Acolyte: Jake Stecklein



The Flowers at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* in honor of

Pam Rugenstein's birthday on October 14th, by her husband Paul.



This weeks

BIRTHDAYS

Birthday Greetings!!

10/11: Jase Albert, 10/13: Gary

Dreischerf, 10/14: Pam Rugenstein



Refreshments were provided by the Rugenstein's. Thank you!

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving

Offerings: \$7887

Expenses: \$9496

Weekly Attendance

Worship Service – 39

Bible Class – 17



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 \$13,045. so far. Please label your donations as “A/C Fund “.

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR



**ADULT BIBLE CLASS WILL SUNDAY ~
TODAY, at 11:30 a.m.**



**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ OCTOBER
13, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.**

LOOKING AHEAD



SUNDAY ~ OCTOBER 17, 2021

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship



**ADULT BIBLE CLASS WILL SUNDAY ~
OCTOBER 17, 2021, at 11:30 a.m.**



**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ OCTOBER
20, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.**



**VOTERS' MEETING ~ SUNDAY,
OCTOBER 31, 2021**

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICE



Holiday Food Baskets

This year, as in the past we will provide Holiday food baskets for 60 needy families in our community. We will collect food items, organizing and packing them on December 5th, and then distribute food baskets December 6th to the Buckingham Exceptional Student Center. We are truly blessed to have so many who continue to support feeding the needy and we thank you for your generosity. Suggested

items are canned vegetables, instant/canned/scalloped potatoes, gravy, peanut butter & jellies/jams, pasta/sauce, canned soup, mac & cheese, rice/beans, tuna fish, hot chocolate packets, dessert, puddings, box of crackers, jar of nuts. Were also in need of cash donations for turkeys and hams. So, if you're not able to be here but would like to help please make out a check to Bethlehem and put holiday basket in the memo, it will be very much appreciated. Thank you!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth - we are building shoeboxes again this year. Boxes and instructions are available at church, online at Samaritanspurse.org, or even Hobby Lobby. National collection week is Nov. 15-22. If you'd like to build a box online, please visit samaritanspurse.org/buildonline. Each box requires \$9.00 shipping and handling, but don't let that deter you as LWML is covering that cost whenever needed. Please contact Terri Gerlach with any questions. 239-243-8733.



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.

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
Frederick Dreischerf
Vi Hacker