

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

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

Statistics from the World Health Organization state that there are at least 2.2 billion people globally who are blind or have a vision impairment. At least one million of them could have been prevented. Used eyeglasses can be donated to a variety of organizations to be recycled and distributed to those in need or uninsured. Do you or someone

you know have eyeglasses they no longer use that could be donated to a local organization?

Bartimaeus' plea to Jesus is very close to one of the many historic versions of the Jesus Prayer used for spiritual formation: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner." Pray this prayer daily before reading Psalm 126, a song of joy. Confessing our need for God is freeing, healing, and meant to be filled with joy, yes, leading us even to laughter.



**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!

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST

October 24, 2021

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

BAPTISMAL HYMN

915 TODAY YOUR MERCY CALLS US

1 Today Your mercy calls us
To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass,
Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy
Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us
And make us clean today.

2 Today Your gate is open,
And all who enter in
Shall find a Father's welcome
And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten,
A present joy be giv'n,
A future grace be promised,
A glorious crown in heav'n.

3 Today our Father calls us;
His Holy Spirit waits;
His blessed angels gather
Around the heav'nly gates.
No question will be asked us

How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered,
It is our Father's home.

4 O all-embracing Mercy,
O ever-open Door,
What should we do without You
When heart and eye run o'er?
When all things seem against us,
To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open,
One ear will hear our prayer.

+ HOLY BAPTISM +

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

CAmen.

PDearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last
chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and
on earth has been given to Me. Therefore, go
and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them
in the name of the Father and of the Son and of
the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our
Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is

baptized will be saved.” And the apostle Peter has written, “Baptism now saves you.”

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

(The pastor addresses each candidate:)

P How is this child named?

R **Benjamin Cash Smith**

(Because this child cannot speak for himself the Sponsors Parents and congregation will speak for him.)

P Benjamin Cash Smith, receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✝ forehead and upon your ✝ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.

PHear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, “Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.” And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

PThis is the Word of the Lord.

C**Thanks be to God.**

(The pastor places his hands on the head(s) of the candidate(s), and the congregation joins in praying:)

(If the baptismal party has stood at the entrance of the nave to this point, they now move to the font.)

(please be seated)

(The pastor addresses the candidate(s) and asks the following questions:)

P Benjamin, do you renounce the devil?

R Yes, I renounce him.

P Do you renounce all his works?

R Yes, I renounce them.

P Do you renounce all his ways?

R Yes, I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth?

R Yes, I believe.

P Do you believe 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?

R Yes, I believe.

P Do you 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?

R Yes, I believe.

P Benjamin Cash Smith, do you desire to be
baptized?

R Yes, I do.

*(The pastor pours water three times on the head of each
candidate while saying:)*

P Benjamin Cash Smith, I baptize you in the name
of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy
Spirit.

C Amen.

*(The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly
baptized while saying:)*

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who has given you the new birth of water
and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your
sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝
everlasting.

C Amen.

(The pastor may light a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and give it to the newly baptized while saying:)

P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

(The newly baptized may be welcomed with the following:)

A In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you a member of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our brother in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

C **Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.**

(please rise)

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Benjamin Cash Smith the new birth in Holy Baptism and made him a member of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and an heir of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as he has now become Your child, You would keep him in his baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure he may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

P Peace ✝ be with you.

C Amen.

(All return to their places.)

(Please be seated)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 126

Restore Our Fortunes, O LORD

[P] When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.

[C] Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then they said among the nations,
“The LORD has done great things for them.”

[P] The LORD has done great things for us; we are
glad.

[C] Restore our fortunes, O LORD,
like streams in the Negeb!

[P] Those who sow in tears
shall reap with shouts of joy!

[C] He who goes out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,

**shall come home with shouts of joy,
bringing his sheaves with him.**

(Please rise)

KYRIE

PIn peace let us pray to the Lord.

CLord, have mercy.

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

CLord, have mercy.

PFor 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.

CLord, have mercy.

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

CLord, have mercy.

PHelp, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious
Lord.

CAmen.

♪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.

O God, the helper of all who call on You, have mercy on us and give us eyes of faith to see Your Son that we may follow Him on the way that leads to eternal life; through the same 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 *Jeremiah 31:7–9*

⁷ Thus says the LORD:

"Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,

and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
‘O LORD, save your people,
the remnant of Israel.’

⁸Behold, I will bring them from the north country
and gather them from the farthest parts of the
earth,

among them the blind and the lame,
the pregnant woman and she who is in labor,
together;

a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with pleas for mercy I will lead them back,
I will make them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not
stumble,
for I am a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Hebrews 7:23–28

²³The former priests were many in number,
because they were prevented by death from

continuing in office, ²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever.

²⁵Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. ²⁸For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

[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 10:46–52

PThe Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the tenth chapter.

CGlory to You, O Lord.

Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. And as [Jesus] was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind beggar, the son of Timaeus, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹And Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart. Get up; he is calling you.” ⁵⁰And throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹And Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” And the blind man said to him, “Rabbi, let me recover my sight.” ⁵²And Jesus said to him, “Go your way;

your faith has made you well.” And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.

P This 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

- 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.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;

Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

SERMON **"Discipleship"** . . . *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

[P] Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**[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.**

(Please be seated)

CLOSING HYMN

825 RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE

- 1** Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has
entered
Our human story; God in Him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
With grace unbounded.
- 2** See how He sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
Now are forgiven.
- 3** Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers against the darkness
hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
Of Jesus' glory.

4 Tell how the Father sent His Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
His new creation.

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: Paul Rugenstein

Reader: Pam Rugenstein

Acolyte: Jase Albert



The Flowers at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* in in loving memory of †Derryl Andrews, by Violet Hacker.



This weeks

BIRTHDAYS

Birthday Greetings!!

10/24: Darrell Erdman, 10/25: Violet Hacker, 10/27: Frank Jackow, 10/28: Marty Jurs



Anniversary Greetings!!

10/30: Marty & Bob Jurs (22 yrs.)



Refreshments were provided by Betty Willis. Thank you!

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving

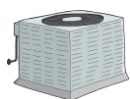
Offerings: \$7887

Expenses: \$9496

Weekly Attendance

Worship Service – 55

Bible Class – 20



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
27, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.**

LOOKING AHEAD



SUNDAY ~ OCTOBER 31, 2021

10:30 a.m. Sunday Worship



VOTERS' MEETING ~ SUNDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2021

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICE



**Ladies Guild Meeting
Monday Nov. 1st, 1:00 PM
All ladies invited! Much**

planning to do for LWML



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ NOVEMBER 3, 2021, at 10:30 a.m.



**No Wednesday Bible study on
November 24th and December 29th.**



Wednesday, November 24th starting at 6:00 p.m.
Celebrate Thanksgiving Eve with us at Bethlehem
Lutheran Church! Thanksgiving Potluck at 6:00
p.m. Followed by a Thanksgiving Eve worship

service with Holy Communion and giving thanks to God our Father for the blessings which we experience in our lives.



Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday, November 24th, 2021

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 28th, 2021 right after service. Join in some great fellowship!



Mark your calendars for the upcoming

Christmas Services coming up next month.

Christmas Eve Service

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

Christmas Day Service

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

New Year's Eve Service

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



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!

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!



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
Vi Hacker



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 \$8.00. All poinsettia donations will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve Worship Bulletin. We need your order by November 28th, 2021.

_____ Poinsettia @ \$8.00 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