

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

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you shepherd someone who needs to feel the love of Jesus? Today is Mother's Day. It is a time to be thankful for the women in our lives who have cared for us and others. Reach out to a woman you know with a special thank you card, with a phone call, or a

visit. Use this prayer: Lord God, thank you for (name). May she know how grateful I am to have her in my life. Bless her this day and each day with your love and care. Amen.

Welcome Nelcome

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!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 8, 2022

PRELUDE

+ ORDER OF WORSHIP +

HYMN OF INVOCATION

711 SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care. In Your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Your fold prepare. Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours. Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.

- We are Yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray. Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear us children when we pray. Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.
- You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be; You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free. Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to You. Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to You.
- **4** Early let us seek Your favor, Early let us do Your will; Blessèd Lord and only Savior,

With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus,
You have loved us, love us still.

(Please rise)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

- PIn the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C**Amen.
- PIf we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 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 selfexamination.)

PLet us then confess our sins to God our Father.

- 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.
- PAlmighty 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.

GAmen.

(Please be seated)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT Psalm 23

The LORD Is My Shepherd

- P The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
- He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.
- P He restores my soul.

 He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
- Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- P You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

(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 wellbeing 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.

JGLORIA IN EXCELSIS J

- 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

- PThe Lord be with you.
- **C**And also with you.
- PLet us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same 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)

FIRST READING

Acts 20:17–35

Paul Speaks to the Ephesian Elders

¹⁷Now from Miletus [Paul] sent to Ephesus and called the elders of the church to come to him. ¹⁸And when they came to him, he said to them: "You yourselves know how I lived among you the whole time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears and with trials that happened to me through the plots of the Jews; ²⁰how I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house, ²¹testifying both to Jews and to Greeks of repentance toward God and of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. ²²And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me. ²⁴But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ²⁵And

now, behold, I know that none of you among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom will see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all of you, ²⁷ for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole counsel of God. ²⁸Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. 33I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. ³⁴You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. 35 In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how

he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- CThanks be to God.

EPISTLE Revelation 7:9–17

A Great Multitude from Every Nation

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you

know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;

the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,

and he will guide them to springs of living water,

and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Ce Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

JALLELUIA AND VERSEJ

CAlleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 10:22-30

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

GGlory to You, O Lord.

I and the Father Are One

²²At that time the Feast of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the colonnade of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." ²⁵Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name bear witness about me, ²⁶but you do not believe because you are not part of my flock. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will

never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand. ³⁰I and the Father are one."

- PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

710 THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'LL NOT WANT

- 1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie In pastures green; He leadeth me The quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul He doth restore again And me to walk doth make Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for His own name's sake.

- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill; For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table Thou hast furnishèd In presence of my foes; My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me; And in God's house forevermore My dwelling place shall be.

SERMON

"Through the Valley to the House"

. . . Karl Glander

(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.

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

JOFFERTORY RESPONSE J

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.

JLORD'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 debts,

as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory Forever. 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

CAmen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE



Serving the Lord with Gladness

Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Elder: Paul Rugenstein

Altar Guild: Sandy Grage, Pam Rugenstein

Ushers: Bob Jurs Reader: Bob Jurs

The Flowers at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* this morning by the members of Bethlehem



Anniversary Greetings!!

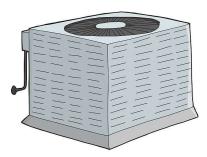
5/12: Joy & Don Kulbacki (50 yrs.)

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving Weekly Attendance

Offerings: \$9,474 Worship Service – 43

Expenses: \$10,583 Bible Class – 16



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 \$23,216. so far. Please label your donations as "A/C Fund".

News & Notes

TODAY ~ MAY 8, 2022, at 11:30 a.m. ~ ADULT BIBLE CLASS

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ MAY 11, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

MOVIE NIGHT ~ MARCH 15, 2022 ~ 6:00 p.m. ~ POPCORN AND ROOTBEER FLOATS WILL BE SERVED STARTING AT 5:00 p.m. COME JOIN IN THE FUN!!



VBS

Vacation Bible School plans have begun. The date is set for July 18th –

22nd. Mark your calendar and start thinking about joining our volunteer staff. Come share God's love with the children at VBS. If you are free and can help in anyway, please contact Sandy at (712)269-7528, thank you.

