



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 show someone God's love?

Psalm 148 calls on us and all of creation to give praise to God. *"Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded, and they were created"* (v. 5). Go for a walk and look around at God's

beautiful creation. When you return draw a picture of your favorite scene or make a list of God's creations you saw while on the walk. Finish by praying: **Dear God, I praise you for _____ . I thank you for _____ . In Jesus name, Amen.**



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

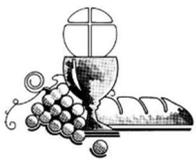
Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, we believe in the teachings of the Bible as taught by Jesus and the apostles and strive to live our lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all fellow sinners who live together in the mercy and grace of Jesus. Jesus is the heart and center of all that we say 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 is celebrated at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not

yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of Bethlehem Lutheran Church LCMS and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are invited to speak with Pastor Karl Glander.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 15, 2022

PRELUDE

✠ **ORDER OF WORSHIP** ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

821 ALLELUIA! SING TO JESUS

1 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.”

2 Alleluia! Not as orphans

Are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! He is near us;
Faith believes, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received Him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget His promise:
"I am with you evermore"?

3 Alleluia! Bread of heaven,

Here on earth our food, our stay;
Alleluia! Here the sinful
Flee to You from day to day.
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

4 Alleluia! King eternal,

Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! Born of Mary,
Earth Your footstool, heav'n Your throne.
As within the veil You entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,

Here on earth both priest and victim
In the eucharistic feast.

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.”

(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.

CBut 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 148

Praise the Name of the LORD

P Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights!

C Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his hosts!

P Praise him, sun and moon,
praise him, all you shining stars!

C Praise him, you highest heavens,
and you waters above the heavens!

P Let them praise the name of the LORD!
For he commanded and they were created.

C And he established them forever and ever;
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

P Praise the LORD from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all deeps,

C fire and hail, snow and mist,
stormy wind fulfilling his word!

P Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars!

C Beasts and all livestock,
creeping things and flying birds!

P Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the earth!

C Young men and maidens together,
old men and children!

P Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for his name alone is exalted;
his majesty is above earth and heaven.

C He has raised up a horn for his people,
praise for all his saints,
for the people of Israel who are near to him.
Praise the LORD!

(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.

O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;

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)

FIRST READING

Acts 11:1–18

Peter Reports to the Church

¹Now the apostles and the brothers who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcision party criticized him, saying, ³“You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” ⁴But Peter began and explained it to them in order: ⁵“I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision, something like a great sheet descending, being let down from heaven by its four corners, and it came down to me. ⁶Looking at it closely, I observed animals and beasts of prey and reptiles and birds of the air. ⁷And I heard a voice saying to me, ‘Rise, Peter; kill and eat.’ ⁸But I said, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing common or unclean has ever entered my

mouth.’ ⁹But the voice answered a second time from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, do not call common.’ ¹⁰This happened three times, and all was drawn up again into heaven. ¹¹And behold, at that very moment three men arrived at the house in which we were, sent to me from Caesarea. ¹²And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. ¹³And he told us how he had seen the angel stand in his house and say, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ ¹⁵As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁷If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” ¹⁸When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, “Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Revelation 21:1–7

The New Heaven and the New Earth

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

⁵And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” ⁶And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the

water of life without payment. ⁷The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.”

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 16:12–22

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹²[Jesus said:] “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority,

but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Your Sorrow Will Turn into Joy

¹⁶“A little while, and you will see me no longer; and again a little while, and you will see me.” ¹⁷So some of his disciples said to one another, “What is this that he says to us, ‘A little while, and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me’; and, ‘because I am going to the Father’?” ¹⁸So they were saying, “What does he mean by ‘a little while’? We do not know what he is talking about.” ¹⁹Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, “Is this what you are asking yourselves, what I meant by saying, ‘A little while and you will not see me, and again a little while and you will see me’? ²⁰Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice. You will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy. ²¹When a woman is giving birth, she has sorrow because her hour has come, but when she has delivered the baby, she no longer

remembers the anguish, for joy that a human being has been born into the world. ²²So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

672 JERUSALEM THE GOLDEN

1 Jerusalem the golden,
 With milk and honey blest—
The promise of salvation,
 The place of peace and rest—
We know not, oh, we know not
 What joys await us there:
The radiancy of glory,
 The bliss beyond compare!

2 Within those walls of Zion
 Sounds forth the joyful song,
As saints join with the angels
 And all the martyr throng.
The Prince is ever with them;
 The daylight is serene;
The city of the blessed
 Shines bright with glorious sheen.

3 Around the throne of David,
 The saints, from care released,
Raise loud their songs of triumph
 To celebrate the feast.
They sing to Christ their leader,
 Who conquered in the fight,
Who won for them forever
 Their gleaming robes of white.

(Please rise)

△ **4** O sweet and blessed country,
 The home of God's elect!
O sweet and blessed country
 That faithful hearts expect!
In mercy, Jesus, bring us
 To that eternal rest

With You and God the Father
And Spirit, ever blest.

SERMON

"A Match Made in Heaven"

. . . 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.

(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.**

(Please rise)

+ 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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen.

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♪

☉ 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

☐ 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.

☩ Amen.

(Please be seated)

618 I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE

(Verses 1,3 and 5)

1 I come, O Savior, to Thy Table,
For weak and weary is my soul;

Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: **(Refrain)**

REFRAIN:

**Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never
For Thou my faithful Shepherd art! **(Refrain)**

5 What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. **(Refrain)**

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.”

DISTRIBUTION

(This is where congregation will take communion)

(Please rise)

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

924 LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING

- 1** Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

- 2** Thanks we give and adoration
For Your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.

Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found.

3 Savior, when Your love shall call us
From our struggling pilgrim way,
Let not fear of death appall us,
Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
Reign with You in endless day.

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: Sandy Grage, Pam Rugenstein

Ushers: Richard Gerlach, Bob Jurs

Reader: Emmy Larson

Acolyte: Jake Stecklein



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



Birthday Greetings!!

5/15: Sam Harrison

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving

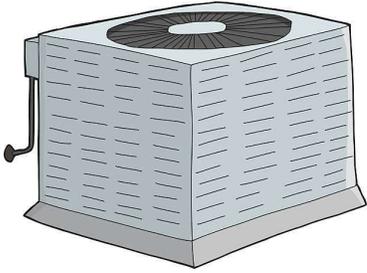
Offerings: \$9,474

Expenses: \$10,583

Weekly Attendance

Worship Service – 43

Bible Class – 11



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 15, 2022, at 11:30 a.m. ~
ADULT BIBLE CLASS**



TODAY, SUNDAY ~ MAY 15, 2022

Church Council will meet today after Bible Class



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



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ MAY 18,
2022, at 10:30 a.m.



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.



Bertha Bos

Vi Hacker

William and Nancy Weyl