



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

Beginning a new year confident in God's care.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this day,
how might you help others enjoy the simple
pleasures of life?

When standing under the night sky and viewing
the moon and the stars as God's creation, we can

feel very small in comparison. Yet Psalm 8 reminds us of our role in caring for all that God has made. As the New Year begins, list ways you have cared for one another and for all creation (birds, bees, fish, plants, trees, etc.) in the past year. Take time to talk about new ways you can be aware of your role to care for God's creation. Finish your time with this blessing: **May the God of all creation guide you to care for the earth and for one another.**



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

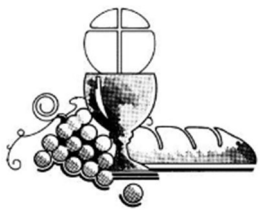
Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, we believe in the teachings of the Bible as taught by Jesus and the apostles and strive to live our lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all fellow sinners who live together in the mercy and grace of Jesus. Jesus is the heart and center of all that we say 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.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

LSB Divine Service, Setting Two
January 1, 2023

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

917 SAVIOR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME WE **RAISE**

1 Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;

Once more we bless Thee ere our worship
cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

2 Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from
shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming
night;
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.

4 Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict
cease,
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.

(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.)

PLet us then confess our sins to God our Father.

CMost 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 8

How Majestic Is Your Name

[P] O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.

**[C] Out of the mouth of babes and infants,
you have established strength because of your
foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.**

P When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

C what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?

P Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.

C You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,

P all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,

C the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

P O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
(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♪

[P] This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

[C] **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and blessing and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in
the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing and honor and glory and might be
to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God, for
the Lamb who was slain has begun His
reign.**

Alleluia, alleluia.

♪SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY♪

[P] The Lord be with you.

[C] **And also with you.**

[P] Let us pray.

**Lord God, You made Your beloved Son, our
Savior, subject to the Law and caused Him to**

shed His blood on our behalf. Grant us the true circumcision of the Spirit that our hearts may be made pure from all sins; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☩ Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Numbers 6:22–27*
Aaron's Blessing

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²³“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

²⁷“So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

Ⓛ This is the Word of the Lord.

☩ Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Galatians 3:23–29

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

[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.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²¹ And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

725 CHILDREN OF THE HEAVENLY FATHER

1 Children of the heav'nly Father
Safely in His bosom gather;
Nestling bird nor star in heaven
Such a refuge e'er was given.

2

2 God His own doth tend and nourish;
In His holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things He spares them;
In His mighty arms He bears them.

3 Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord His children sever;
Unto them His grace He showeth,
And their sorrows all He knoweth.

4 Though He giveth or He taketh,
God His children ne'er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.

SERMON

"Free from the Guardian"

. . . 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♪

CWhat shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PThe Lord be with you.

CAnd also with you.

PLift up your hearts.

CWe lift them to the Lord.

PLet us give thanks to the Lord our God.

CIt is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PIt 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, Lord God of pow'r and
might:

Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.

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.

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.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

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.

P O 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

☐ 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.

PAX DOMINI

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.
☐ Amen.

♪AGNUS DEI♪

☐ 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, grant us peace.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION

(This is where congregation will take communion)

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.
Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.
Amen.

[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.

♪ THANK THE LORD ♪

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell
ev'ryone what He has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and
proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His
people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia,
alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

CLOSING HYMN

922 GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING

(Stanzas 1–4)

- 1 Go, My children, with My blessing,
Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river
I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing—
You are My own.
- 2 Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story;
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.
- 3 Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.

Here My Spirit's power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.

4 I the Lord will bless and keep you
And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you
And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you
And give you peace.

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

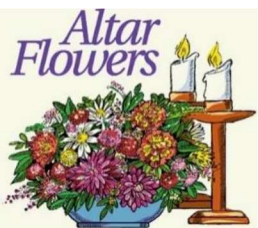
Elder: Paul Rugenstein

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Steve Hempel, Paul Rugenstein

Reader: Steve Hempel

Acolyte: Nala Hidalgo



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



Birthday Greetings!!

1/3: Steve Hempel, Linda Stuehrenberg

1/5: Rollin Duckwitz

1/6: Gary Schaeffer



Anniversary Greetings!!

1/5: Karen & Edison Johnson (15 yrs.)



Food and Fellowship: Please join us immediately after the service. We meet in

the fellowship hall at the rear of the church before Bible study. The refreshments this week were provided by Steve Hempel.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall if you would like to sponsor a week.

Stewardship & Attendance

Monthly Giving

Offerings: \$9133

Expenses: \$8037

Weekly Attendance

Christmas Eve Service – 66

Christmas Day – 37

News & Notes



Your **2023 offering envelopes** have arrived and are on the table in the narthex, please pick them up.



Poinsettias need to be taken home following the Worship Service today.



TODAY ~ JANUARY 1, 2023, ADULT BIBLE CLASS at 11:30 a.m.



**TODAY ~ JANUARY 1, 2023, at 11:30
a.m.**



**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ JANUARY
4, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.
a.m.**



SUNDAY – JANUARY 8, 2023
11:30 a.m. Christmas decorations will be
removed and packed for storage.



Ladies Guild Meeting
Monday Jan. 9th, 1:00 PM
All ladies invited!



Bertha Bos
Vi Hacker



Flower Calendar: 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. The 2023 Flower calendar has already been posted in the narthex. If you wish to donate flowers for use on the chancel, the cost is \$40.00 for two vases. Please the sign up! It is also tax deductible.

Roast Pork Dinner



Thursday, JANUARY 12th,
4-7 pm

Delicious roast pork, mashed potatoes/gravy, coleslaw,
corn, bun, drink, and delicious dessert

\$10.00 adult ~ \$5.00 child

Eat in or take out

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