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

Baptism leads us to speak of Christ to others.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.
Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you show the Christian faith through actions and words?
Jesus' baptism by John leads Jesus into his public ministry filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Since the New Testament, baptism has initiated our life in Christ to go out into the world in Jesus' name. Make a list of how you would like to be empowered by God to do good and to bring God's healing power to others. Bless one another with these words: **Go out in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit with the peace of God meant for all.**

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!

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

LSB Divine Service, Setting One
January 8, 2023

PRELUDE

✢ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✢

HYMN OF INVOCATION

578 THY STRONG WORD
(Stanzas 1–3, 6)

1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!

(Please rise)

△ **6** God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

(Please stay standing)

+ 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 29*

Ascribe to the LORD Glory

P Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

C Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

P The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.

C The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

℗ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**℃ He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

℗ The voice of the LORD
flashes forth flames of fire.

**℃ The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

℗ The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, “Glory!”

**℃ The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**

℗ May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

(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♫

C 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.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 *Isaiah 42:1–9*

The LORD's Chosen Servant

42 Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
    my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
    he will bring forth justice to the nations.
2 He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
    or make it heard in the street;
3 a bruised reed he will not break,
    and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
    he will faithfully bring forth justice.
4 He will not grow faint or be discouraged[a]
    till he has established justice in the earth;
    and the coastlands wait for his law.
5 Thus says God, the LORD,
    who created the heavens and stretched them out,
    who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
    and spirit to those who walk in it:
6 "I am the LORD; I have called you[b] in righteousness;
    I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
    a light for the nations,
7 to open the eyes that are blind,

to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
8 I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
9 Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them."

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

EPISTLE

Romans 6:1–11

Dead to Sin, Alive to God

6 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? **2** By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? **3** Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? **4** We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death
like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a
resurrection like his. 6 We know that our old
self[a] was crucified with him in order that the body
of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we
would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who
has died has been set free[b] from sin. 8 Now if we
have died with Christ, we believe that we will also
live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised
from the dead, will never die again; death no
longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he
died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives
he lives to God. 11 So you also must consider
yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ
Jesus.

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 *Matthew 3:13–17*

℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

ℂ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Baptism of Jesus

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to
John, to be baptized by him. **14** John would have
prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by
you, and do you come to me?” **15** But Jesus
answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting
for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he
consented. **16** And when Jesus was baptized,
immediately he went up from the water, and
behold, the heavens were opened to him,[a] and
he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove
and coming to rest on him; **17** and behold, a voice
from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son,[b] with
whom I am well pleased.”

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ℂ **Praise to You, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

405 TO JORDAN'S RIVER CAME OUR LORD

(Stanzas 1–3, 5)

1 To Jordan's river came our Lord,
The Christ, whom heav'nly hosts adored,
The God from God, the Light from Light,
The Lord of glory, pow'r, and might.

2 The Savior came to be baptized—
The Son of God in flesh disguised—
To stand beneath the Father's will
And all His righteousness fulfill.

3 As Jesus in the Jordan stood
And John baptized the Lamb of God,
The Holy Spirit, heav'nly dove,
Descended on Him from above.

5 The Father's word, the Spirit's flight
Anointed Christ in glorious sight
As God's own choice, from Adam's fall
To save the world and free us all.

SERMON

"The Great Exchange Begins"

. . . Pastor Karl

(Please rise)

APOSTLES' CREED

C 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

℗ Lord, in Your mercy
℃ 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.

♫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 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

537 BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

1 Beautiful Savior,
King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love Thee,
Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

2 Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

4 Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!

BENEDICTION

℗ 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.

℃ **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: Doug Grage, Paul Rugenstein
Reader: George Gast
Acolyte: Irie Hidalgo

The Flowers at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* by the Duckwitz's for Rollin's birthday that was on Thursday the 5th.

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.
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	**Weekly Attendance**
Offerings: $9133	New Years Eve Service – 21
Expenses: $8037	New Years Day – 70
	Adult Bible Class – 20
	Sunday School – 6

News & Notes

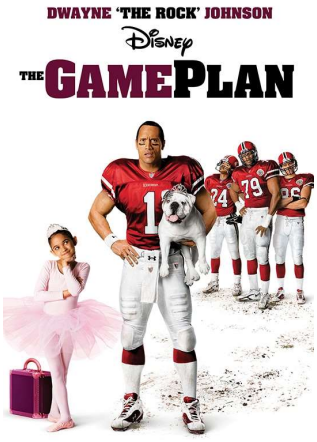
Your **2023 offering envelopes** have arrived and are on the table in the narthex, please pick them up.

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!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ JANUARY 11, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.

MOVIE NIGHT ~ SUNDAY ~ JANUARY 15, 2023 ~ 6:00 p.m. ~ POPCORN AND ROOTBEER FLOATS WILL BE SERVED STARTING AT 5:30 p.m. COME JOIN IN THE FUN!!



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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