



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

God works miracles through pain and suffering.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.
Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week,
how might you help those who may be
experiencing pain and suffering?

The Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) is one of the oldest prayers said or sung during Christian worship. Jesus is referred to as the Lamb of God in the Gospel of John and in Revelation. Just as lambs were sacrificed for the sins of Israel, Jesus died and was sacrificed for the sins of the world. Light a candle this week and think about how Jesus came to bring love and salvation to a broken world and our broken lives.

***Pray:* Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace. 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.

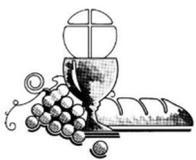
If you would like to learn more about this church, or are looking for a church family, please talk to

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.

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
LSB Divine Service, Setting One
January 15, 2023

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

433 GLORY BE TO JESUS

- 1** Glory be to Jesus,
Who in bitter pains
Poured for me the lifeblood
From His sacred veins!

- 2** Grace and life eternal
In that blood I find;
Blest be His compassion,
Infinitely kind!

- 3** Blest through endless ages
Be the precious stream
Which from endless torment
Did the world redeem!

- 4** Abel's blood for vengeance
Pleaded to the skies;
But the blood of Jesus
For our pardon cries.

- 5** Oft as earth exulting
Wafts its praise on high,

Angel hosts rejoicing
Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,
Swell the mighty flood;
Louder still and louder
Praise the precious 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
cleans 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 40:1–11

My Help and My Deliverer

P I waited patiently for the LORD;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.

C He drew me up from the pit of destruction,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.

P He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the LORD.

C Blessèd is the man who makes
the LORD his trust,
who does not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after a lie!

P You have multiplied, O LORD my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward
us;
none can compare with you!
I will proclaim and tell of them,
yet they are more than can be told.

C **Sacrifice and offering you have not desired,
but you have given me an open ear.
Burnt offering and sin offering
you have not required.**

P Then I said, “Behold, I have come;
in the scroll of the book it is written of me:

C **I desire to do your will, O my God;
your law is within my heart.”**

P I have told the glad news of deliverance
in the great congregation;
behold, I have not restrained my lips,
as you know, O LORD.

C I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart;

I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;

I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness

from the great congregation.

P As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mercy from me;
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!

(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.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; 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)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 49:1–7

The Servant of the LORD

¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
and give attention, you peoples from afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named my
name.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, “You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

⁴But I said, “I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and
vanity;

yet surely my right is with the LORD,
and my recompense with my God.”

⁵And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be his
servant,

to bring Jacob back to him;

and that Israel might be gathered to him—
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—

⁶he says:

“It is too light a thing that you should be my
servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob

and to bring back the preserved of Israel;

I will make you as a light for the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the
earth.”

⁷Thus says the LORD,

the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation,
the servant of rulers:

“Kings shall see and arise;

princes, and they shall prostrate themselves;
because of the LORD, who is faithful,

the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

☐ Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:1–9

Greeting

¹Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanksgiving

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 1:29–42a

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Behold, the Lamb of God

²⁹The next day [John] saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to

Israel.” ³²And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God.”

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

³⁵The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, “What are you seeking?” And they said to him, “Rabbi” (which means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which means Christ). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

702 MY FAITH LOOKS UP TO THEE

1 My faith looks up to Thee,
Thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine.

Now hear me while I pray;
Take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
Be wholly Thine!

2 May Thy rich grace impart
Strength to my fainting heart;
My zeal inspire!
As Thou hast died for me,
Oh, may my love to Thee
Pure, warm, and changeless be,
A living fire!

3 While life's dark maze I tread
And griefs around me spread,
 Be Thou my guide;
Bid darkness turn to day,
Wipe sorrow's tears away,
Nor let me ever stray
 From Thee aside.

4 When ends life's transient dream,
When death's cold, sullen stream
 Shall o'er me roll,
Blest Savior, then, in love,
Fear and distrust remove;
O bear me safe above,
 A ransomed soul!

SERMON

"A Most Important Question"

... 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 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 stay standing)

+ 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, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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♪

C 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

P 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.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

618 I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE

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**

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

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **Refrain**

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**

4 Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. **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**

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

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.**

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 remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

♪AGNUS DEI♪

C 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.

DISTRIBUTION

(This is where congregation will take communion)

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.

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.

Let all who seek 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.

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

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.

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

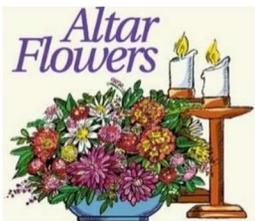
Elder: Paul Rugenstein

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Doug Grage, Paul Rugenstein

Reader: Annette Brocious

Acolyte: Jake Stecklein



The Flowers at our altar this morning were given to the *Glory of God* by the Kirsch's for Linda's birthday on the 20th.



Birthday Greetings!!

1/15: Edison Johnson

1/16: George Fornoff

1/20: Linda Kirsch



Anniversary Greetings!!

1/15: Rita & Norm Wellman



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

Offerings: \$9133

Expenses: \$8037

Weekly Attendance

Worship Service – 78

News & Notes



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



TODAY ~ JANUARY 15, 2023, at 11:30

a.m. ~ ADULT BIBLE CLASS



TODAY ~ JANUARY 15, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.



TODAY, SUNDAY ~ JANUARY 15, 2023 Church Council will meet today after Bible Class



MOVIE NIGHT ~ TODAY ~ 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!!

DWAYNE 'THE ROCK' JOHNSON
Disney
THE GAMEPLAN



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ JANUARY 18, 2023, at 10:30 a.m



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.