



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 is wisdom, power, and joy.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you bless someone by doing an act of kindness?

Micah was a great prophet in Israel who lived long before Jesus was born. A prophet is a teacher and

one who proclaims God's will. The people asked him what God required of them. Micah told them the Lord requires them to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8). Each day this week take time to sit in silence and consider your actions towards others. Ask yourself, "Where did I show justice, kindness, and mercy?" Then light a candle and pray: **Dear God, give me the desire to seek justice, kindness, and walk humbly each day with you and with all people. 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.

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY
LSB Divine Service, Setting One
January 29, 2023

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

425 WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

1 When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of Glory died,

My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet
Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all!

(Please rise)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

PIn the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and
of the Holy Spirit.

CAmen.

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 15

Who Shall Dwell on Your Holy Hill?

P O LORD, who shall sojourn in your tent?
Who shall dwell on your holy hill?

C He who walks blamelessly and does what is right
and speaks truth in his heart;

P who does not slander with his tongue
and does no evil to his neighbor,
nor takes up a reproach against his friend;

C in whose eyes a vile person is despised,
but who honors those who fear the LORD;
who swears to his own hurt and does not
change;

P who does not put out his money at interest
and does not take a bribe against the innocent.
He who does these things shall never be moved.

(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 God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Micah 6:1–8

The LORD's Case Against Israel

6 Listen to what the LORD says:

“Stand up, plead my case before the mountains;
let the hills hear what you have to say.

² “Hear, you mountains, the LORD's accusation;
listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth.

For the LORD has a case against his people;
he is lodging a charge against Israel.

³ “My people, what have I done to you?
How have I burdened you? Answer me.

⁴ I brought you up out of Egypt
and redeemed you from the land of slavery.

I sent Moses to lead you,
also Aaron and Miriam.

⁵ My people, remember
what Balak king of Moab plotted
and what Balaam son of Beor answered.

Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the righteous acts of
the LORD.”

⁶ With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow down before the exalted God?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?
Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:18–31

Christ Crucified Is God’s Power and Wisdom

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written:

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;
the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.”

²⁰ Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. ²² Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Brothers and sisters, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. ²⁸ God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the

things that are not—to nullify the things that are, ²⁹ so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹ Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the 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

Matthew 5:1–12

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Introduction to the Sermon on the Mount

5 Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, ² and he began to teach them.

The Beatitudes

He said:

³ “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.

⁵ Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for
righteousness,
for they will be filled.

⁷ Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

⁹ Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ Blessed are those who are persecuted because
of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

427 IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,
Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime.

- 2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross forsake me;
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.

3 When the sun of bliss is beaming
Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the radiance streaming
Adds more luster to the day.

4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure
By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows no measure,
Joys that through all time abide.

SERMON

"Poor in Spirit"

. . . 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 ♪

781 WE GIVE THEE BUT THINE OWN

(Stanzas 1, 2, and 6)

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
- 2 May we Thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,
To Thee our firstfruits give!
- 6 And we believe Thy Word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord,
We do it unto Thee.

+ 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**

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

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**

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

837 LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

(Stanzas ref-6)

**ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ
proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

1 Come, Christians, follow where our Captain
trod,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.
Refrain

**ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ
proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

2 Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine.
Refrain

3 All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.
Refrain

4 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee.
Refrain

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell.
Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
Praise to the Crucified for victory! **Refrain**

**ref Lift high the cross, the love of Christ
proclaim
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

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:

George Gast

Acolyte: Nala Hidalgo



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



This weeks
BIRTHDAYS

Birthday Greetings!!

1/29: Chip Rinehart

1/31: Linda Hedrick

2/3: Al Vine



Anniversary Blessings
2/2: Lori & Chris Jensen (38yrs)



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 Holly Bell.

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 – 95

Bible Class –

Sunday School – 7

News & Notes



Annual Giving Statements

2022 giving statements are available in the church narthex. Please pick them up. Thank you!



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

VOTERS MEETING

TODAY, JANUARY 29th, 2023 Each board will present its planned programs and activities for the year.



**TODAY ~ JANUARY 29, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.
~ ADULT BIBLE CLASS**



TODAY ~ JANUARY 29, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.



WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~ FEBRUARY 1, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.



MOVIE NIGHT ~ SUNDAY ~ FEBRUARY 19, 2023 ~ 6:00 p.m. ~ POPCORN AND ROOTBEER FLOATS WILL BE SERVED STARTING AT 5:30 p.m. COME JOIN IN THE FUN!!





SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2023

We will meet at Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 9:00 a.m., returning at 2:00 p.m. Bring a sack lunch. Drinks will be provided. Wear closed-toed and heeled gym shoes, dress for the weather. We will take a Swamp Buggy Eco-Tour to see nature and wildlife firsthand. Any questions call Sandy Grage at (712)269-7528. Please let us know as soon as possible and no later than Sunday, February 12th if you'll be attending. Parents welcome too! Thank you.



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.

Chicken breast Dinner



Thursday, February 9th,
4-7 pm

Delicious boneless chicken breast, parsley new potatoes, coleslaw, green beans, bun, drink, and delicious dessert

\$10.00 adult \$5.00 child

Eat in or take out

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