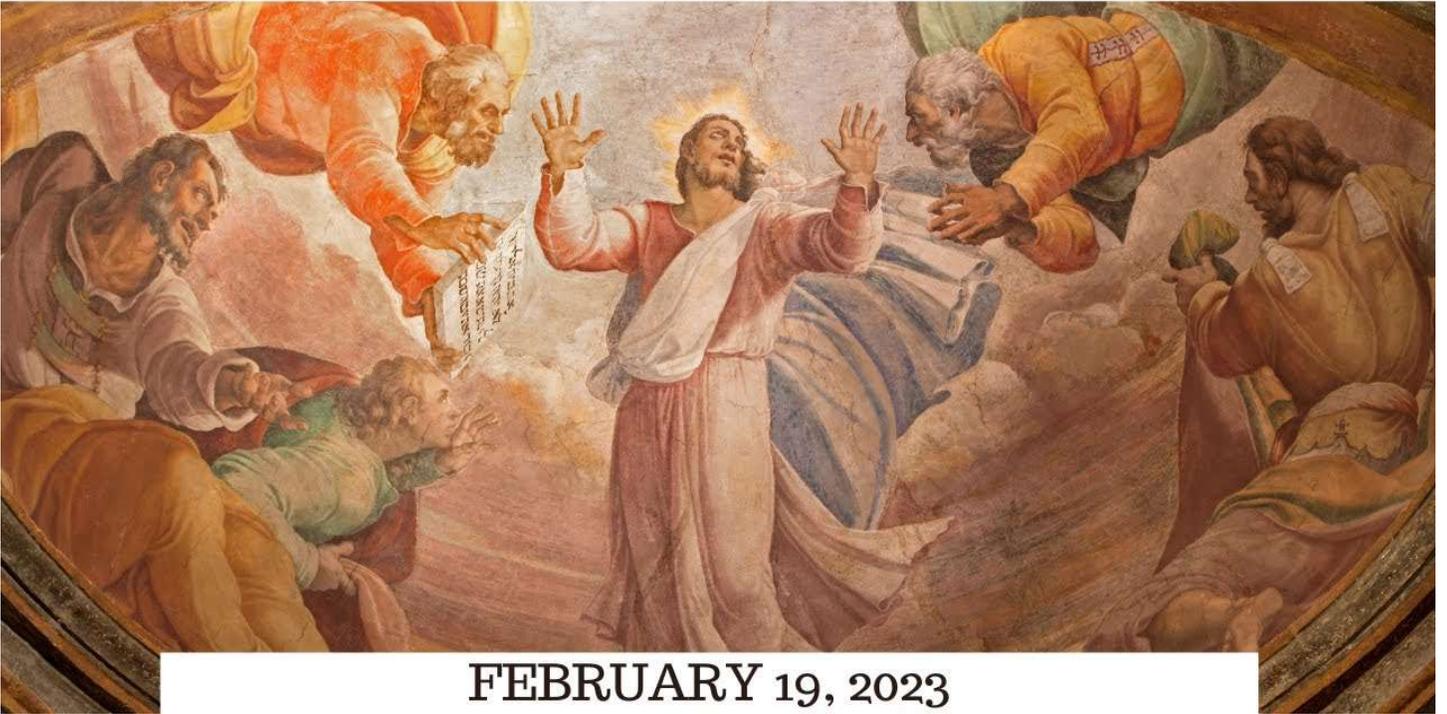


TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY



FEBRUARY 19, 2023

**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**

bethlehemplutheranfortmyers.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 gives comfort and strength.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you help those who live in fear?

Transfiguration means to be changed. The transfiguration brings together both the human and divine nature of Jesus Christ. Jesus' *"face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light"* (Matthew 17:2). It must have been an amazing experience for Peter, James, and John to see Jesus in that way! Draw or write a list of ways you experience God's presence in your life. Take time to think or talk about what you have drawn or written. Then light two candles to represent the totally human and totally divine nature of Jesus and pray: **Dear God, thank you for shining your light through Jesus. We ask to receive that light and share it with others. In Jesus' name, amen.**



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

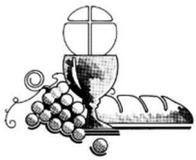
Here at Bethlehem Lutheran, we believe in the teachings of the Bible as taught by Jesus and the apostles and strive to live our lives in accord with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are all fellow sinners who live together in the

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.

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

LSB Divine Service, Setting One

February 19, 2023

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

435 COME TO CALVARY'S HOLY MOUNTAIN

- 1 Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain,
Sinners, ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain
Flows for you, for me, for all,
In a full, perpetual tide,
Opened when our Savior died.
- 2 Come in poverty and meanness,
Come defiled, without, within;
From infection and uncleanness,
From the leprosy of sin,

Wash your robes and make them white;
Ye shall walk with God in light.

3 Come in sorrow and contrition,
Wounded, impotent, and blind;
Here the guilty, free remission,
Here the troubled, peace may find.
Health this fountain will restore;
They that drink shall thirst no more.

4 They that drink shall live forever;
'Tis a soul-renewing flood.
God is faithful; God will never
Break His covenant of blood,
Signed when our Redeemer died,
Sealed when He was glorified.

(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 2:6–12

P “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

C I will tell of the decree:
The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have begotten you.

P Ask of me, and I will make the nations your
heritage,
and the ends of the earth your possession.

C You shall break them with a rod of iron
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s
vessel.”

P Now therefore, O kings, be wise;
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

C Serve the LORD with fear,
and rejoice with trembling.

P Kiss the Son,
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,

for his wrath is quickly kindled.
Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

(Please rise)

KYRIE

PIn peace let us pray to the Lord.

CLord, have mercy.

PFor the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

CLord, have mercy.

PFor 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.

CLord, have mercy.

PFor this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

CLord, 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

PThe Lord be with you.

CAnd also with you.

PLet us pray.

O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our

adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same 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

Exodus 24:8–18

⁸ Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, “This is the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

⁹ Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up ¹⁰ and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of lapis lazuli, as bright blue as the sky. ¹¹ But God did not raise his

hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank.

¹² The LORD said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction.”

¹³ Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God. ¹⁴ He said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we come back to you. Aaron and Hur are with you, and anyone involved in a dispute can go to them.”

¹⁵ When Moses went up on the mountain, the cloud covered it, ¹⁶ and the glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai. For six days the cloud covered the mountain, and on the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from within the cloud. ¹⁷ To the Israelites the glory of the LORD looked like a consuming fire on top of the mountain. ¹⁸ Then Moses entered the

cloud as he went on up the mountain. And he stayed on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

LThis is the Word of the Lord.

CThanks be to God.

EPISTLE

2 Peter 1:16–21

¹⁶ For we did not follow cleverly devised stories when we told you about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ He received honor and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.” ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain.

¹⁹ We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the

morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

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 17:1–9

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

Glory to You, O Lord.

The Transfiguration

17 After six days Jesus took with him Peter, James and John the brother of James, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

2 There he was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as white as the light. **3** Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus.

4 Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell facedown to the ground, terrified. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them. “Get up,” he said. “Don’t be afraid.” ⁸ When they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus instructed them, “Don’t tell anyone what you have seen, until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

CPraise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

414 'TIS GOOD, LORD, TO BE HERE

1 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!
Thy glory fills the night;
Thy face and garments, like the sun,
Shine with unborrowed light.

2 'Tis good, Lord, to be here,
Thy beauty to behold
Where Moses and Elijah stand,
Thy messengers of old.

3 Fulfiller of the past
And hope of things to be,
We hail Thy body glorified
And our redemption see.

4 Before we taste of death,
We see Thy kingdom come;
We long to hold the vision bright
And make this hill our home.

5 'Tis good, Lord, to be here!
Yet we may not remain;
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount,
Come with us to the plain.

SERMON

"Lord I Want to See Your Glory"

. . . 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.

+ 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, 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♪

☐ 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

PBlessed 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)

628 YOUR TABLE I APPROACH

(Stanzas 1–3)

- 1 Your table I approach;
Dear Savior, hear my prayer.
Let not an unrepentant heart
Prove hurtful to me there.

- 2 Lord, I confess my sins
And mourn their wretched bands;
A contrite heart is sure to find
Forgiveness at Your hands.

- 3 Your body and Your blood,
Once slain and shed for me,
Are taken at Your table, Lord,
In blest reality.

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

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

PThe 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, John Wittenberg

Reader: George Gast

Acolyte: Irie Hidalgo



The Flowers on the Lord's Altar were given: to the *Glory of God* by Greg and Yvonne Murray.



Birthday Greetings!!

2/22: Karen Keiper

2/23: Norman Wellman

2/24: Bertha Bos



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.

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 – 89

Bible Class – 14

Sunday School – 6

News & Notes



TODAY ~ FEBRUARY 19, 2023, at 11:30 a.m. ~ ADULT BIBLE CLASS



TODAY ~ FEBRUARY 19, 2023, at 11:30 a.m.



**TODAY ~ SUNDAY ~ FEBRUARY 19,
2023 Church Council will meet today
after Bible Class**



**NO WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY ~
FEBRUARY 22, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.**



**WEDNESDAY ~ FEBRUARY 22, 2023
Ash Wednesday Service~7:00 p.m.**



**MOVIE NIGHT ~ THIS EVENING ~
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.



We welcome all interested singers to join **Call Holly Bell for more information at 239-292-7200 or catch her after church.**



Bertha Bos
Vi Hacker

Yvonne's Eulogy

Yvonne Niemeyer Harder of Ashland, Virginia went to be with her Lord and Savior on February 5th at Memorial Regional Hospital, Mechanicsville, Virginia.

Yvonne was born on August 25, 1937 in Hines Township, Minnesota to Art and Lillian Niemeyer, the youngest of 5 children. She was baptized on September 19, 1937 and confirmed on June 3, 1951.

Yvonne's parents lived in Tenstrike, Minnesota and managed a resort on Gull Lake for a number of years, then moved to Bloomington, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis. She graduated from West High school in 1955. While a member of the Walther League youth group at Berea Lutheran Church in Richfield, she met Tom Harder. They were married at Berea on July 19, 1957. Tom and Yvonne served 24 years in the U. S. Navy. They were

stationed in Hawaii, Iceland and Indonesia before retiring in Virginia Beach in 1978.

Tom and Yvonne started a business machine business in Virginia Beach and operated it until 1989 when they took off on their sailboat eventually buying a waterfront home in Fort Myers, Florida. As with most Florida homes it had a swimming pool which kids, grandkids and great grandkids all enjoyed. Just before the big hurricane Ian, they moved back to Virginia to be near their children.

Tom and Yvonne have three children.

Matthew born in Minnesota in 1958, Amanda born in Hawaii in 1964 and David born in Virginia in 1967. Yvonne is survived by her husband, 3 children, 6 grandchildren, three great grandchildren and one brother.

Yvonne used to tell her daughter Amanda that she was proud of being a wife, a mother and a good driver. She used to drive back and forth

from Florida to Virginia once a year by herself to see kids and grandkids. Her driving record is immaculate, no tickets or accidents.

Yvonne had a very strong faith being brought up in the LCMS church from birth. She had a few health problems in the last few years and was ready to be with her Lord.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church, 8100 Shady Grove Rd., Mechanicsville, VA 23111 or Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 14531 Old Olga Road, Fort Myers, Florida 33905

Yvonne's memorial service is tentatively scheduled for February 25th at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Address attached. Will advise of time.

She is at peace. Praise the Lord.