



September 28, 2025

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

Caring for others is the way of Jesus.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you become more involved in the needs of your community?

Giving is a response to God's generosity. Walk around your house and look in closets and

drawers. Make a list of things you no longer use or need. Think or talk about who may appreciate and need them and consider taking them to organizations who can give them to those in need. *Pray: Lord, fill me with faith and generosity. 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 pew and place in the offering plate. 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!

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 28, 2025

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

801 HOW GREAT THOU ART

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;
Refrain

ref Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to
Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I
wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle
breeze; **Refrain**

3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin;
Refrain

4 When Christ shall come with shout of
acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my
heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou
art!” **Refrain**

(Please rise)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

INVOCATION

[P] In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[C] Amen.

EXHORTATION

LSB 151

[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.)

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 151

[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.

ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

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 +

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 146

Do Not Put Your Trust in Princes

P Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I have my
being.

P Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

C When his breath departs he returns to the
earth;
on that very day his plans perish.

P Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,

C who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;

P who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry
The LORD sets the prisoners free;

C the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.

P The LORD watches over the sojourners;
he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

C The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise
the LORD!

(Please rise)

KYRIE

LSB 152

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 ♪

LSB 204

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.

O God, You are the strength of all who trust in
You, and without Your aid we can do no good

thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; 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

Amos 6:1–7

Woe to Those at Ease in Zion

¹“Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and to those who feel secure on the mountain
of Samaria,

the notable men of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel comes!

²Pass over to Calneh, and see,
and from there go to Hamath the great;
then go down to Gath of the Philistines.

Are you better than these kingdoms?

Or is their territory greater than your territory,

³O you who put far away the day of disaster
and bring near the seat of violence?

⁴“Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory

and stretch themselves out on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,
⁵who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David invent for themselves
instruments of music,
⁶who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
⁷Therefore they shall now be the first of those
who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch
themselves out shall pass away.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Timothy 6:6 –19

⁶ But godliness with contentment is great gain, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. ⁸ But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and

harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs.

Fight the Good Fight of Faith

¹¹ But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ I charge you in the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, ¹⁴ to keep the commandment unstained and free from reproach until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will display at the proper time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords, ¹⁶ who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

[L] This is the Word of the Lord.

[C] Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

♪ ALLELUIA AND VERSE ♪

LSB 156

[C] Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 16:19–31

[P] The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixteenth chapter.

[C] Glory to You, O Lord.

The Rich Man and Lazarus

¹⁹[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²²The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ ²⁵But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. ²⁶And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ ²⁷And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— ²⁸for I have five brothers—so that he may

warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

802 IMMORTAL, INVISIBLE, GOD ONLY WISE

1 Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,

Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.

3 To all life Thou givest—
to both great and small—
In all life Thou livest,
the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish—
but naught changes Thee.

4 Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;

All laud we would render:
O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor
of light that hides Thee.

SERMON

"Profit Without Pitfalls"

. . . Pastor Karl

(Please rise)

APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 159

**☐ 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♪

**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

803 JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE

1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Praising Thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

(Please rise)

△ 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
Fountainhead of love divine:
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!
Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

BENEDICTION *LSB 166*

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



Go and Serve the Lord

Preacher: Rev. Karl P. Glander

Guest Pastor: Rev. Jon Zehnder

Organist: Holly Bell

Flutist: Nancy Rybak

The Sound System: Jeff Kirsch

Elder: Klaus Naumann

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Carol and Sam Harrison

Reader: Nancy Rybak



Signup Sheets in the Fellowship Hall. This is your chance to get involved in worship.



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 are from. Thank you!

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

Our Response to God's Love

Worship Service – 43

Adult Bible Class – 18

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CALENDAR

September 28, 2025 – October 9, 2025

TODAY 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

SUNDAY: 11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/Pastor

September 28 11:30 a.m. Sunday School

MONDAY:

September 29

TUESDAY:

September 30

WEDNESDAY: 10:00 a.m. Bible Study

October 1

THURSDAY:

October 2

FRIDAY:

October 3

SATURDAY:
October 4

NEXT 10:30 a.m. Worship Service w/Holy Communion
SUNDAY: 11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/Pastor
October 5 11:30 a.m. Sunday School

MONDAY: 1:00 p.m. LWM meeting
October 6

TUESDAY:
October 7

WEDNESDAY: 9:00 a.m. Celebration of Life service for
October 8 Chris Jensen

THURSDAY: 4:00-7:00 p.m. delicious meatloaf dinner
October 9



LWM Our first LWM meeting will be Monday October 6th at 1 p.m. We will be discussing our plans and projects for 25/26 season. All ladies are welcome, and we welcome everyone's input. A light snack will be served. If you have never joined us for a meeting, come see

what we are doing and help us plan for the upcoming year. We hope to see you there.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth - we are building shoeboxes again this year. Boxes and instructions are available at church, online at SamaritansPurse.org. National collection week is Nov. 17-24. We need to start collecting money to ship OCC boxes in November. Last year we had over 100 boxes and we expect to do at least that many, but probably more. \$10.00 is needed to ship each box. This also includes Christian education material. Money can be donated to Mickey, Terry, Mary or myself at any time. Please contact Betty Willis with any questions. 239-240-5972.

Meatloaf Dinner



Thursday, OCTOBER 9th,
4-7 pm

Delicious homemade meatloaf, mashed
potatoes/gravy, coleslaw, corn, bun, drink, and
delicious dessert

\$10.00 adult \$5.00 child

Eat in or take out

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
14531 Old Olga RD S.E.
Fort Myers, FL 33905
(239) 694-3878



Our Special Prayers and Intercessions

Accidents – Chico and Grandfather, Iris Smith, Rusty

Cancer – Andy, Anonymous, Ava, Barbara, Becky, Billie, Cannon, Chelsea, Cole, David, David, Don, Gail, Holly, Jenn, Joan, Joe, Judy, Ken, Larry, Rachel, Richard, Rick, Ron, Sal Jr., Sandi, Sharon Rowe, Steve, Susan, Tina
In Remission – Annette, Cammy, Haven

Convalescing: Betty, Bill, Chester, Debi, Dick, Edison, Joyce, Norma, Rick, Shirley, Ted

Eye – Bob, Carol, Sal, Sarah

Fighting for their lives - Barb, Dennis' mom, Jack Kirsch, James, Julie, Lisa, Lola, Rita, Robert's mom, Samuel Albritton, Scott, Shannon

Guidance – Anonymous, Chade, Holly, Paul, Sean, Steven, TA

Head Injuries – Iris Smith, Jena, Ken

Health Issues – Barb, Bob, Bruce, Carol, Christine, Dave, Edison, Gary, Jana, Jeff, Jessica, Joe, Kurt, Nancy Mihich, Pam, Pat, Richard, Sal, Sam, Samantha, Sharon, Tamara, Tara, Terri, Tim, Yvonne

Heart Issues – Andy, Brad, Carol, Eddie, Holly, JoAnn, Ken, Kenny, Linda, Sharon

Hospice - Jean

Hospitalized – Heather, Judy, Liliana, Lynn, Martha, Randy, Rick, Rita, Ron, Rosa Aguirre, Rosa

Long-term Illness/Treatment: Alan, Ann, Bella, Betty, Bill, Bob, Brian, Buck, Charleen, Chip, Daphne, Darlene, David, Debi, Dennis, Doug, Dylan, Edison, Ellen, Elizabeth, Jake, James, Jene, Jennifer, Jonathan, Judy, Julianna, Julie, Katie, Kim, Kim Lewis, Les, Lidia, Lillie Anne, Lisa, Liz mom, Lizzy, Madden, Mehliia, Mike, Millie, Myra and family, Nathan, Neil Fiore, Nicole, Pam,

Phillip, Rebecca, Richard, Richard, Rick, Rita,
Sandy, Terri, Theresa, Timmy, Trace Ryan

Memory Care - Dorothy

Mental illness – Giney, Lisa, Viola

Natural Disasters: Texas

Physical health and Rehab – Chip, Iris

Strengthening of faith – Carolyn, Paul

**Suffered a stroke: Adrian, Doug, Ed, Gary, Joan,
Kevin, Shirley, Theresa**

For Those Who have recently lost loved ones:
The family and friends of Chris Jensen, The family
and friends of Charlie Kirk, The family and friends
of Reverend Dennis Glander, The family and
friends of Maximo Maldonado, The family and
friends of Lou Schafer