



November 23, 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

Give thanks for the reign of Christ.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support someone who is struggling?

Christ the King Sunday is the last Sunday in the church year. Advent, the next Sunday, is the beginning of the new church year. Think about or

make a list of how you were involved in the congregation's ministries in the last year. What were some highlights? How did you grow in your faith? Who did you get to know better? Think or talk about how you might be involved in the coming church year. *Pray:* **Dear God, we ask that you work in and through our faith community as together we continue to grow in our faith. Through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. 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!

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

November 23, 2025

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

837 LIFT HIGH THE CROSS

(Stanzas ref-4)

**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
trode,
Our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Refrain

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

(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

Psalms 46

God Is Our Fortress

[P] God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

[C] Therefore we will not fear though the earth
gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the

heart of the sea,

P though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

C There is a river whose streams make glad
the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

P God is in the midst of her; she shall not be
moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

C The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.

P The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

C Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.

P He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.

C “Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”

P The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

(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.

Lord Jesus Christ, You reign among us by the preaching of Your cross. Forgive Your people their offenses that we, being governed by Your bountiful goodness, may enter at last into Your eternal paradise; for You live and

reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Please be seated))

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:13–18

¹³“Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, ‘How have we spoken against you?’ ¹⁴You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? ¹⁵And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’”

The Book of Remembrance

¹⁶Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. ¹⁷“They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a

man spares his son who serves him. ¹⁸Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Colossians 1:13–20

¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

The Preeminence of Christ

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. ¹⁷And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God

was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

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 23:27–43

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁷And there followed [Jesus] a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. ²⁸But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for

me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

²⁹For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!'

³⁰Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' ³¹For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

³²Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments.

³⁵And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save

yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²And he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³And he said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

534 LORD, ENTHRONED IN HEAVENLY SPLendor

1 Lord, enthroned in heav’nly splendor,
First-begotten from the dead,
You alone, our strong defender,
Lifting up Your people’s head.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Jesus, true and living bread!
Jesus, true and living bread!

- 2** Though the lowliest form now veil You
As of old in Bethlehem,
Here as there Your angels hail You,
Branch and flow'r of Jesse's stem.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
We in worship join with them;
We in worship join with them.
- 3** Paschal Lamb, Your off'ring, finished
Once for all when You were slain,
In its fullness undiminished
Shall forevermore remain,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Cleansing souls from ev'ry stain;
Cleansing souls from ev'ry stain.
- 4** Life-imparting heav'nly manna,
Stricken rock with streaming side,
Heav'n and earth with loud hosanna
Worship You, the Lamb who died,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Ris'n, ascended, glorified!
Ris'n, ascended, glorified!

SERMON

"They Shall be Mine"

. . . 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

657 A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD

(Stanzas 1–4)

- 1** A mighty fortress is our God,
A sword and shield victorious;
He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
And wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe

Has sworn to work us woe.
With craft and dreadful might
He arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.

2 No strength of ours can match his might.
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
Whom God Himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is He,
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.

3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
All threat'ning to devour us,
We tremble not, unmoved we stand;
They cannot overpow'r us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
In battle we'll engage.
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.

4 God's Word forever shall abide,
No thanks to foes, who fear it;
For God Himself fights by our side
With weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
Goods, honor, child, or spouse,
Though life be wrenched away,
They cannot win the day.
The Kingdom's ours forever!

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



SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Flutist: Nancy Rybak

Bells: Debbie Jackow

The Sound System: Jeff Kirsch

Elder: Greg Murray

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Darrell Erdman, Doug Grage

Reader: Nancy Rybak



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

Our Response to God's Love

Worship Service – 59

Celebrating birthdays this week: 11/24: Dennis Snyder, 11/25: Hope Kulbacki, 11/27: Sandy Grage, 11/28: Robert Vanderpool

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 service for coffee and goodies.

ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Pastor Glander leads a Bible study in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 service.

NO WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

Class will resume on Wednesday, January 7th.

HAPPENING AT BETHLEHEM

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Thanksgiving Eve: November 26 at 7:00pm
(Communion)

Wednesday Advent Worship: December 3, 10, &
17 at 7:00pm

Christmas Eve: 7:00pm (Communion)

Christmas Day: 10:30am (Communion)

THANKSGIVING EVE DINNER

Wednesday, November 26 at 6:00pm
You are cordially invited to Thanksgiving Eve
Dinner on November 26. Fellowship starts at

6:00, with Turkey provided by the Glander family.
If you can, please bring a covered dish to share.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Wednesday, November 26 at 7:00 pm

Join us for a reflective service focused on thanking
our Lord for His abundant goodness.



HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

This year, as in the past we will provide Holiday food baskets. This year we have 72 needy families in our community. We will collect food items, organizing and packing them in December and then distributing food baskets in December to the Buckingham Exceptional Student Center. We are truly blessed to have so many who continue to support feeding the needy and we Thank you for your generosity. Suggested items are canned vegetables, instant/canned/scalloped potatoes, gravy, peanut butter & jellies/jams, pasta/sauce, canned soup, mac & cheese, rice/beans, tuna fish, hot chocolate packets, dessert, puddings, box of crackers, jar of nuts. We are also in need of cash donations for turkeys and hams. So, if you're not able to be here but would like to help, please

make out a check to Bethlehem and put holiday basket in the memo, it will be very much appreciated. Thank you!

Prayer Focus: Please help us pray for the tangible and evident love of Christ to be made known as these baskets and meals are provided. Please help us pray for a boldness for the giver to share the message of Christ and His great love for us and for the receiver to have open ears to hear it, and an open heart to receive it!

We thank everyone for the generosity of many people here at Bethlehem, all postage has been paid for the 142 Operation Christmas child boxes. May God bless the children who receive these boxes and all who have donated toward this mission.

2025 Operation Christmas Child Came to an end!

We would like to thank everyone who helped in spreading joy to children around the world this Christmas. Through your generosity, we collected and delivered 142 gift-filled shoeboxes to children on Wednesday, the 19th.

POINSETTIAS

There is a order form for poinsettias in your bulletin. Please fill out the order form and put it with payment and place in the offering plate.

Thank you

Thank you for helping us reach MANY for Christ!

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

(Names remain on the prayer list up to a month unless requests are renewed.)

Accidents – Chico and Grandfather, Iris Smith, Rusty

ALS – Linda

Cancer – Andy, Anonymous, Ava, Barbara, Becky, Billie, Cannon, Chelsea, Cole, Dave, David, David, Don, Gail, Holly, Jenn, Joan, Joe, Judy, Ken, Larry, Rachel, Richard, Rick, Ron, Sharon, Sharon Rowe, Steve, Susan, Tina

In Remission – Annette, Cammy, Haven, Sandi

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

Eye – Bob, Carol, Sarah

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

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

Head Injuries – Iris Smith, Jena, Ken, Maria Clara

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

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

Hiatal Hernia surgery – Holly

Hospice – Jean, Kurt

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

Our Homebound - Edison and Karen Johnson, Chester and Linda Rust

Physical health and Rehab – Chip, Iris

Strengthening of faith – Carolyn, Paul

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

Caregivers - Amy, Eugene, Lorrie, Paul, Tina

Anonymous – prayer for discernment whether to move back to Midwest, finding the right path.

Dave – for health and salvation

For mom – trip to Florida in December

Anonymous – pray for a healthy pregnancy

For Those Who have recently lost loved ones:

The family and friends of Joy Kulbacki, The family and friends of Nancy Mihich, The family and friends of Chris Jensen

CHURCH COUNCIL

Richard Gerlach, President

Doug Grage, Vice President

Holly Bell, Secretary

Kurt Laser, Treasurer

Member at Large, Greg Murray

Mickie Naumann, Board of Education

Klaus Naumann, Board of Elders

Chip Rinehart, Board of Evangelism

Tim and Mary Tobeck, Board of Stewardship

Jeff Kirsch, Gary Dreischerf, Board of Trustees

Sandy Grage, LWM

Betty Willis, Thrivent

Ham Dinner



Thursday, December 11th,
4-7 pm

Ham, scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, baked beans, 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



At Christmas, we decorate the church in celebration of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you would like to present a poinsettia in honor, memory, or celebration of a person or event, please fill out this form and place it, with payment, in the offering plate. Each poinsettia costs \$5.00. All poinsettia donations will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve Worship Bulletin. We need your order by December 1st, 2025.

_____Poinsettia @ \$5.00 each = _____

Presented by:

Please note whether this/these plant(s) are: In Loving
Memory of

In Honor of

In Celebration of

To the Glory of God for

Place this form with proper payment in an envelope and
place in offering plate or send to Bethlehem Lutheran
Church 14531 Old Olga Road, Fort Myers, FL 33905