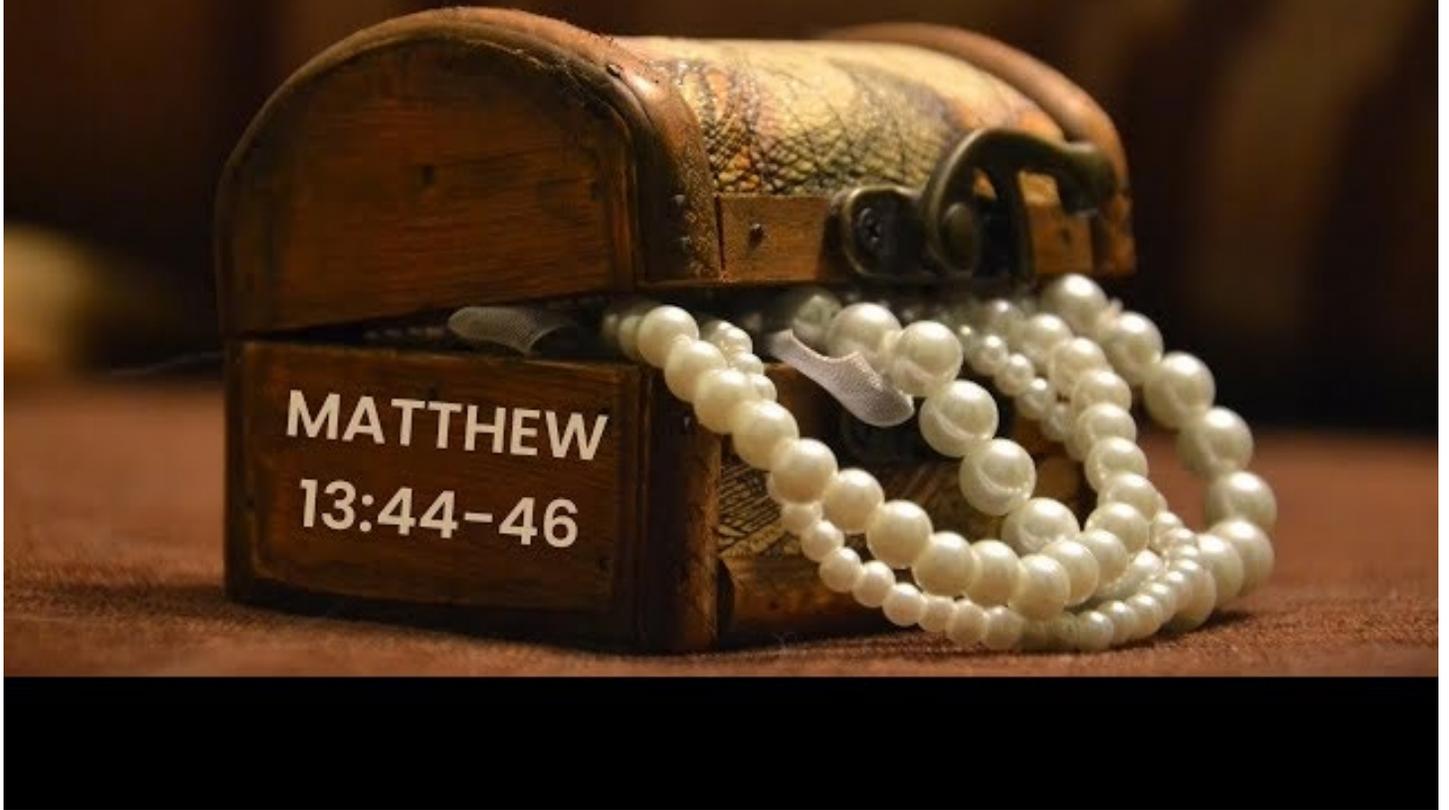


**THE GREATEST TREASURE OF ALL TIME**



*March 4, 2026*

**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](http://bethlehemlutheranfortmyers.org)

E-Mail: [bethlehemlc@gmail.com](mailto:bethlehemlc@gmail.com)

**Rev. Karl P. Glander, Pastor**

Pastor's Cell Phone: **(239) 293-1489**

Pastor's E-Mail Address:

[pastorkarlglander@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkarlglander@gmail.com)

Linda Kirsch, Church Secretary

**Welcome in the name of Jesus!**

*We're so glad to have you join us to worship our Lord! If you are a guest with us today, please introduce yourself to our pastor and stop by the registration book in the Narthex.*

# The Order of Vespers

March 4, 2026

*(Please rise)*

## OPENING VERSICLES

**P** O Lord, open Thou my lips.

**C** And my mouth shall show forth Thy praise.

**P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

**C** Make hast to help me, O Lord.

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Alleluia.

## + PSALMODY +

### PSALM

*Psalm 119:33–40*

HE

**P** Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes;  
and I will keep it to the end.

**C** Give me understanding, that I may keep  
your law  
and observe it with my whole heart.

**P** Lead me in the path of your commandments,  
for I delight in it.

**C** Incline my heart to your testimonies,  
and not to selfish gain!

**P** Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things;  
and give me life in your ways.

**C** Confirm to your servant your promise,  
that you may be feared.

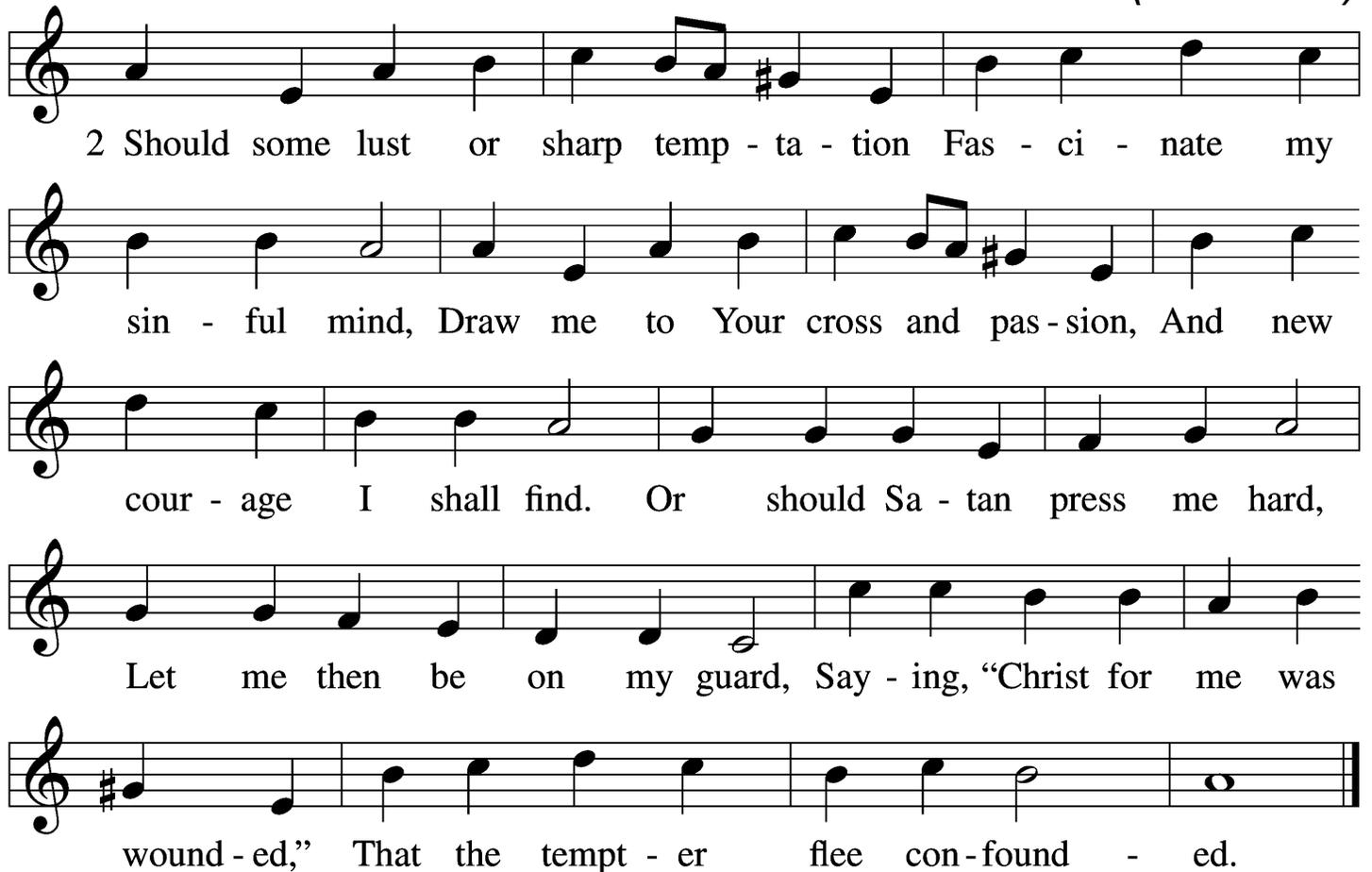
**P** Turn away the reproach that I dread,  
for your just decrees are good.

**C** Behold, I long for your precepts;  
in your righteousness give me life!

*(Please be seated)*

## **421 JESUS, GRANT THAT BALM AND HEALING**

*(Stanza 2)*



2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci - nate my  
sin - ful mind, Draw me to Your cross and pas - sion, And new  
cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,  
Let me then be on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was  
wound - ed," That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.

### **+ READINGS +**

#### **READING**

*Proverbs 2*

**L** A reading from Proverbs, chapter 2.

## The Value of Wisdom

- <sup>1</sup>My son, if you receive my words  
and treasure up my commandments with  
you,  
<sup>2</sup>making your ear attentive to wisdom  
and inclining your heart to understanding;  
<sup>3</sup>yes, if you call out for insight  
and raise your voice for understanding,  
<sup>4</sup>if you seek it like silver  
and search for it as for hidden treasures,  
<sup>5</sup>then you will understand the fear of the LORD  
and find the knowledge of God.  
<sup>6</sup>For the LORD gives wisdom;  
from his mouth come knowledge and  
understanding;  
<sup>7</sup>he stores up sound wisdom for the upright;  
he is a shield to those who walk in integrity,  
<sup>8</sup>guarding the paths of justice  
and watching over the way of his saints.  
<sup>9</sup>Then you will understand righteousness and  
justice  
and equity, every good path;  
<sup>10</sup>for wisdom will come into your heart,  
and knowledge will be pleasant to your  
soul;

<sup>11</sup>discretion will watch over you,  
understanding will guard you,  
<sup>12</sup>delivering you from the way of evil,  
from men of perverted speech,  
<sup>13</sup>who forsake the paths of uprightness  
to walk in the ways of darkness,  
<sup>14</sup>who rejoice in doing evil  
and delight in the perverseness of evil,  
<sup>15</sup>men whose paths are crooked,  
and who are devious in their ways.  
<sup>16</sup>So you will be delivered from the forbidden  
woman,  
from the adulteress with her smooth words,  
<sup>17</sup>who forsakes the companion of her youth  
and forgets the covenant of her God;  
<sup>18</sup>for her house sinks down to death,  
and her paths to the departed;  
<sup>19</sup>none who go to her come back,  
nor do they regain the paths of life.  
<sup>20</sup>So you will walk in the way of the good  
and keep to the paths of the righteous.  
<sup>21</sup>For the upright will inhabit the land,  
and those with integrity will remain in it,  
<sup>22</sup>but the wicked will be cut off from the land,  
and the treacherous will be rooted out of it.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **READING**

*James 1:5–6*

**L** A reading from James, chapter 1.

<sup>5</sup>If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. <sup>6</sup>But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(Please rise)*

## **READING**

*Matthew 13:44*

**P** A reading from Matthew, chapter 13.

### **The Parable of the Hidden Treasure**

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(Please be seated)*

## **RESPONSORY (LENT)**

LSB 231



- L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.  
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.  
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.



- C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me  
from those who rise a - gainst me.

## **SERMON**

### **"Suffering and Pain"**

*... Pastor Karl*

**+ CANTICLE +**

*(Please rise)*

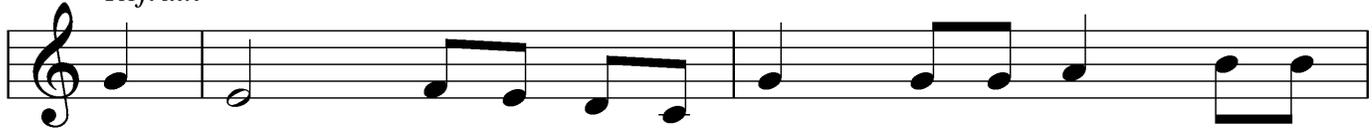
**L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,

**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

**MAGNIFICAT**

LSB 248

*Refrain*



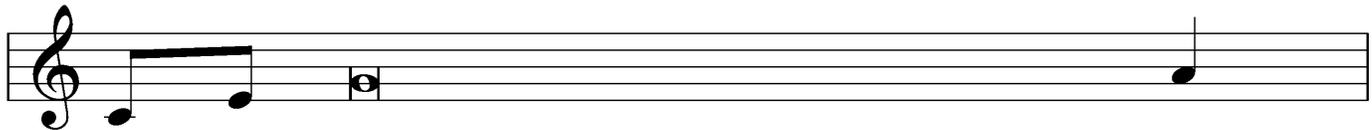
**C** My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



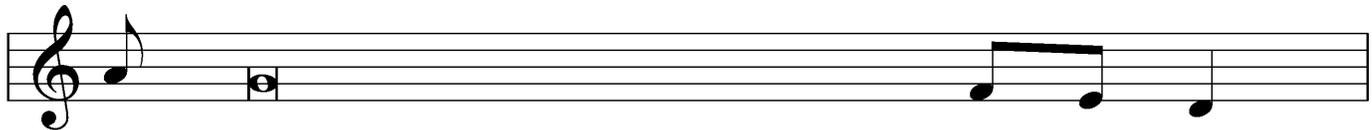
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the



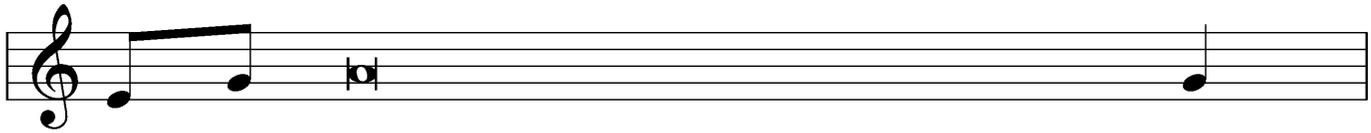
Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.



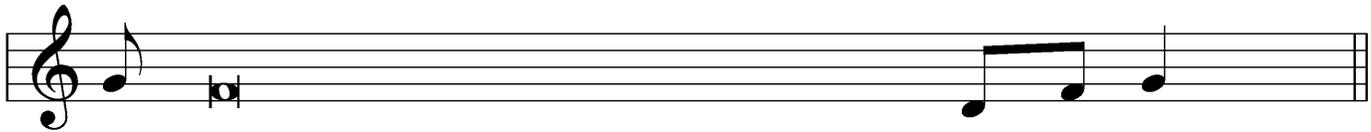
1 For \_\_\_\_\_ He has re - - - - - garded  
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to . . . . . me,  
 3 He has shown strength with His . . . . . arm;  
 4 He has filled the hungry with good . . . . . things,  
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the . . . . . Son



1 the lowliness of . . . . . His hand-maiden.  
 2 and holy . . . . . is His name;  
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.  
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - - - - - ty a - way.  
 5 and to the . . . . . Ho - ly Spirit;



1 For be - hold, from this . . . . . day  
2 and His mercy is on those who . . . . . fear Him  
3 He has cast down the mighty from their . . . . . thrones  
4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy  
5 as it was in the be - - - - - ginning,



1 all generations will . . . . . call me blessed.  
2 from generation to . . . . . gen - er - ation. *Refrain*  
3 and has exalt - - - - - ed the lowly.  
4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.  
5 is now, and will be forever. . . . . A - - - - - men. *Refrain*

*(Please be seated)*

**OFFERING**

**+ PRAYER +**

*(Please rise)*

**KYRIE**

*LSB 233*

**☐ Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.

## **COLLECTS**

**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.  
**C** And let my cry come to You.

## **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

**P** O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the

body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*(Stand)*

## **BENEDICAMUS**

*LSB 234*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **BENEDICTION**

*LSB 234*

**P** The grace of our Lord ✝ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** Amen.

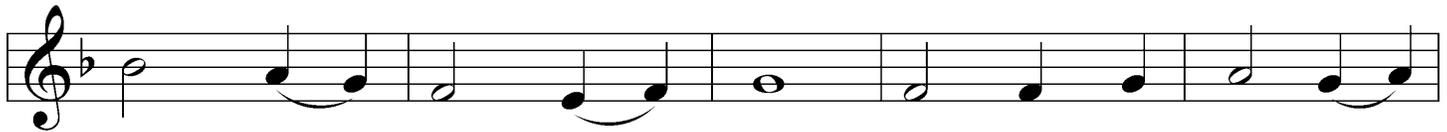
*(Please be seated)*

## **425 WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS**

*(Stanzas 1–3)*



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the  
2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the  
3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I  
death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that  
love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.  
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?



## *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: Klaus Naumann

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Doug Grage

Reader: Greg Murray



## **Lenten Services**

*March 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.*

*March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.*

*March 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.*



## **Palm Sunday Service**

*March 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.*

## **Maundy Thursday Service**

*April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion*

## **Good Friday Service**

*April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.*

## **Easter Services**

*April 5<sup>th</sup>*

*6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service*

*8-10 a.m. Easter Breakfast*

*10:30 a.m. Easter Celebration Service*

*11:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt*