

November 8, 2026

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

14531 Old Olga Road

Fort Myers, FL

Divine Worship 10:30 AM † Sunday School and Bible Study 11:30 AM

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

Be alert and be glad for the Lord is coming.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.
Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show God's love and mercy to someone in need?
According to Amos, worship without acts of justice for the needy is meaningless to God. During and after a worship service this week, take time to

think about how God's acts of love and mercy for you and all humanity lead you to do acts of kindness and love for others.

Pray: **Dear God, be with me each day. Help me to show love, fairness, and care for others through your Son, Jesus Christ, the light of the world. 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 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! We want to know who you are, so please provide your contact information in the Friendship Book as it is passed

during the Offertory. If you are visiting, honor us by signing the Guest Register in the Narthex.
If you have a prayer request, please fill out a Blue Prayer Card from the pew rack and usher will be collecting them.
Thank you. Come visit us again sometime soon and may the Lord richly bless you!

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 8, 2026

PRELUDE

✢ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✢

HYMN OF INVOCATION

490 JESUS LIVES! THE VICTORY'S WON

1 Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!
Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!
From the grave will Christ recall me.

Brighter scenes will then commence;
This shall be my confidence.

2 Jesus lives! To Him the throne
High above all things is given.
I shall go where He is gone,
Live and reign with Him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence!
This shall be my confidence.

3 Jesus lives! For me He died,
Hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide,
Praise to Him and glory giving.
All I need God will dispense;
This shall be my confidence.

4 Jesus lives! I know full well
Nothing me from Him shall sever.
Neither death nor pow'rs of hell
Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be my sure defense;
This shall be my confidence.

5 Jesus lives! And now is death
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath
When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:
Jesus is my confidence!

(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 INTROIT *Psalm 70*

O LORD, Do Not Delay

℗ Make haste, O God, to deliver me!
O LORD, make haste to help me!

℃ Let them be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life!
Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire my hurt!

℗ Let them turn back because of their shame
who say, “Aha, Aha!”

℃ May all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you!
May those who love your salvation

say evermore, "God is great!"

℗ But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay!

(Please rise)

KYRIE

LSB 152

℗ In peace let us pray to the Lord.

ℂ **Lord, have mercy.**

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

ℂ **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ 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.**

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

ℂ **Lord, have mercy.**

℗ 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 God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, 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 5:18–24*

Let Justice Roll Down

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
19 as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

The Coming of the Lord

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed,
brothers, about those who are asleep, that you
may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose
again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with
him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we
declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we
who are alive, who are left until the coming of the
Lord, will not precede those who have fallen
asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from
heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of
an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of
God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then
we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up
together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord
in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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 *Matthew 25:1–13*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

The Parable of the Ten Virgins

1 [Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the

wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ [7]Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. [8]And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ [9]But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ [10]And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. [11]Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ [12]But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ [13]Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

461 I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVES

(Stanzas 1–4)

1 I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

3 He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.

4 He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

SERMON

"***The Lion Roars***"

. . . Pastor Karl



(Please rise)

APOSTLES' CREED

C **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

℗ Lord, in Your mercy
℃ **Hear our prayer.**

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

♫OFFERTORY RESPONSE♫

(*Please rise)*

956 CREATE IN ME

1 Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence;
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. 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

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.

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: Doug Johnson
Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis
Ushers: Greg and Yvonne Murray
Reader: Greg Murray

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

Celebrating anniversaries this week:
11/12: Wende & Steve Williams *(38yrs)*

Gifts of Thanksgiving

Our traditions are evolving! Instead of altar flowers, you are now invited to honor birthdays, anniversaries, or loved ones by making a **commemorative financial gift** on your special day.

Your milestone and dedication will still be **printed in the Sunday bulletin** so the congregation can celebrate and pray with you. When giving, you can choose to direct your offering to one of four areas:

- **The Church Home** (Mortgage & debt reduction)
- **The Church Grounds** (Lawn, trees, & outdoor spaces)
- **The Church Structure** (Building maintenance & repairs)
- **The Church Family** (Direct benevolence for members in need)

Thank you for helping to sustain our church home and care for our church family!

Gifts of Thanksgiving Dedication Form

Designation:
Donor Name(s):

_____

Date of Sunday Bulletin Placement:

_____

Select Your Milestone:
[ ] In Celebration of a Birthday
[ ] In Celebration of an Anniversary
[ ] In Memory of a Loved One
[ ] Other: _____
Name of Honoree(s):

_____

Our Response to God's Love

Worship Service – 58
Adult Bible Class – 18
Sunday School – 2

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Join us in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 service for coffee and goodies. The refreshments this week are from The Murray's. Thank you!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Packing Party right after service today at 11:30 a.m.
Please join us as we pack Christmas boxes for children in need!
A project of Samaritan's Purse

💝A Box Full of Love, A Heart That Found Jesus In a small village, a child received a simple shoebox filled with toys, school supplies, and little gifts. But what touched the child most was learning that someone, somewhere in the world, had packed that box with love, even without knowing their name. Through Operation Christmas Child, that child discovered something even more beautiful:

the love of Jesus. The box was more than a gift — it was a reminder that they were seen, valued, and loved by God. ✨Sometimes, a small box can open the door to a life-changing message: Jesus loves you! 📦Your simple gift can share the Gospel and bring hope to a child's heart.
We are also collecting **$10.00 donations per box** to cover shipping and processing costs. Thank you for your continued support of this wonderful ministry!

MOVE, MINGLE, & MEET ON MONDAYS!

Join us on **Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall** for health, fun, and fellowship! We will begin with gentle **Chair Exercises** to stretch and relax, followed by group activities. Everyone is welcome, so bring a friend and your ideas for future crafts or games!

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

10:30 A.M. This gathering offers an opportunity to Study God's Word together in the Fellowship Hall.

COMPELLED
Mission Advancement Initiative

MISSION ADVANCEMENT INITIATIVE SUPPORT BANQUET

Hosted by
Grace Lutheran Church & Preschool, Naples, FL
November 17 at 5pm - 7:30pm



Join us for an evening of **reception, dinner, and program**, filled with fellowship and a look ahead at what God is doing across our District. Hear exciting plans for **planting new churches, launching outreach ministries, and raising up new workers** for the mission field.

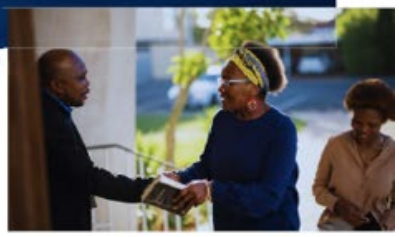


Please register at FLGADistrict.org/mission-advancement or by phone at 407-258-5052



To learn more about the Florida-Georgia District's Mission Advancement Initiative, visit flgadistrict.org/mission-advancement/

floridageorgia district



YOUTH NIGHT & SLEEPOVER!

All youth are invited to join us for our next Youth Night on **Friday, November 20th**, starting at **6:00 PM**. Families are welcome to arrive anytime between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM, and kids can stay as long as parents allow.

We are also opening up the night for an optional sleepover! Staying overnight is not required to attend, so come for the evening or stay for the whole night. If you know any youth who would love to join the fun, please contact Mickie or Holly to sign up or to get more details.

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

This year, as in the past we will provide Holiday food baskets. This year we have 77 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!

CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE

Join us in the **Fellowship Hall** after the church service on **Sunday, December 20, at 11:30 AM**! Please bring a dozen or so of your favorite Christmas cookies to share. Come eat some delicious treats and take some home with you!

PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for:

Scott and April Czaplewski, Johanna and family, Malin and family, Sharon Schafer, Al Johnson, Alyssa and family, Karen, Brandon and her family, Franci Boessel, Friends in need, Klaus, Barry, Matt, Biss, MJ, Kayla, Chico, Cali, Stacey, Teeny, John, Chris Jackow, Robert, Paul, Stephanie, Kay, Ben, Carol, Al, Bev, Martha, Gloria, Rena, Cindy, Carolyn, Jasa, Andrew, Carol, Tammy, Mike and Beth, Candice, Andy, Rose, Maggie, Denny, Bill, Chip, Christine, Johanna, Sandi, Nancy, McGee family, Sonia, Chelsie, Kyle and family, Jack, Melinda, Debbie, Amy, Jennifer, Guatemala, David, Holly, Matt, Maggie, Doug, Kerry, Addison, Dustin, Peggy, Andrea, Jackson, Sue, Pat, Tim, Phil S., Tina, Thomas, Nick, Felix, Cindy, Klaus, Linda, Gail, Johnny, Wendy, Les Dreischerf, Sharon, Will, Melissa Johnson, Barb, Kayla, Katie,

John, Jim Rode, Becky, Johnny, Catherine, Kim, Kayla, Rose, Helen, Tasha, Yvonne, Cody, Dan, Carl, Rose, Ken Zanto, Gary, Chris Tobeck, Keith Tobeck, James and his family, And those in our hearts

For Those Who have recently lost loved ones: The family and friends of Kay Remmers, The family and friends of Pam Rugenstein, The family and friends of Jeff Poulton, The family and friends of Josephine Mae (Crary) McCue

PRAYERS for Homebound, Assisted Living, Nursing Home
Those who can't attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them.
Edison and Karen Johnson, Chester and Linda Rust

PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION
For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families.

those who lost their homes in the fire in San Juan Capistrano and San Clemente, For deliverance from the evils of the red/green alliance who wish to eradicate Christianity and restore western civilization

Dear Lord, we come to You today with heavy hearts, as we lift up those who are in need of prayer. We ask that You would bring healing and restoration to their body, mind, and spirit Amen.

Chicken breast Dinner

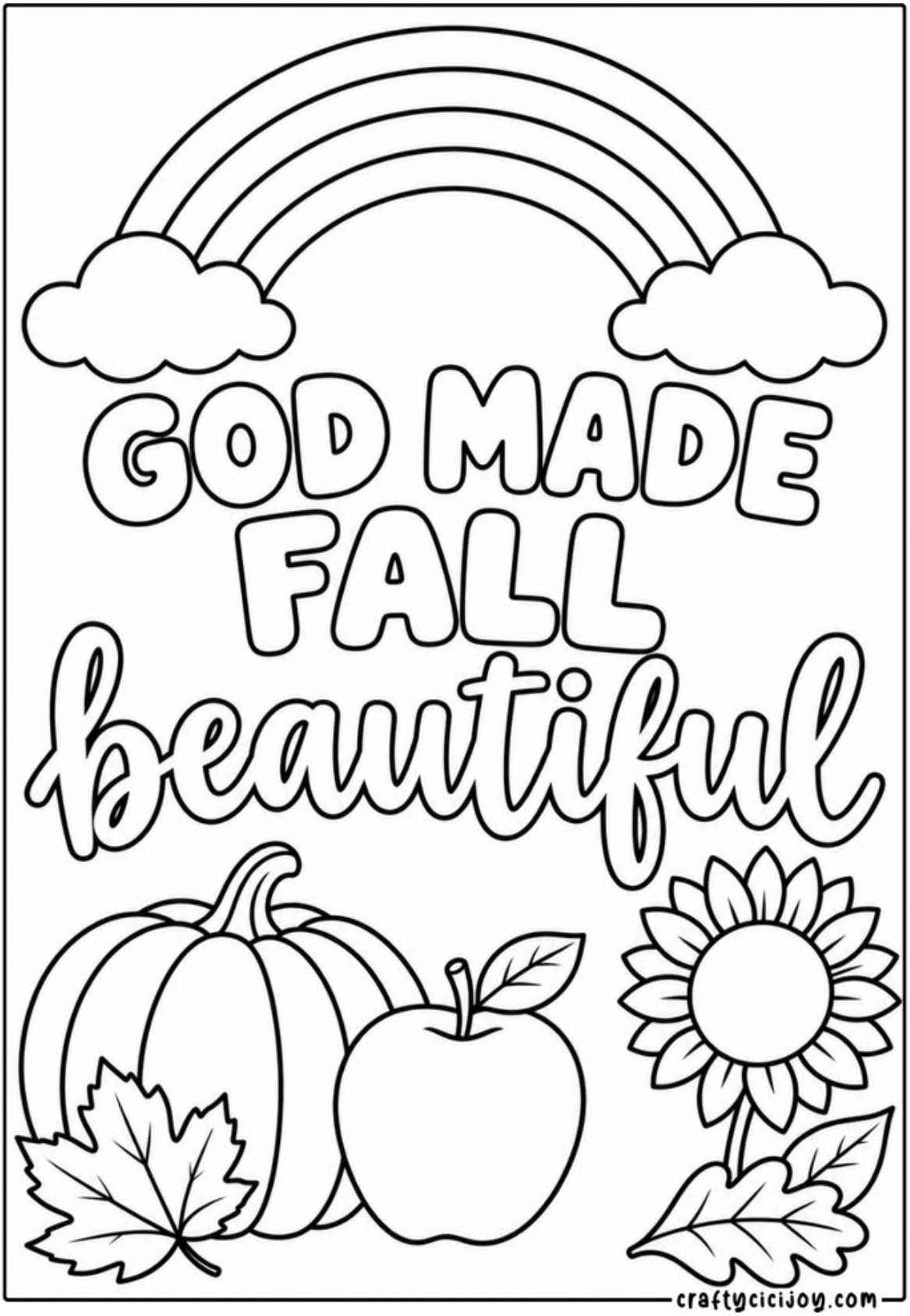


Thursday, November 12th,
4-7 pm
Delicious boneless chicken breast, mashed potatoes/gravy, coleslaw, corn, bun, drink, and delicious dessert

$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


GOD MADE
FALL
beautiful
craftycicijoy.com

Give Me Oil In My Lamp

Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. Matthew 25:13 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 25:1-13 (NIV)



T Z F E S G H O G Q N O G T A
O B M P K S M I D N I G H T A
G O M Q I N A N H E A V E N S
C A Q L Q T I I E D I J K B L
L P O B R I D E G R O O M A E
M O J K E F D K L X M O H N E
F E O G S W O I H A Z S R Q P
V W E X G B I N O D A T H U X
I T B T P C L G R W R T E E T
R S R C U B O D A A M O Z T E
G S D I K T Y O N T W D W K X
I T T S M W G M G C R F O S W
N V I H O M Z I Z H P W D O Y
S N N T P X E W E D D I N G E
U T C Z G X C D S W I S E E C

FOOLISH	MEET	DROWSY	VIRGINS	BANQUET
MIDNIGHT	WEDDING	TRIMMED	RANG	KINGDOM
BRIDEGROOM	LAMPS	WISE	WATCH	COME
DOOR	ASLEEP	HEAVEN	OIL	WOKE