



June 22, 2025

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
14531 Old Olga Road
Fort Myers, FL

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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

God is with us in good times and bad times.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who is someone feeling alone that you can visit?

The best way to understand faith is to experience it. Take someone on a "faith walk." Blindfold a

friend or family member and take turns leading one another on a walk outside or inside your home using only verbal cues. Share your experiences and how you felt when you were blindfolded. Talk about what it means to live by faith in Jesus as our trustworthy guide and helper.



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!

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 22, 2025

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

722 LORD, TAKE MY HAND AND LEAD ME

1 Lord, take my hand and lead me
Upon life's way;
Direct, protect, and feed me
From day to day.
Without Your grace and favor

I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior,
And lead the way.

2 Lord, when the tempest rages,
I need not fear,
For You, the Rock of Ages,
Are always near.
Close by Your side abiding,
I fear no foe,
For when Your hand is guiding,
In peace I go.

3 Lord, when the shadows lengthen
And night has come,
I know that You will strengthen
My steps toward home.
Then nothing can impede me,
O blessed Friend;
So take my hand and lead me
Unto the end.

(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 3

Save Me, O My God

P O LORD, how many are my foes!
Many are rising against me;

C many are saying of my soul,
there is no salvation for him in God.

P But you, O LORD, are a shield about me,
my glory, and the lifter of my head.

C I cried aloud to the LORD,
and he answered me from his holy hill.

P I lay down and slept;
I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.

C I will not be afraid of many thousands of
people
who have set themselves against me all
around.

P Arise, O LORD!
Save me, O my God!
For you strike all my enemies on the cheek;
you break the teeth of the wicked.

C Salvation belongs to the LORD;
your blessing be on your people!

(Please rise)

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

**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 have prepared for those who love
You such good things as surpass our
understanding. Cast out all sins and evil desires
from us, and pour into our hearts Your Holy
Spirit to guide us into all blessedness; 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

Isaiah 65:1–9

Judgment and Salvation

¹I was ready to be sought by those who did not
ask for me;

I was ready to be found by those who did not

seek me.

I said, "Here am I, here am I,"

to a nation that was not called by my name.

²I spread out my hands all the day

to a rebellious people,

who walk in a way that is not good,

following their own devices;

³a people who provoke me

to my face continually,

sacrificing in gardens

and making offerings on bricks;

⁴who sit in tombs,

and spend the night in secret places;

who eat pig's flesh,

and broth of tainted meat is in their vessels;

⁵who say, "Keep to yourself,

do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."

These are a smoke in my nostrils,

a fire that burns all the day.

⁶Behold, it is written before me:

"I will not keep silent, but I will repay;

I will indeed repay into their bosom

⁷both your iniquities and your fathers' iniquities together,

says the LORD;
because they made offerings on the mountains
and insulted me on the hills,
I will measure into their bosom
payment for their former deeds.”

⁸Thus says the LORD:

“As the new wine is found in the cluster,
and they say, ‘Do not destroy it,
for there is a blessing in it,’
so I will do for my servants’ sake,
and not destroy them all.

⁹I will bring forth offspring from Jacob,
and from Judah possessors of my mountains;
my chosen shall possess it,
and my servants shall dwell there.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Galatians 3:23-4:7

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come,

we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

Sons and Heirs

¹I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no different from a slave, though he is the owner of everything, ²but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by his father. ³In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

[L] This is the Word of the Lord.

CThanks be to God.

(Please rise)

♪**ALLELUIA AND VERSE**♪

LSB 156

CAlleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 8:26–39

PThe Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighth chapter.

CGlory to You, O Lord.

Jesus Heals a Demon-Possessed Man

²⁶Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you,

do not torment me.” ²⁹For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) ³⁰Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” And he said, “Legion,” for many demons had entered him. ³¹And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. ³²Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³Then the demons came out of the man and entered the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and were drowned.

³⁴When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. ³⁶And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. ³⁷Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him

to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned.

³⁸The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

[P] This is the Gospel of the Lord.

[C] Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

825 RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE

1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered

Our human story; God in Him is centered.

He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
With grace unbounded.

- 2** See how He sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
Now are forgiven.
- 3** Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers against the darkness
hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
Of Jesus' glory.
- 4** Tell how the Father sent His Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation
His new creation.

SERMON

"Wisdom"

. . . 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

LSB 159

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

727 ON EAGLES' WINGS

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: "My refuge,
My rock in whom I trust!" **Refrain**

**ref And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His hand.**

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under His wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield. **Refrain**

**ref And He will raise you up on eagles' wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His hand.**

3 You need not fear the terror of the night,
Nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you,
Near you it shall not come. **Refrain**

4 For to His angels He's given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone. **Refrain**

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.

☐ Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE



Go and Serve the Lord

Preacher: Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Pianist: Cheryl Nelson

The Sound System: Jeff Kirsch

Elder: Klaus Naumann

Ushers: Richard Gerlach, Raul Puga

Reader: Holly Bell



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



Altar Flowers- In honor of Terri Gerlach's birthday was June 17th.

Celebrating birthdays this week: 6/22: Gwen Nicholson, Sarah Smith, 6/27: Emeline Larson



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 the Church. 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 – 27

Bible Study – 11

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CALENDAR

June 22, 2025 – June 29, 2025

TODAY: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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

June 22 11:30 a.m. Sunday School

12:30 p.m. Church Council (Canceled)

MONDAY:

June 23

TUESDAY:
June 24

WEDNESDAY: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study w/Pastor
June 25

THURSDAY:
June 26

FRIDAY:
June 27

SATURDAY:
June 28

NEXT 10:30 a.m. Worship Service w/Holy Communion
SUNDAY 11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/Pastor
June 29 11:30 a.m. Sunday School



COME JOIN US

July 28- August 1
9:00a.m.- 12:00p.m.

This summer, we're going on an epic adventure through Australia, and you're invited! We'll encounter amazing animals, lush landscapes, stunning sea life, and wondrous wilderness. And most importantly, we'll be

guided by our Savior, Jesus, who tells us, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life” in our theme verse John 14:6.

Epic Australian Adventure VBS Lessons include:

Lesson One: God Calls Moses - Exodus 3

Lesson Two: God Leads His People to the Promised Land - Joshua 3–4

Lesson Three: The Parable of the Good Samaritan - Luke 10:25–37

Lesson Four: Peter and John Race to the Tomb - John 20:1–10, 19–20

Lesson Five: Jesus Ascends to the Father - Luke 24:44–53; Acts 1:1–11

- **Make a Difference at VBS! Contributions of the following items will help provide for the needs of VBS students and allow focus on sharing the love of God.**

- Disposable cups
- Disposable plates
- Napkins
- Bottled water
- *Donations can be dropped off by July 20th.*



Our Special Prayers and Intercessions

Lou - in Cedarbrook long-term care
Matt – stroke
Theresa – stroke
Chris – lung cancer
Sarah – stomach issues
Tim – health issues
Kurt – health issues
Jack – fighting depression, lung issues
JoAnn – heart issues
Tamara – medical issues
Susan – recovering from cancer
Chade – guidance
Steven – guidance
Ashton – esophageal atresia
Sharon – shoulder
Cammy – brain tumor stable
Cannon – cancer
Dorothy – in memory care
Edison – health issues
Sharon – cancer
Anonymous – cancer
Haven – in remission
Gail – running tests for leukemia
Tara – health
Dustin – alcohol rehab
Brad – heart attack
Pat – health issues
Dave – health issues
Becky – cancer
Ken – cancer
Lidia – health issues
TA – spiritual guidance and removal of all temptation
Belland/Calcagino – family issues
Jenn – cancer
Yvonne – health issues
David – cancer
Sean – God knows
Lynne – health issues
Ron – hospitalized
Pam – health issues
Annette - ductal carcinoma in situ
Terry – health issues

Andy – doing great after heart procedure
Joe – health issues
Jessica – health issues
Sam – health issues
Paul – strengthening of faith
Judy – cancer
Joe – stage 4 lung cancer
Bob – need shots in eyes
Nicole – broke lower leg
Pat – lot of health issues
Halie Marie – baby passed away, keep Alyssa, Ray and Grage family in your prayers
Holly – needs pacemaker, hernia repaired, found a mass in her stomach area
Ken - massive heart attack in January, still in hospital with major brain damage
Millie – bad fall
Family with children who have strayed
Les – hernia surgery and kidney dialysis
Sandi – Hodgkins and autoimmune disease
Rick – stage 3 lung cancer
Sal Jr. – cancer
Sal – health issues & now worried about his son
Carol – heart, bursitis, eye mostly blind in one eye
Chip – physical health and rehab
Donna – health issues, in hospital
Stormie – motorhome and car burnt, lost it all
Mary – hospitalized, long road ahead
Joan – stroke
Ron – prostate cancer
Peggy – after rehab can use cane and walker now
Sharon – need rest and stop worrying

***Please note: Those who are named in our special prayers and intercessions list are placed there by members of our congregation. St. Paul tells us in 1Timothy 2:1-2: “I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for everyone – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness. This is good, and pleases God our Savior.”** Those named remain joyfully in our prayers until the person who requested our prayers removes them or until the Lord resolves their need. Therefore, as St. Paul tells us in Philippians 4:6 “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God.



Cheryl, the presence and music have been a blessing. The joyful spirit and musical gift have touched many lives. Though it is sad to see you go, the church is excited for your new adventure. May God bless you and your family. The church is unsure how it will survive without the amazing piano skills, but God has great things in store for you. Thank you for all the beautiful music and memories. Don't forget us!

Lord, Cheryl is lifted up to you as she moves away. Prayers are offered for her blessings on her new home and endeavors. May she quickly find a new church family and loving community. Thank you for the joy and inspiration Cheryl brought to the church family. Keep her safe and healthy, and let her feel your presence with them always. May Cheryl continue to shine brightly for You. In Christ's Name, Amen.