

for
GOD
so loved the world

March 11, 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

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

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 11, 2026

(Please rise)

L O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.

L Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.

C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and
to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will
be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our
salvation.

+ PSALMODY +

PSALM

Psalm 32

(Spoken responsively)

Blessed Are the Forgiveness

P Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

C Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

P For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

C For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

P I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

C Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may
be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.

P You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

C I will instruct you and teach you in the way
you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

P Be not like a horse or a mule, without
understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay near you.

C Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who
trusts in the LORD.

P Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

(Please be seated)

+ READINGS +

READING

Proverbs 3:1–20

L A reading from Proverbs, chapter 3.

Trust in the LORD with All Your Heart

¹My son, do not forget my teaching,
but let your heart keep my commandments,
²for length of days and years of life
and peace they will add to you.
³Let not steadfast love and faithfulness
forsake you;
bind them around your neck;
write them on the tablet of your heart.
⁴So you will find favor and good success
in the sight of God and man.
⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own
understanding.

⁶In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make straight your paths.
⁷Be not wise in your own eyes;
fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.
⁸It will be healing to your flesh
and refreshment to your bones.
⁹Honor the LORD with your wealth
and with the firstfruits of all your produce;
¹⁰then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine.
¹¹My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline
or be weary of his reproof,
¹²for the LORD reproves him whom he loves,
as a father the son in whom he delights.

Blessed Is the One Who Finds Wisdom

¹³Blessed is the one who finds wisdom,
and the one who gets understanding,
¹⁴for the gain from her is better than gain from
silver
and her profit better than gold.
¹⁵She is more precious than jewels,
and nothing you desire can compare with
her.
¹⁶Long life is in her right hand;

in her left hand are riches and honor.
¹⁷Her ways are ways of pleasantness,
and all her paths are peace.
¹⁸She is a tree of life to those who lay hold of
her;
those who hold her fast are called blessed.
¹⁹The LORD by wisdom founded the earth;
by understanding he established the
heavens;
²⁰by his knowledge the deeps broke open,
and the clouds drop down the dew.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

READING

1 Corinthians 1:18–25

L A reading from 1 Corinthians, chapter 1.

Christ the Wisdom and Power of God

¹⁸The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will
thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

READING

John 3:16–18

P A reading from John, chapter 3.

For God So Loved the World

¹⁶“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORY (LENT)

LSB 231

P Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

P In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

C **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

- P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.
- C** **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

SERMON HYMN

421 JESUS, GRANT THAT BALM AND HEALING

- 1** Jesus, grant that balm and healing
In Your holy wounds I find,
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling
Pains of body and of mind.
Should some evil thought within
Tempt my treach'rous heart to sin,
Show the peril, and from sinning
Keep me from its first beginning.
- 2** Should some lust or sharp temptation
Fascinate my sinful mind,
Draw me to Your cross and passion,
And new courage I shall find.
Or should Satan press me hard,
Let me then be on my guard,

Saying, "Christ for me was wounded,"
That the tempter flee confounded.

- 3** If the world my heart entices
With the broad and easy road,
With seductive, sinful vices,
Let me weigh the awful load
You were willing to endure.
Help me flee all thoughts impure
And to master each temptation,
Calm in prayer and meditation.
- 4** Ev'ry wound that pains or grieves me
By Your wounds, Lord, is made whole;
When I'm faint, Your cross revives me,
Granting new life to my soul.
Yes, Your comfort renders sweet
Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;
For Your all-atoning passion
Has procured my soul's salvation.
- 5** O my God, my rock and tower,
Grant that in Your death I trust,
Knowing death has lost its power
Since You crushed it in the dust.

Savior, let Your agony
Ever help and comfort me;
When I die be my protection,
Light and life and resurrection.

SERMON

"Proper Relationship"

... 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

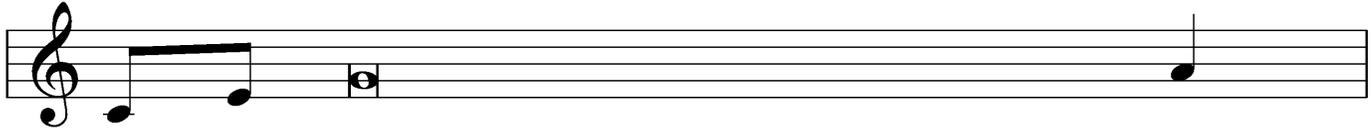
LSB 248

Refrain

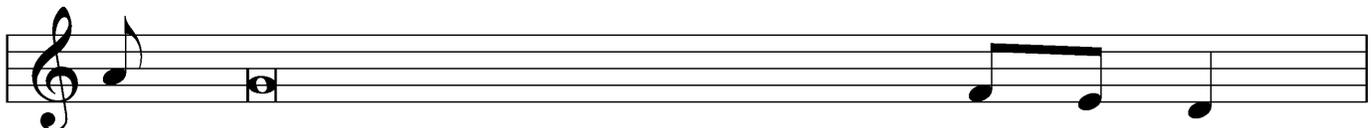
C My soul mag-ni-fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -
joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag-ni-fies the



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



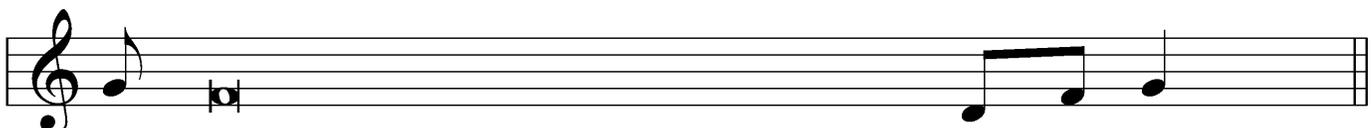
- 1 For _____ He has re - garded
- 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
- 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
- 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
- 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son



- 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

**☞ 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

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C **And let my cry come to You.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

P O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies,

may live in peace and quietness; 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 rise)

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 234

L 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)

CLOSING HYMN

729 I AM TRUSTING THEE, LORD JESUS

- 1 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.
- 2 I am trusting Thee for pardon;
At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy
Trusting now.
- 3 I am trusting Thee for cleansing
In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy
By Thy blood.
- 4 I am trusting Thee to guide me;
Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying
All my need.
- 5 I am trusting Thee for power;
Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me
Must prevail.

6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever
And for all.



SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Guest Pianist: Cheryl Nelson

Flutist: Nancy Rybak

Bells: Debbie Jackow

The Sound System: Jeff Kirsch

Elder: Klaus Naumann

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Doug Grage

Reader: Holly Bell



Lenten Services

March 18th at 7:00 p.m.

March 25th at 7:00 p.m.



Palm Sunday Service

March 29th at 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service

April 2nd at 7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion

Good Friday Service

April 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

Easter Services

April 5th

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