



**APRIL 12, 2026**  
**2ND SUNDAY OF**  
**EASTER:**  
**THE WOUNDS OF**  
**CHRIST GIVE US LIFE**

**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)

Pastor Karl's Monday Morning Message

live Monday's at 9:00 a.m. on

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/BLCEFM/>

Linda Kirsch, Church Secretary

***Faith in Jesus means a relationship with  
Jesus.***

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for

this week, how can you help others to see Jesus as Lord through your actions and words?

When Jesus appeared to the disciples after the resurrection, he said, *“Peace be with you”* (John 20:19b). This has become a traditional greeting among Christians as a reminder of Christ’s presence. Greet friends and family in your home using these words: ***“Peace be with you.”***



**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!

## **SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

*April 12, 2026*

### **PRELUDE**

✠ **ORDER OF WORSHIP** ✠

### **OPENING HYMN**

#### **490 JESUS LIVES! THE VICTORY'S WON**

*(Stanzas 1–4)*

- 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.

*(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**

*Psalm 148*

### **Praise the Name of the LORD**

**P** Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

**C** Praise him, all his angels;  
praise him, all his hosts!

**P** Praise him, sun and moon,  
praise him, all you shining stars!

**C** Praise him, you highest heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens!

**P** Let them praise the name of the LORD!  
For he commanded and they were created.

**C** And he established them forever and ever;  
he gave a decree, and it shall not pass away.

**P** Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you great sea creatures and all deeps,

**C** fire and hail, snow and mist,  
stormy wind fulfilling his word!

**P** Mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars!

**C** Beasts and all livestock,  
creeping things and flying birds!

**P** Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!

**C** Young men and maidens together,  
old men and children!

**P** Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his majesty is above earth and heaven.

**C** He has raised up a horn for his people,  
praise for all his saints,

for the people of Israel who are near to him.  
Praise the LORD!

*(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

**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.

Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## **FIRST READING**

*Acts 5:29–42*

<sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. <sup>30</sup>The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand

as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

<sup>33</sup>When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. <sup>34</sup>But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. <sup>35</sup>And he said to them, “Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. <sup>36</sup>For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. <sup>37</sup>After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. <sup>38</sup>So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; <sup>39</sup>but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, <sup>40</sup>and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to

speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.  
 <sup>41</sup>Then they left the presence of the council,  
 rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer  
 dishonor for the name. <sup>42</sup>And every day, in the  
 temple and from house to house, they did not  
 cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **EPISTLE**

*1 Peter 1:3–9*

### **Born Again to a Living Hope**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord  
 Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has  
 caused us to be born again to a living hope  
 through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the  
 dead, <sup>4</sup>to an inheritance that is imperishable,  
 undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,  
 <sup>5</sup>who by God's power are being guarded through  
 faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last  
 time. <sup>6</sup>In this you rejoice, though now for a little  
 while, if necessary, you have been grieved by  
 various trials, <sup>7</sup>so that the tested genuineness of  
 your faith—more precious than gold that perishes

though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, <sup>9</sup>obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

**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**

*John 20:19–31*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twentieth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

## **Jesus Appears to the Disciples**

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

## **Jesus and Thomas**

<sup>24</sup>Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

<sup>26</sup>Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the

doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.” <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

## **The Purpose of This Book**

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup>but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON HYMN**

## 464 THE STRIFE IS O'ER, THE BATTLE DONE

**ref Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**1** The strife is o'er, the battle done;  
Now is the victor's triumph won;  
Now be the song of praise begun.  
Alleluia!

**2** The pow'rs of death have done their worst,  
But Christ their legions hath dispersed.  
Let shouts of holy joy outburst.  
Alleluia!

**3** The three sad days have quickly sped,  
He rises glorious from the dead.  
All glory to our risen Head!  
Alleluia!

**4** He broke the age-bound chains of hell;  
The bars from heav'n's high portals fell.  
Let hymns of praise His triumph tell.  
Alleluia!

5 Lord, by the stripes which wounded Thee,  
From death's dread sting Thy servants free  
That we may live and sing to Thee.  
Alleluia! Refrain

## **SERMON**

**"Lord, Give Us Such a Faith"**

*... Pastor Karl*

*(Please rise)*

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**☐ 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**

# **917 SAVIOR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME WE** **RAISE**

- 1** Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;  
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship  
cease,  
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.
  
- 2** Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;  
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the  
day.  
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from  
shame,  
That in this house have called upon Thy  
name.
  
- 3** Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming  
night;  
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.  
From harm and danger keep Thy children  
free;  
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.

4 Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.

## **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: Tim Tobeck

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Doug Grage, Tim Tobeck

Reader: Gary Barkhaus

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

## **Our Response to God's Love**

Maundy Thursday – 22

Good Friday – 32

Sunrise Service – 24

Celebration Service – 101

**Celebrating birthdays this week: 4/14: Pastor  
Glander, Raul Puga; 4/16: Holly Bell, Beverly  
Kogoy**

## **Celebrating anniversaries this week: 4/17:**

Linda & Jeff Kirsch (*44yrs*)

### **COFFEE & CONVERSATION**

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

### **ADULT SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY and SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Pastor Glander leads a Bible study in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:30 service and Sunday school for the children is in the classroom.

### **WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

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

### **HAM DINNER**

It was a pleasure having you join us for our last church dinner of the season! Your presence added to the fellowship, and we truly appreciated it. A huge thank you to everyone who helped cook,

make delicious desserts, set up, and clean up—we couldn't have done it without you. It was the perfect way to conclude the season, and we hope the memories encourage you through the break. We look forward to seeing everyone again when we resume our gatherings. God bless you!

## **Church Council**

**TODAY, April 12, 2026** ~ will meet right after  
Bible Class

## **MOVIE NIGHT**

### ***Firing Squad***

**April 19, 2026** ~ 6:00 p.m. ~ POPCORN AND  
ROOTBEER FLOATS WILL BE SERVED  
STARTING AT 5:30 p.m. COME JOIN IN THE  
FUN!!

## **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:

Will, Addison, Diane Pfaff, Beth, Diane, Sara, Susan, Pam, Betty, Ron, Jim, Carolyn Barnes, Tyler Wilke, Gary Cooper, Gary, Betty, Maeve, Jon and Joyce, Alica, Betty, Chris Tobeck, Keith Tobeck, Andy, Peggy, Jack, Karen and Doug, Jim, Ron, Helen, Happiness for my family, For all God's creation for all mistreated animals, Larry and Linda, Helen, Sandi, Peggy, Tim Carlton, Roberta Lasocki Carlton, Ron Perry, Les Dreischerf, Cannon, Debbie Steele, Levi, Dominick Junior, Abigail and family, Amy and family, Terri, Thersea L., Scot, Melinda, Nick, Rose, Don, Carl, James and his family, Pam and Paul, John and Judy Wittenberg, Paul, Dick, Larry, Bill Denny, Bill, Denny, Sharyn, Christa and Axel, Johnie, Sherri and Gene, Ken T., Sarah, Jackie, Wayne, And those in our hearts

**For Those Who have recently lost loved ones:**  
The family and friends of Andy MacDonald, The family and friends of Joe Calcagino, The family and friends of George Kranz

**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.**

Pam, Edison and Karen Johnson, Chester and Linda Rust, Dorothy Riddle

## **PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION**

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

Son-in-law (being deployed for a year in the Coast Guard), Donald Sepulveda

**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.**