

November 15, 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
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Rev. Karl P. Glander, Pastor
Pastor's Cell Phone: **(239) 293-1489**
Pastor's E-Mail Address:
pastorkarlglander@gmail.com
Linda Kirsch, Church Secretary

The importance of encouraging one another.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who would benefit from an encouraging word while going through a tough time?
A *talent* in Jesus' day was money. Jesus tells a story about three servants (Matthew 25:14-30).

One hid his money and never used it. In our day, we think of a talent as a natural ability to be good at something and God given. If we are good at something, we should not hide our talent but use it to the best of our ability. Think or talk about what talent(s) you have. *Pray:* **Dear God, help me to use my talents, whether big or small, so that others may know of your love. Amen.**

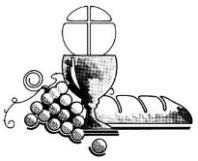


IT IS GREAT TO HAVE YOU IN WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!

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!



ATTENDING COMMUNION AT BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.
Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not

yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of Bethlehem Lutheran Church LCMS and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are invited to speak with Pastor Karl Glander.

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 15, 2026

PRELUDE

✢ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✢

HYMN OF INVOCATION

83 TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE

1 Take my life and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
Always, only for my King;
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee.

4 Take my silver and my gold,
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect and use
Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

(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*

℗ 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 90:1–12*

Book Four

From Everlasting to Everlasting

℗ Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

C Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

P You return man to dust
and say, “Return, O children of man!”

C For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.

P You sweep them away as with a flood;
they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning:

C in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

P For we are brought to an end by your anger;
by your wrath we are dismayed.

C You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.

P For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

C The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

P Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?

C So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(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.**

♫THIS IS THE FEAST♫ *LSB 155*

C **This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; 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 *Zephaniah 1:7–16*

The Day of the LORD Is Near

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons

and all who array themselves in foreign attire.
9On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10"On that day," declares the LORD,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
11Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
'The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'
13Their goods shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,

they shall not drink wine from them.”
14 The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;
the mighty man cries aloud there.
15 A day of wrath is that day,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

The Day of the Lord

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons,
brothers, you have no need to have anything
written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware
that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the
night. 3 While people are saying, “There is peace

and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. [4]But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. [5]For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. [6]So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. [7]For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. [8]But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. [9]For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, [10]who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. [11]Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

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 25:14–30*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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

The Parable of the Talents

14 [Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on
a journey, who called his servants and entrusted
to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents,
to another two, to another one, to each according
to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had
received the five talents went at once and traded
with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So
also he who had the two talents made two talents
more. 18 But he who had received the one talent
went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s
money. 19 Now after a long time the master of
those servants came and settled accounts with
them. 20 And he who had received the five talents

came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.’ [21]His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ [22]And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ [23]His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ [24]He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, [25]so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ [26]But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? [27]Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the

ten talents. [29]For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [30]And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY

611 CHIEF OF SINNERS THOUGH I BE

1 Chief of sinners though I be,
Jesus shed His blood for me,
Died that I might live on high,
Lives that I might never die.
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.

2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea,

Lasting as eternity!
Love that found me—wondrous thought!
Found me when I sought Him not.

3 Only Jesus can impart
Balm to heal the wounded heart,
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.

4 Chief of sinners though I be,
Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known,
All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life
Safe with Him from earthly strife.

5 O my Savior, help afford
By Your Spirit and Your Word!
When my wayward heart would stray,
Keep me in the narrow way;
Grace in time of need supply
While I live and when I die.

SERMON

"***No Time for Complacency***"

. . . Pastor Karl



(Please rise)

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,

by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

℗ Lord, in Your mercy
℃ Hear our prayer.

(Please be seated)

OFFERING

♫OFFERTORY♫

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.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose

from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

♫SANCTUS♫ *LSB 161*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *LSB 161*

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing

sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI *LSB 163*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

♫AGNUS DEI♫ *LSB 163*

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Please be seated)

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

618 I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE

1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: **Refrain**

ref **Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood**
Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **Refrain**

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: **Refrain**

ref **Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood**
Be for my soul the highest good!

4 Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. **Refrain**

5 What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. **Refrain**

685 LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS

1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,

Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.

Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

617 O LORD, WE PRAISE THEE

1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish:
O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,

And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!

2 Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us!
O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid;
Peace with God once more is made:
O Lord, have mercy!

3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor
That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union
Nor despise this blest Communion!
O Lord, have mercy!
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see

Days of peace and unity:
O Lord, have mercy!

(Please rise)

♫THANK THE LORD♫ *LSB 164*

C **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.**
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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)

HYMN TO DEPART

806 GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART

1 Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.
And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, give thanks.

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: Darrell Erdman, Doug Grage
Reader: Holly Bell

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

Celebrating birthdays this week: 11/15: Dawn Steckelberg

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):

_____

Gifts of Thanksgiving

The Church Mortgage & debt reduction supported by a commemorative financial gift given by **Doug & Sandy Grage in celebration of their birthday's**. We join them in thanking God for the blessing of another year and pray for a wonderful birthday celebration!

Our Response to God's Love

Worship Service – 58
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 Marie Esquerre and Kerry Ferguson. Thank you!

CHICKEN DINNER

Thank You for Assisting We sincerely thank all those who volunteered their assistance with the Chicken Dinner Thursday. The baked goods were wonderful, and the teamwork done by so many was outstanding! Thank you! We could never have done it without 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 are in the classroom.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Today, Sunday, November 15, 2026, ~ will meet right after Bible Class

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.

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.

Operation Christmas Child Update: 186 Boxes Packed!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our annual Operation Christmas Child project! Whether you donated items, gave financially, or helped pack on Sunday, your generosity made a huge impact. Thanks to your abundant donations, our Monday Morning Activities group packed an

additional 50 boxes (and got a great workout in the process!), bringing our grand total to a phenomenal **186 shoeboxes**!
Because we exceeded our goal, we still need help covering the **$10 per box** shipping cost for these extra boxes. If you feel led to contribute toward shipping, please give your donation to Betty Willis or Mickie Naumann by today. Thank you for helping share joy around the world!

HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

This year, as in the past, we will provide Holiday Food Baskets for 77 needy families in our community. We will collect food items, organize and pack them December 13th, and distribute the baskets 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 Food Items:

Canned vegetables
Instant, canned, or scalloped potatoes
Gravy
Peanut butter and jellies/jams
Pasta and pasta sauce

Canned soup
Macaroni & cheese
Rice and beans
Tuna fish
Hot chocolate packets
Desserts and puddings
Box of crackers
Jar of nuts

Monetary Donations:

We are also in need of cash donations to purchase turkeys and hams. If you are unable to shop or be here in person but would still like to help, please make a check out to Bethlehem and write "Holiday Basket" in the memo line. Every gift is very much appreciated!

Prayer Focus:

Please join us in praying for the tangible and evident love of Christ to be made known as these baskets and meals are provided. Pray for boldness for the givers to share the message of Christ and His great love for us, and for the receivers to have open ears to hear it and an open heart to receive it.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SERVICES

Thanksgiving Eve: November 25 at 7:00pm
Wednesday Advent Worship: December 2, 9, & 16 at 7:00pm
Christmas Eve: 7:00pm (Communion)
Christmas Day: 10:30am (Communion)

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:

David, Brian, Johnieann, Denny, Bill, People, Katie and Steph, Grandma, Sharon, Chuck, Sandy, Melinda, Ed, April, Scott, Chip, Our church, Johanna and family, Malin and family, Al, Alyssa

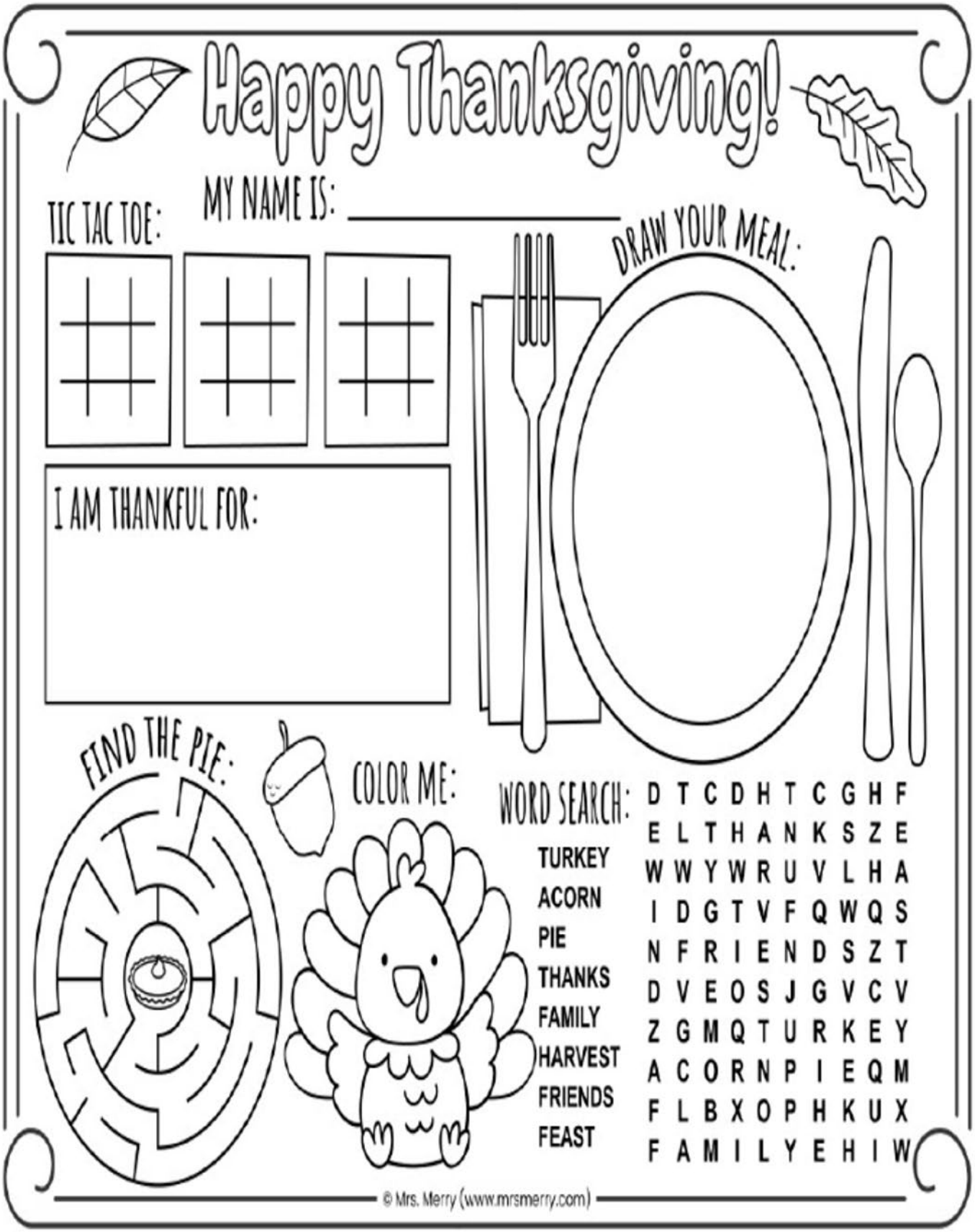
and her family, Paul, Klaus, And those in our hearts

For Those Who have recently lost loved ones: The family and friends of Kay Remmers, The family and friends of Pam Rugenstein

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.

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.


Happy Thanksgiving!
MY NAME IS: _____
TIC TAC TOE:
DRAW YOUR MEAL:
I AM THANKFUL FOR:
FIND THE PIE:
COLOR ME:
WORD SEARCH:
TURKEY
ACORN
PIE
THANKS
FAMILY
HARVEST
FRIENDS
FEAST
D T C D H T C G H F
E L T H A N K S Z E
W W Y W R U V L H A
I D G T V F Q W Q S
N F R I E N D S Z T
D V E O S J G V C V
Z G M Q T U R K E Y
A C O R N P I E Q M
F L B X O P H K U X
F A M I L Y E H I W
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BIBLE WORD SEARCH PUZZLE - THANKSGIVING

Psalm 50:14 Offer to God thanksgiving, And pay your vows to the Most High.

Psalm 69:30 I will praise the name of God with a song, And will magnify Him with thanksgiving.

Psalm 95:2 Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving; Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.

Psalm 100:4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

Psalm 107:22 Let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, And declare His works with rejoicing.

Psalm 116:17 I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, And will call upon the name of the LORD.

Psalm 147:7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; Sing praises on the harp to our God,



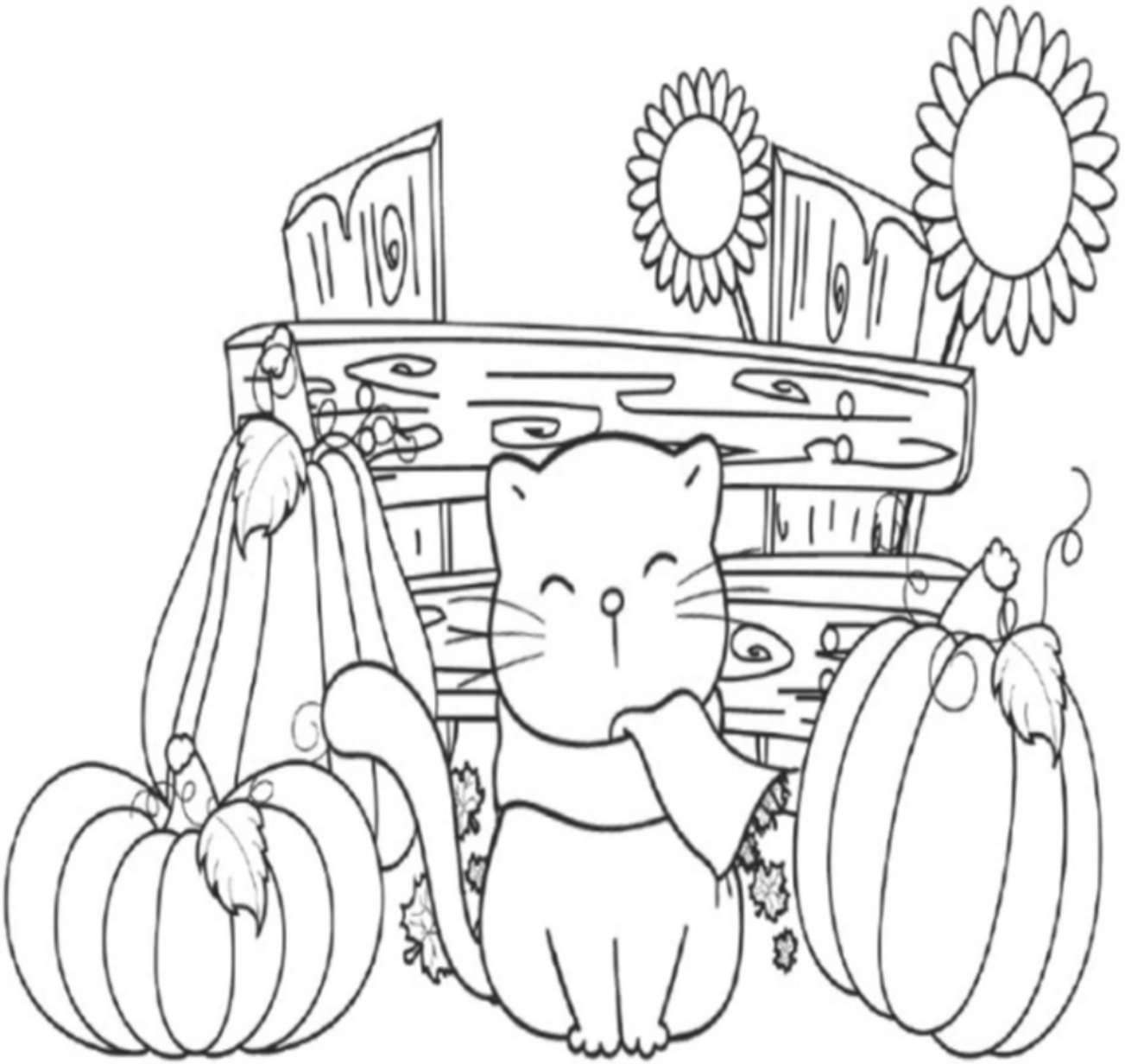
Find the words in the verses and add the missing letters

O_ _ER	_S_ _M_	_ _JO_C_ _
PRA_ _SE	E_ _ _R	SA_R_F_ _E
AGNI _	_H_ _ _FUL	_ _ _D
PR_SE_ _E	B_ _ _S	S_ _ _
J_ _F_LL_	D_C_ _RE	TH_ _ _SGI_ _ _ _

Find the words. They're hidden in all directions.

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

www.ReasonsForHopeJesus.com



I will praise the name of God with a song,
and will magnify him with thanksgiving.

PSALM 69:30

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Ham Dinner



Thursday, December 10th,
4-7 pm
Ham, scalloped potatoes, coleslaw, baked beans, 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



At Christmas, we decorate the church in celebration of the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. If you would like to present a poinsettia in honor, memory, or celebration of a person or event, please fill out this form and place it, with payment, in the offering plate. Each poinsettia costs $6.00. All poinsettia donations will be acknowledged in the Christmas Eve Worship Bulletin. We need your order by November 29th. Thank you!

_____ Poinsettia @ $6.00 each = _____

Presented by: _____

Please note whether these plant(s) are:

In Loving Memory of

_____

In Honor of _____

In Celebration of

_____

To the Glory of God for

_____

Place this form with proper payment in an envelope and place in offering plate or send to Bethlehem Lutheran Church 14531 Old Olga Road, Fort Myers, FL 33905