



July 27, 2025

**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

Jesus teaches his followers to pray.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who can you visit and pray with?

Prayer is a practice we need to learn, both as individuals and when in groups. Even Jesus' disciples needed to learn how to pray. Prayer helps us to grow in our relationship with God.

What part does prayer play in your daily life? Consider building a daily routine of prayer using the acronym **ACTS** as a guide. **A**doration is praising God, **C**onfession is admitting wrong doings, **T**hanksgiving is thanking God, and **S**upplication is asking and making requests known to God. Take a moment now to use this format and write a prayer for today. Read your prayer aloud and finish by saying “Amen,” which means “so be it.”



**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!

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 27, 2025

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

770 WHAT A FRIEND WE HAVE IN JESUS

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
Oh, what needless pain we bear—
All because we do not carry
Ev'rything to God in prayer!

- 2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

- 3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?

Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
Thou wilt find a solace there.

(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.

☩ 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.

☩ Amen.

(Please be seated)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 138

Give Thanks to the LORD

[P] I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

[C] I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your
steadfast love and your faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.

[P] On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.

[C] All the kings of the earth shall give you
thanks, O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,

[P] and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.

C For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.

P Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life;
you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,
and your right hand delivers me.

C The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.

(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

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.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be attentive to the prayers of Your servants, and by Your Word and Spirit teach us how to pray that our petitions

may be pleasing before You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☐ Amen.

(Please be seated)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 18:20–33

²⁰Then the LORD said, “Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, ²¹I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know.”

Abraham Intercedes for Sodom

²²So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD.

²³Then Abraham drew near and said, “Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked?

²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to

death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake."

²⁷Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹Again he spoke to him and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹He said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³²Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." ³³And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Colossians 2:6–19

Alive in Christ

⁶Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹²having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our

trespasses, ¹⁴by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

Let No One Disqualify You

¹⁶Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. ¹⁷These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, ¹⁹and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please rise)

♪ ALLELUIA AND VERSE ♪

LSB 156

☐ Alleluia.

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

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 11:1–13

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the
eleventh chapter.

☐ Glory to You, O Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

¹Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” ²And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³Give us each day our daily bread,

⁴and forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation.”

⁵And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him,

‘Friend, lend me three loaves, ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; ⁷and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? ⁸I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. ⁹And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; ¹²or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

CPraise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

766 OUR FATHER, WHO FROM HEAVEN **ABOVE**

(Stanzas 1–4)

- 1 Our Father, who from heav'n above
Bids all of us to live in love
 As members of one family
 And pray to You in unity,
Teach us no thoughtless words to say
But from our inmost hearts to pray.
- 2 Your name be hallowed. Help us, Lord,
In purity to keep Your Word,
 That to the glory of Your name
 We walk before You free from blame.
Let no false teaching us pervert;
All poor deluded souls convert.
- 3 Your kingdom come. Guard Your domain
And Your eternal righteous reign.
 The Holy Ghost enrich our day
 With gifts attendant on our way.

Break Satan's pow'r, defeat his rage;
Preserve Your Church from age to age.

4 Your gracious will on earth be done
As it is done before Your throne,
That patiently we may obey
Throughout our lives all that You say.
Curb flesh and blood and ev'ry ill
That sets itself against Your will.

SERMON

"Lord, teach us to pray"

. . . 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

783 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.

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



Go and Serve the Lord

Preacher: Rev. Karl P. Glander

Organist: Holly Bell

Flutist: Nancy Rybak

The Sound System: Jeff Kirsch

Elder: Klaus Naumann

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Klaus & Mickie Naumann

Reader: Mickie Naumann



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



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 Murray's. 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 – 46

Adult Bible Class – 13

Sunday School – 4

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CALENDAR

July 27, 2025 – August 3, 2025

TODAY: 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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

July 27 11:30 a.m. Sunday School

MONDAY: 9am-12pm VBS God Calls Moses - Exodus 3
July 28

TUESDAY: 9am-12pm VBS God Leads His People to the
July 29 Promised Land - Joshua 3–4

WEDNESDAY: 9am-12pm VBS The Parable of the Good
July 30 Samaritan - Luke 10:25–37

THURSDAY: 9am-12pm VBS Peter and John Race to
July 31 the Tomb - John 20:1–10, 19–20

**FRIDAY: 9am-12pm VBS Jesus Ascends to the Father -
August 1 Luke 24:44–53; Acts 1:1–11**

**SATURDAY:
July 26**

**NEXT 10:30 a.m. Worship Service w/Holy Communion
SUNDAY 11:30 a.m. Church/VBS Picnic
August 3**



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.



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
Sandi – Hodgkins and autoimmune disease
Cammy – brain tumor stable
Cannon – cancer
Dorothy – in memory care
Haven – in remission
Gail – running tests for leukemia
Edison – health issues
Ava – cancer
Holly – start immunotherapy
Sharon – cancer
Joe – stage 4 lung cancer, hospitalized
Bob – need shots in eyes
Holly – needs pacemaker, hernia repaired, found a mass in her stomach area
Family with children who have strayed
Millie – bad fall
Lisa – family struggling in many ways
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
Peggy – after rehab can use cane and walker now
Sharon – need rest and stop worrying
Annette – ductal carcinoma in situ
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
Holly – needs pacemaker, hernia repaired, found a mass in her stomach area
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 – in rehab for therapy
Rick – stage 3 lung cancer
Sean – God knows
Lynne – health issues
Ron – hospitalized
Pam – health issues
Terri – health issues
Joe – health issues
Jessica – health issues
Sam – health issues
Paul – strengthening of faith
Judy – cancer
Larry – cancer
Cole – cancer
Anonymous – cancer
Nicole – broke lower leg
Pat – lot of health issues
Ken – massive heart attack in January, still in hospital with major brain damage
Les – hernia surgery and kidney dialysis
Donna – health issues, in hospital
Stormie – motorhome and car burnt, lost it all
Mary – entered into the presence of Jesus, please pray for the Schoop Family
Joan – stroke
Ron – prostate cancer
Andy – doing great after heart procedure
Barbara – had to remove part of her colon
Linda – open heart surgery
Texas – catastrophic floods
Martha – hospitalized for high blood pressure
Kenny – low oxygen and heart problems
Kevin and family – leaving for Guatemala
Holly – going through a lot
Dennis – perforated appendix
VBS – for children and staff

***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.