

*Twenty-Second Sunday
after Pentecost*

November 9, 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

In Christ we know our redeemer lives.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love.

Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help someone who is suffering?

Jesus tells the Sadducees that life after death is different. Think or talk about this difference through the lens of a caterpillar when it changes

into a butterfly. They are the same animal even though the stages of life are different. We do not know what life will be like after death. Jesus tells us it will be different, and we will be with God. Read this verse and then take a moment to think what the words mean to you: *“Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive”* (Luke 20:38).



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!

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 9, 2025

PRELUDE

✠ ORDER OF WORSHIP ✠

HYMN OF INVOCATION

575 MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;

No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name. **Refrain**

**ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

2 When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil. **Refrain**

3 His oath, His covenant and blood
Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. **Refrain**

4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne!
Refrain

(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 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

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.

Living God, Your almighty power is made known chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of Your grace to lay hold of Your promises and live forever in Your presence; 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

Exodus 3:1–15

The Burning Bush

¹Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ²And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the

bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. ³And Moses said, “I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.” ⁴When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, “Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I am.” ⁵Then he said, “Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” ⁶And he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

⁷Then the LORD said, “I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, ⁸and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ⁹And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you

may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.” ¹¹But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?” ¹²He said, “But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

¹³Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?”

¹⁴God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘I AM has sent me to you.’” ¹⁵God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

2 Thessalonians 2:1–8, 13–17

The Man of Lawlessness

¹Now concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we ask you, brothers, ²not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by a spirit or a spoken word, or a letter seeming to be from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord has come. ³Let no one deceive you in any way. For that day will not come, unless the rebellion comes first, and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the son of destruction, ⁴who opposes and exalts himself against every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, proclaiming himself to be God. ⁵Do you not remember that when I was still with you I told you these things? ⁶And you know what is restraining him now so that he may be revealed in his time. ⁷For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work. Only he who now restrains it will do so until he is out of the way. ⁸And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming. . . .

Stand Firm

¹³But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

¹⁴To this he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by our spoken word or by our letter.

¹⁶Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, ¹⁷comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

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

Luke 20:27–40

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

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

Sadducees Ask About the Resurrection

²⁷There came to [Jesus] some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, ²⁸and they asked him a question, saying, “Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man’s brother dies, having a wife but no children, the man must take the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.

²⁹Now there were seven brothers. The first took a wife, and died without children. ³⁰And the second ³¹and the third took her, and likewise all seven left no children and died. ³²Afterward the woman also died. ³³In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had her as wife.”

³⁴And Jesus said to them, “The sons of this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵but those who are considered worthy to attain to that age and to

the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage, ³⁶for they cannot die anymore, because they are equal to angels and are sons of God, being sons of the resurrection. ³⁷But that the dead are raised, even Moses showed, in the passage about the bush, where he calls the Lord the God of Abraham and the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. ³⁸Now he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for all live to him.” ³⁹Then some of the scribes answered, “Teacher, you have spoken well.” ⁴⁰For they no longer dared to ask him any question.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON HYMN

655 LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN YOUR WORD

1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword

Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.

2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

SERMON

"Love and Traditions"

. . . 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

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

924 LORD, DISMISS US WITH YOUR BLESSING

- 1** Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,
Fill our hearts with joy and peace;
Let us each, Your love possessing,
Triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us; O refresh us,
Trav'ling through this wilderness.

- 2** Thanks we give and adoration
For Your Gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of Your salvation
In our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
To Your truth may we be found.

3 Savior, when Your love shall call us
From our struggling pilgrim way,
Let not fear of death appall us,
Glad Your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
Reign with You in endless day.

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
Guest Pastor: Rev. Jon Zehnder

Organist: Holly Bell

Flutist: Nancy Rybak

Bells: Debbie Jackow

The Sound System: Jeff Kirsch

Elder: Klaus Naumann

Altar Guild: Emmy Larson, Betty Willis

Ushers: Richard Gerlach, Greg Murray

Reader: Greg Murray



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

Celebrating birthdays this week: 11/11: John Wittenberg

Celebrating anniversaries this week: 11/12: Wende & Steve Williams (36yrs)



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 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 – 54

Adult Bible Class – 17

Sunday School – 5

BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN CALENDAR

November 9, 2025 – November 16, 2025

TODAY 10:30 a.m. Worship Service

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

November 9

MONDAY:

November 10

TUESDAY:

November 11

WEDNESDAY: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study
November 12

THURSDAY: 4-7 p.m. Chicken breast Dinner
November 13

FRIDAY:
November 14

SATURDAY:
November 15

NEXT 10:30 a.m. Worship Service w/Holy Communion
SUNDAY: 11:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/Pastor
November 16 12:30 p.m. Church Council will meet
6:00 p.m. Movie Night



HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS

This year, as in the past we will provide Holiday food baskets. This year we have 72 needy families in our community. We will collect food items, organizing and packing them in December and then distributing food baskets in December 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 items are canned vegetables, instant/canned/scalloped potatoes, gravy, peanut butter & jellies/jams, pasta/sauce, canned soup, mac & cheese, rice/beans, tuna fish, hot chocolate packets, dessert, puddings, box of crackers, jar of nuts. We are also in need of cash donations for turkeys and hams. So, if you're not able to be here but would like to help, please make out a check to Bethlehem and put holiday basket in the memo, it will be very much appreciated. Thank you!

Prayer Focus: Please help us pray for the tangible and evident love of Christ to be made known as these baskets and meals are provided. Please help us pray for a boldness for the giver to share the message of Christ and His great love for us and for the receiver to have open ears to hear it, and an open heart to receive it!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth - we are building shoeboxes again this year. Boxes and instructions are available at church, online at Samaritanspurse.org. National collection

week is Nov. 17-24. We need \$360.00 more to ship OCC boxes in November. Money can be donated to Mickie, Terri, Mary or myself (Betty) at any time. Please contact Betty Willis with any questions. 239-240-5972.



Our Special Prayers and Intercessions

Accidents – Chico and Grandfather, Iris Smith, Rusty

ALS – Linda

Cancer – Andy, Anonymous, Ava, Barbara, Becky, Billie, Cannon, Chelsea, Cole, Dave, David, David, Don, Gail, Holly, Jenn, Joan, Joe, Judy, Ken, Larry, Rachel, Richard, Rick, Ron, Sharon, Sharon Rowe, Steve, Susan, Tina

In Remission – Annette, Cammy, Haven, Sandi

Convalescing: Betty, Bill, Chester, Debi, Dick, Edison, Joyce, Norma, Rick, Shirley, Ted

Eye – Bob, Carol, Sarah

Fighting for their lives - Barb, Dennis' mom, Jack Kirsch, James, Julie, Lisa, Lola, Rita, Robert's mom, Samuel Albritton, Scott, Shannon

Guidance – Amy, Anonymous, Chade, Holly, Kaden, Paul, Sean, Steven, TA

Head Injuries – Iris Smith, Jena, Ken, Maria Clara

Health Issues – Barb, Bob, Bruce, Carol, Christine, Dave, Edison, Gary, Jana, Jeff, Jessica, Joe, Kurt, Pam, Pat, Richard, Sal, Sam, Samantha, Sharon, Tamara, Tara, Terri, Tim, Yvonne

Heart Issues – Andy, Brad, Carol, Eddie, Holly, JoAnn, Ken Hult, Kenny, Linda, Sharon

Hospice - Jean

Hospitalized – Heather, Judy, Liliana, Lynn, Martha, Randy, Rick, Rita, Ron, Rosa Aguirre, Rosa

Long-term Illness/Treatment: Alan, Ann, Bella, Betty, Bill, Bob, Brian, Buck, Charleen, Chip, Daphne, Darlene, David, Debi, Dennis, Doug, Dylan, Edison, Ellen, Elizabeth, Jake, James, Jene, Jennifer, Jonathan, Judy, Julianna, Julie, Katie, Kim, Kim Lewis, Les, Lidia, Lillie Anne, Lisa, Liz mom, Lizzy, Madden, Mehli, Mike, Millie, Myra and family, Nathan, Neil Fiore, Nicole, Pam, Phillip, Rebecca, Richard, Richard, Rick, Rita, Sandy, Terri, Theresa, Timmy, Trace Ryan

Memory Care - Dorothy

Mental illness – Giney, Lisa, Viola

Natural Disasters: Texas

Our Homebound - Edison and Karen Johnson,
Chester and Linda Rust

Physical health and Rehab – Chip, Iris

Strengthening of faith – Carolyn, Paul

Suffered a stroke - Adrian, Doug, Ed, Gary, Joan,
Kevin, Shirley, Theresa

Caregivers - Amy, Eugene, Lorrie, Paul, Tina

Anonymous – prayer for discernment whether to
move back to Midwest, finding the right path.

Dave – for health and salvation

For mom – trip to Florida in December

Anonymous – pray for a healthy pregnancy

For Those Who have recently lost loved ones: The
family and friends of Joy Kulbacki, The family and
friends of Nancy Mihich, The family and friends of Chris
Jensen

Chicken breast Dinner



Thursday, November 13th,
4-7 pm

Delicious boneless chicken breast, mashed potatoes/gravy, coleslaw, green beans, bun, drink, and delicious dessert

\$10.00 adult \$5.00 child

Eat in or take out

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