



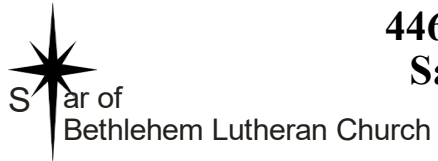
**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

“VERY TRULY I TELL YOU,
THE ONE WHO BELIEVES
HAS ETERNAL LIFE.”

JOHN 6:47



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Worship Service

Sunday, August 18, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Thirteenth Sunday after PENTECOST

Theme of the day: The lessons from God's Word for today encourage us to examine our spiritual diet. In order to stay alive spiritually, a person needs the real Bread which is Jesus Christ. The only way to receive this special nourishment is through his Gospel in Word and Sacraments.



WELCOME

A warm welcome to our friends and visitors! Star of Bethlehem Lutheran Church is eager to share with you the blessings of its Christ-centered ministry. If you are a new or long-time resident of the Central Coast looking for a church home, we invite you to meet with us at the close of this worship service or at your convenience. All are welcome to stay for refreshments in the fellowship hall.

Families are encouraged to worship together. If you need to step out with your children, the service can be seen and heard in the fellowship hall or narthex area. Feel free to enter and return at any time.

OUR MISSION

Our congregation exists for the purpose of "HOLDING OUT THE WORD OF LIFE." This is accomplished by faithfully preserving and proclaiming all of God's inerrant word, and administering the Sacraments as they were instituted by Christ.

OPENING HYMN: # 581 “Lord, ’Tis Not That I Did Choose You”

♪ **Lord, ’tis not that I did choose you;
that, I know, could never be,
for this heart would still refuse you
had your grace not chosen me.
You removed the sin that stained me,
cleansing me to be your own;
for this purpose you ordained me, that I live for you alone.**

**It was grace in Christ that called me,
taught my darkened heart and mind;
else the world had yet enthralled me,
to your heav’nly glories blind.
Now I worship none above you; for your grace alone I thirst,
knowing well that, if I love you, you, O Father, loved me first.**

Please stand for last verse:

**Praise the God of all creation,
praise the Father’s boundless love.
Praise the Lamb, our expiation,
Priest and King enthroned above.
Praise the Spirit of salvation, him by whom our spirits live.
Undivided adoration to the great Jehovah give.**

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.** (*spoken*)

M: God invites us to come into his presence to worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: ♪ Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

C. ♪ Amen.

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

♪ O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth. Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Fa-ther, you crown our life with your love. You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it; you make us pure and ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your on-ly Son, but gave him up for us all.

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth. O Son of God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther, you came to live with us; you made your Fa-ther known; you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the King of glo-ry; you are the Lord!

O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.

M: Gracious Father, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread that gives life to the world. Grant that Christ, the bread of life, may live in us and we in him, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:  Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Proverbs 9:1-6

- ¹Wisdom has built her house.
She has carved out her seven pillars.**
- ²She has prepared her meat.
She has mixed her wine.
She has already set her table.**
- ³She has sent out her servant girls.
She calls from the highest point in the city,**
- ⁴“Whoever is naïve, let him turn in here.”
To someone who lacks sense she says,**
- ⁵“Come, eat my food,
and drink the wine that I have mixed.**
- ⁶Abandon your naïve ways and live.
Travel the road to understanding.”**

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 111

Refrain



Sing to the Lord a new song, for



he has done mar - vel - ous things.



Great are the works of the LORD;*
they are pondered by all who delight in them.

Glorious and majestic are his deeds,*
and his righteousness endures forever.

He has caused his wonders to be remembered;*
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.

Refrain

The works of his hands are faithful and just;*
all his precepts are trustworthy.

He provided redemption for his people;*
he ordained his covenant forever.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;*
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the Last Day. Alleluia.
(John 6:44)

C: ♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
These words are written that we may believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL LESSON: John 6:35-51

³⁵“I am the Bread of Life,” Jesus told them. “The one who comes to me will never be hungry, and the one who believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶But I said to you that you have also seen me, and you do not believe. ³⁷Everyone the Father gives me will come to me, and the one who comes to me I will never cast out. ³⁸For I have come down from heaven, not to do my will, but the will of him who sent me. ³⁹And this is the will of him who sent me: that I should lose none of those he has given me, but raise them up on the Last Day. ⁴⁰For this is the will of my Father: that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life. And I will raise him up on the Last Day.”

⁴¹So the Jews started grumbling about him, because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴²They asked, “Isn’t this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? So how can he say, ‘I have come down from heaven?’”

⁴³Jesus answered them, “Stop grumbling among yourselves. ⁴⁴No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the Last Day. ⁴⁵It is written in the Prophets, ‘They will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me. ⁴⁶I am not saying that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God. He is the one who has seen the Father. ⁴⁷Amen, Amen, I tell you: The one who believes in me has eternal life.

⁴⁸“I am the Bread of Life. ⁴⁹Your fathers ate manna in the wilderness, and they died. ⁵⁰This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that anyone may eat it and not die. ⁵¹I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever. The bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

HYMN: # 633 “Speak, O Lord”

♪ **Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
to receive the food of your Holy Word;
take your truth, plant it deep in us,
shape and fashion us in your likeness,
that the light of Christ might be seen today
in our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
all your purposes for your glory.**

**Teach us, Lord, full obedience, holy reverence, true humility;
test our thoughts and our attitudes
in the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see
your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail,
let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds,
help us grasp the heights of your plans for us,
truths unchanged from the dawn of time,
that will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises,
and by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your Church is built,
and the earth is filled with your glory.**

SERMON: Philippians 2:12-16

¹²So then, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed, not only when I was with you, but also now much more in my absence, continue to work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ¹³In fact, it is God who is working in you, both to will and to work, for the sake of his good pleasure. ¹⁴Do everything without complaining and arguing, ¹⁵so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God without blemish among a crooked and perverted generation. You shine among them like lights in the world, ¹⁶as you hold on to the word of life. Then I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the father, the Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

THE HOLY SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you. (*spoken*)

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, he empowered his Church to be witnesses of Christ to the ends of the earth.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

♪ **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.
You are my God, and I will exalt you.
I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.**

Holy Communion, will be celebrated in today's service. The Bible teaches us that Jesus offers us his body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins in the Lord's Supper. The Bible also instructs us that receiving the Lord's Supper together is a public expression of our complete "oneness," or unity of faith.

Because the Lord's Supper is an expression of our unity in faith, we invite to the Lord's Supper only those who have expressed that unity with us through membership in our congregation or one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), or our sister church body, the ELS.

If you are a guest from another Christian church, we kindly ask that you simply refrain from participation in our celebration of the Lord's Supper today. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of declaring your agreement with our beliefs before you have had a chance to learn more.

The Words of Institution

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

♪ **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. Amen.**

HYMN: # 528 “Christ the Word of God Incarnate”

**♪ Christ, the Word of God incarnate,
Lord and Son of Abraham;
Christ, the radiance of the Father,
perfect God, the great I AM;
Christ, the light, you shine unvanquished,
light and life you bring to all;
light our path with your own presence,
grant us grace to heed your call.**

**Christ, the living bread from heaven,
food for body, food for soul;
Christ, the manna, daily given,
nourish, strengthen, make us whole.
Feed us with the food of heaven, foretaste of the feast to be;
quench our thirst with living water springing up eternally.**

**Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant
from the stump of Jesse’s tree;
Christ, true vine, you nurture branches
to bear fruit abundantly.
Graft us into you, O Savior; prune our hearts so we remain
fruitful branches in your vineyard till eternal life we gain.**

**Christ, our good and faithful shepherd,
watching all your lambs and sheep;
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold,
never-failing vigil keep.
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us,
find us, lift us, bear us home;
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us;
let us hear Your voice alone.**

**Christ, the way that leads unfailing
to the Father’s home on high,
Christ, the truth that frees the captive,
Christ, the life that cannot die;
mediator to the Father, sacrifice and great High Priest:
lead us to your heav’nly mansions,
there to share Your wedding feast.**

**Christ, the Alpha and Omega,
Christ, the firstborn from the dead;
Christ, the life and resurrection,
Christ, the Church's glorious head:
praise and thanks and adoration and unending worship be
to the Father and the Spirit and to you eternally.**

THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

**♪ 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 renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **♪ Amen.**

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: **♪ Amen. Amen. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: # 511 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

**♪ Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King thro' all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of love— behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright.**

**Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.**

**Crown him the Lord of heav'n, enthroned in worlds above;
crown him the King to whom is giv'n
the wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns as thrones before him fall;
crown him, ye kings, with many crowns
for he is King of all.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS: Remember to pray for: Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, little Elias, Dennis Douglas, Bob Ward, George Caravana, Molly Webb (and brother, Jim), Helen Marten, Doug Ward, Kathy Jones, Art Amarillas, Melinda Brown, Alice Taubman, Monica, Louise Perry, Rylan Downs, Jeff Brown, Aaron Taubman, Judy Washburn, Marlene Washburn, Terry's siblings Linda & Carp, Kathryn Pereira, and Helen Cummings .

THIS WEEK

Today	Fellowship Lunch and Voters' Meeting
Thursday	Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.
Saturday	Waller Park Outreach Day, 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Sunday	Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Christian Questions

prepared by Dr. Martin Luther for those who intend to go to the Sacrament

1. Do you believe that you are a sinner? Yes, I believe it. I am a sinner.

2. How do you know this?

From the Ten Commandments, which I have not kept.

3. Are you sorry for your sins?

Yes, I am sorry that I have sinned against God.

4. What have you deserved from God because of your sins?

His wrath and displeasure, temporal death, and eternal damnation.

See Romans 6:21, 23.

5. Do you hope to be saved? Yes, that is my hope.

6. In whom then do you trust? In my dear Lord Jesus Christ.

7. Who is Christ? The Son of God, true God and man.

8. How many Gods are there?

Only one, but there are three persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

9. What has Christ done for you that you trust in Him?

He died for me and shed His blood for me on the cross for the forgiveness of sins.

10. Did the Father also die for you?

He did not. The Father is God only, as is the Holy Spirit; but the Son is both true God and true man. He died for me and shed His blood for me.

11. How do you know this?

From the holy Gospel, from the words instituting the Sacrament, and by His body and blood given me as a pledge in the Sacrament.

12. What are the words of institution?

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."

13. Do you believe, then, that the true body and blood of Christ are in the Sacrament? Yes, I believe it.

14. What convinces you to believe this?

The word of Christ: Take, eat, this is My body; drink of it, all of you, this is My blood.

15. What should we do when we eat His body and drink His blood, and in this way receive His pledge?

We should remember and proclaim His death and the shedding of His blood, as He taught us: This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.

16. Why should we remember and proclaim His death?

First, so that we may learn to believe that no creature could make satisfaction for our sins. Only Christ, true God and man, could do that. Second, so we may learn to be horrified by our sins, and to regard them as very serious.

Third, so we may find joy and comfort in Christ alone, and through faith in Him be saved.

17. What motivated Christ to die and make full payment for your sins?

His great love for His Father and for me and other sinners, as it is written in John 14; Romans 5; Galatians 2; and Ephesians 5.

18. Finally, why do you wish to go to the Sacrament?

That I may learn to believe that Christ, out of great love, died for my sin, and also learn from Him to love God and my neighbor.

19. What should admonish and encourage a Christian to receive the Sacrament frequently?

First, both the command and the promise of Christ the Lord. Second, his own pressing need, because of which the command, encouragement, and promise are given.

20. But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?

To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7.

Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in John 15–16 and in 1 John 2 and 5.

Third, he will certainly have the devil also around him, who with his lying and murdering day and night will let him have no peace, within or without, as the Scriptures picture him in John 8 and 16; 1 Peter 5; Ephesians 6; and 2 Timothy 2.

I am



the bread of life.

- John 6:35