

We are

more than
conquerors

through him
who loved us.

- Romans 8:37 -



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, February 18, 2018 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday in LENT

Theme of the day: Jesus Christ came into this world to live and die as our substitute. He led the perfect life we could not live because of sin and died in our place, suffering the vengeance of all our sins. No one can take from us the salvation that is in Christ Jesus nor separate us from the love of God that we have through Christ.

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.

WE ENTER THE HOUSE OF THE LORD

OPENING HYMN: # 226 “To Your Temple I Draw Near”

♪ To your temple I draw near;
Lord, I love to worship here.
Here are sacrament and Word;
Here believers meet their Lord.

I through Christ am reconciled;
I through Christ become your child.
Abba, Father, give me grace
In your courts to seek your face.

While your glorious praise is sung,
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue,
That my joyful soul may bless
Christ the Lord, my righteousness.

While the prayers of saints ascend,
God of love, to mine attend.
Hear me, for your Spirit pleads;
Hear, for Jesus intercedes.

While I listen to your law,
Fill my soul with holy awe
Till your gospel brings to me
Life and immortality.

While your ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear you speaking from the sky.

Please stand for last verse:

From your house, when I return,
May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say,
“I have walked with God today.”

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*)

Confession of Sins

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

Prayer and Praise

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 Father, 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.

Prayer of the Day

M: Lord our strength, the battle of good and evil rages within and around us, and our ancient foe tempts us with his deceits and empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your Word, and when we fall, raise us up again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:  **Amen**

Please be seated.

First Lesson: Romans 8:31-39

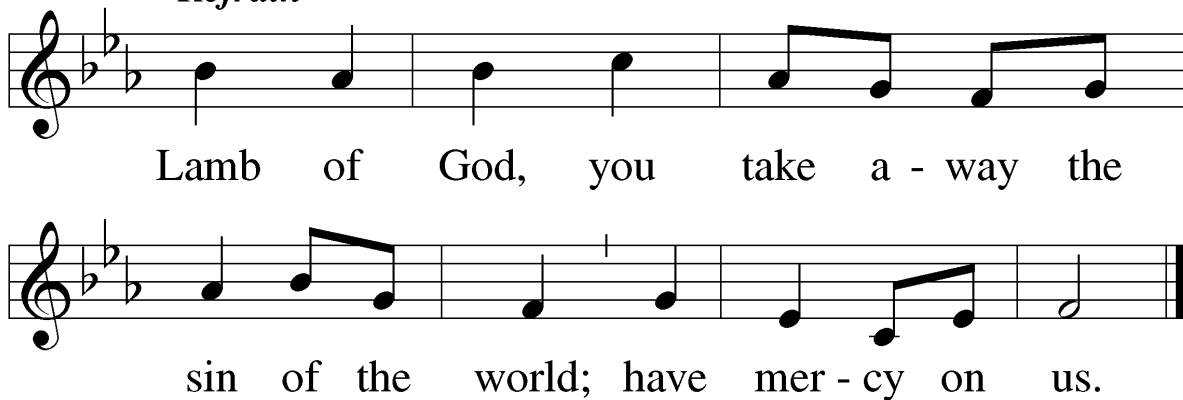
³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? ³⁶ As it is written:

**“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”**

³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, ³⁹ neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 6

Refrain



Psalm tone



**O LORD, do not rebuke me in your anger*
or discipline me in your wrath.**

**Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint;*
O LORD, heal me, for my soul is in anguish.**

**Turn, O LORD, and deliver me;*
save me because of your unfailing love.**

Refrain

I am worn out from groaning.*
My eyes grow weak with sorrow.

Away from me, all you who do evil,*
for the LORD has heard my weeping.

The LORD has heard my cry for mercy;
the LORD accepts my prayer.

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: It is written: “Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.”
(Matthew 4:10)

C: Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand
against the devil’s schemes. *(Ephesians 6:11)*

Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:12-15

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the desert, ¹³ and he was in the desert forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Hymn: “How Deep the Father’s Love”

**♪ How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One,
Bring many sons to glory**

**Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished**

**I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no pow’r, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom**

**Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom**

Sermon: Genesis 22:1-14

**Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!”
“Here I am,” he replied.**

**² Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, Isaac, whom
you love, and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a
burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about.”**

³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and saddled his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?”

“Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

⁸ Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

⁹ When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he replied.

¹² “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

¹³ Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

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.

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. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

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.  **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 Verses during Communion: # 401

 **Your works, not mine, O Christ, Speak gladness to this heart.
They tell me all is done; They bid my fear depart.**

***Refrain:* To whom but you, who can alone
For sin atone, Lord, shall I flee?**

**Your blood, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my sinful soul;
Your wounds, not mine, contain
The balm that makes me whole. *Refrain***


**Your cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the dreadful load
Of sins that none could bear But the incarnate God.
*Refrain***

**Your death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ransom due;
Ten thousand deaths like mine Would have been all too few.
*Refrain***

**Your righteousness, O Christ, Alone can cover me;
No other righteousness Can set a sinner free.
*Refrain***

Thanksgiving

Hymn: #317 “O Lord, We Praise You”

 **O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and adore you,
In thanksgiving bow before you.
Here with your body and your blood you nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish. O Lord, have mercy!
May your body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And your blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!**

Prayer of Thanks

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: # 125

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

 **When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride.**

**Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast
Save in the death of Christ, my God.
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.**

See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down.
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a tribute far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service were given to the glory of God by the Lyons.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you have something for which you would like us to be praying, please let Judy Moore (thecamoores@gmail.com) or Pastor Foley (revmikefoley@gmail.com) know. You can also request to be made part of our prayer chain.

HELPING HANDS FUND: The Elders have certain monies at their disposal for helping members in need. If you know of someone in our congregation who could use the help, please speak to Pastor Foley or one of the Elders.

INTERNET - Our worship services may now be viewed on our church website: www.starlutheran.org

THIS WEEK

Today	Fellowship Meal after service
Wednesday	Midweek Lenten Service, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.
Friday	Atascadero Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.
Sunday	Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:00 a.m.

COMING UP

Lenten Services: Instruments of the Passion:

Wednesday, February 21 - Peter's sword

Wednesday, February 28 - Via Dolorosa

Wednesday, March 7 - the crown of thorns

Wednesday, March 14 - the sign above the cross

Wednesday, March 21 - the seamless robe

Work Day: Saturday, March 24, 9:00-12:00

Holy Week:

Palm Sunday - March 25, 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday - March 29, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday - March 30, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday - April 1, 10:00 a.m.

FELLOWSHIP/GAME NIGHTS - Coming soon on Wednesday evenings. For more information, stay tuned here.

LADIES GET-TOGETHER: Saturday, May 26. Mark your calendars now.

VBS - Seeking interested parties for helping with this major event for the end of June.

HELP WANTED: Looking for assistance in the AV department (music and slides for services, streaming, website updating, etc.) No experience necessary. Will train.

**God did not spare his own Son,
but gave him up for us all.**

