



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

...suffering produces

PERSEVERANCE;

..... perseverance.

CHARACTER;

..... and character.

HOPE.

ROMANS 5:3-4



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, February 25, 2018 10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday in LENT

Theme of the day: Lent has to last a while and come around every year if for no other reason than this, that it is so hard for us to get the points made so strikingly in Lent. This Sunday we see God's seriousness in Lent in this: Salvation and suffering go hand in hand, for Jesus and for us too!

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.

Divine Service I

OPENING HYMN: # 124 “Savior, When in Dust to You”

♪ **Savior, when in dust to you Low we bow in homage due,
When, repentant, to the skies Scarce we lift our weeping eyes;
Oh, by all your pains and woe Suffered once for us below,
Bending from your throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!**

**By your helpless infant years, By your life of want and tears,
By your days of deep distress In the savage wilderness,
By the dread, mysterious hour
Of th’ insulting tempter’s pow’r,
Turn, oh, turn a fav’ring eye, Hear our penitential cry!**

**By your hour of dire despair, By your agony of prayer,
By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
Piercing spear, and torturing scorn,
By the gloom that veiled the skies O’er the dreadful sacrifice,
Listen to our humble sigh, Hear our penitential cry!**

Please stand for last verse:

**By your deep expiring groan, By the sad sepulchral stone,
By the vault whose dark abode Held in vain the rising God,
Oh, from earth to heav’n restored, Mighty, reascended Lord,
Bending from your throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!**

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: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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.**

Lord, have mer-cy on us. Christ, have mer-cy
on us. Lord, have mer-cy on us. A - men.

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: *(spoken)* Amen

Prayer and Praise

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

Glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry! Glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer, re -



ceive our prayer. Glo - ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. For



you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the



Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the
glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. Glo - ry to God in the
high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God!

Prayer of the Day

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Almighty God, you see that we have no power to defend ourselves. Guard and keep us both outwardly and inwardly from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through 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 5:1-11

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.³ Not only so, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;⁴ perseverance, character; and character, hope.⁵ And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

⁶ You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone might possibly dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

⁹ Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! ¹⁰ For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life! ¹¹ Not only is this so, but we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 73

Refrain

Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and
 not be a - fraid. For the Lord is my strong-hold and my
 sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

Psalm tone

*

**I am always with you, O LORD;*
 you hold me by my right hand.**

**You guide me with your counsel*,
 and afterward you will take me into glory.**

**Whom have I in heaven but you?*,
 And earth has nothing I desire besides you.**

**My flesh and my heart may fail,*
but God is the strength of my heart
and my portion forever.**

**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: Let us fix our eyes on Jesus:

**C: He humbled himself and became obedient to death, even death
on a cross. (Philippians 2:8)**

Gospel Lesson: Mark 8:31-38

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. “Get behind me, Satan!” he said. “You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men.”

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? ³⁷ Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?

³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father’s glory with the holy angels.”

Please stand.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father al-
mighty.**

From there 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.**

Please be seated.

Hymn: "Nearer, My God, to Thee"

♪ **Nearer, my God to Thee, Nearer to Thee.
E'en though it be a cross That raiseth me,
Still all my song shall be. Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.**

**Though like the wanderer, The sun gone down,
Darkness be over me, My rest a stone,
Yet in my dreams I'd be Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.**

**There let my way appear Steps unto heaven;
All that Thou sendest me In mercy given;
Angels to beckon me Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.**

Then with my waking thoughts Bright with Thy praise,
Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise,
So by my woes to be Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Or if on joyful wing, Cleaving the sky,
Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly,
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to Thee,
Nearer, my God, to Thee, Nearer to Thee.

Sermon: Genesis 28:10-19

¹⁰ Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. ¹¹ When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. ¹² He had a dream in which he saw a stairway resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ There above it stood the LORD, and he said: “I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. ¹⁴ Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. ¹⁵ I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.”

¹⁶ When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it.” ¹⁷ He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.”

¹⁸ Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. ¹⁹ He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.

Hymn: #453, vv. 1,2,5 “Come Follow Me”

♪ **“Come, follow me,” the Savior spoke,
“All in my way abiding.
Deny yourselves; the world forsake;
Obey my call and guiding.
Oh, bear the cross, whate’er betide;
Take my example for your guide.**

**“I am the light; I light the way,
A godly life displaying.
I bid you walk as in the day;
I keep your feet from straying.
I am the way, and well I show
How you should journey here below.**

**Then let us follow Christ our Lord
And take the cross appointed
And, firmly clinging to his Word,
In suff’ring be undaunted.
For those who bear the battle’s strain
The crown of heav’nly life obtain.**

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.

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: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

M: 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: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: # 439 “Lord, Take my Hand and Lead Me”

♪ **Lord, take my hand and lead me Upon life’s way;
Direct, protect, and feed me From day to day.
Without your grace and favor I go astray;
So take my hand, O Savior, And lead the way.**

**Lord, when the tempest rages, I need not fear;
For you, the Rock of Ages, Are always near.
Close by your side abiding, I fear no foe,
For when your hand is guiding, In peace I go.**

**Lord, when the shadows lengthen And night has come,
I know that you will strengthen My steps toward home,
And nothing can impede me, O blessed Friend!
So take my hand and lead me Unto the end.**

The WELS Connection



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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 (revmikfoley@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

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.

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

COMING UP

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

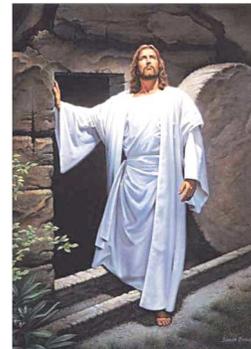
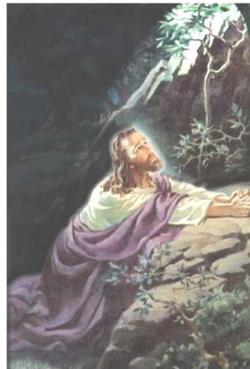
Holy Week:

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.

