



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE

Be merciful,

just as
your Father
is merciful."

— Luke 6:36



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, February 24, 2019 10:00 a.m.

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Theme of the day: As love has been shone on us from the Lord's anointed, so we reflect that love to all, even to our enemies.

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: # 459 “O God, My Faithful God”

♪ **O God, my faithful God, O Fountain ever flowing,
Who good and perfect gifts In mercy are bestowing,
Give me a healthy frame, And may I have within
A conscience free from blame, A soul unhurt by sin.**

**Grant me the strength to do With ready heart and willing
Whatever you command, My calling here fulfilling,
That I do what I should While trusting you to bless
The outcome for my good, For you must give success.**

**Keep me from saying things That later need recalling;
Grant that no idle words May from my lips be falling,
But then, when in my place I must and ought to speak,
My words grant pow’r and grace Lest I offend the weak.**

Please stand for last verse:

**Lord, let me win my foes With kindly words and actions,
And let me find good friends For counsel and correction.
Help me, as you have taught, To love both great and small
And by your Spirit’s might To live in peace with all.**

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: The apostle John tells us in his first letter, “If we claim to be
without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”

C: **“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive
us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”**

Silence to examine yourself and reflect on God’s Word.

Just As I Am, without One Plea (CW 397)

♪ **Just as I am, without one plea
But that thy blood was shed for me
And that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

**Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

M: Let us confess, then, our sins to God our Father.

C: **Merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and impure. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and action. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve your punishment both in this life and in the life to come. For the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and guide us so that we may delight in your holy will and that we may walk forever in your ways to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

M: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his only Son to die for you, and through His love for his Son, he forgives you all your sins. Therefore, as a called pastor of this church, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

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

GLORY BE TO GOD
Gloria in Excelsis

C: Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,

we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,

God the Fa-ther al - mighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the

sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the

sin of the world; re - ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of

God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;

you on - ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit,

are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And also with you.

M: Gracious Father, keep your family, the Church, always faithful to you, that we may lean on the hope of your promises and be strong in the power of your love; 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

First Lesson: Genesis 45:3-8,15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still living?” But his brothers were not able to answer him, because they were terrified at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come close to me.” When they had done so, he said, “I am your brother Joseph, the one you sold into Egypt! ⁵ And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will not be plowing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance.

⁸ “So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God.

¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept over them. Afterward his brothers talked with him.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 103



I will hear what the Lord pro-claims: peace to his peo - ple.



Praise the LORD, O my soul;*
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

He forgives all your sins*
and heals all your diseases;

he redeems your life from the grave*
and crowns you with love and compassion.

Refrain

The LORD is compassionate and gracious,*
slow to anger, abounding in love.

He does not treat us as our sins deserve*
or repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth,*
so great is his love for those who fear him;

as far as the east is from the west,*
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Refrain

As a father has compassion on his children,*
so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him;

for he knows how we are formed,*
he remembers that we are dust.

Our days are like grass, like a flower of the field;*
the wind blows over it and it is gone.

But the LORD'S love is with those who fear him*
from everlasting to everlasting.

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. Alleluia. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.
Alleluia. (*Luke 6:36*)

C: **♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Second Lesson: Luke 6:27-38

²⁷ “But I tell you who hear me: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If someone strikes you on one cheek, turn to him the other also. If someone takes your cloak, do not stop him from taking your tunic. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks you, and if anyone takes what belongs to you, do not demand it back. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ love those who love them. ³³ And if you do good to those who are good to you, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ do that. ³⁴ And if you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even ‘sinners’ lend to ‘sinners,’ expecting to be repaid in full. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. ³⁸ Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.”

Hymn: # 167 “Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense”

**♪ Jesus Christ, my sure defense
And my Savior, now is living!
Knowing this, my confidence
Rests upon the hope he’s giving,
Though the night of death be fraught
Still with many an anxious thought.**

**Jesus, my Redeemer, lives;
I, too, unto life shall waken.
Endless joy my Savior gives;
Shall my courage, then, be shaken?
Shall I fear, or could the head
Rise and leave his members dead?**

**No, too closely am I bound
Unto him by hope forever;
Faith's strong hand the rock has found,
Grasped it, and will leave it never.
Even death now cannot part
From its Lord the trusting heart.**

**I am flesh and must return
Unto dust, whence I am taken;
But by faith I now discern
That from death I shall awaken
With my Savior to abide
In his glory, at his side.**

**Glorified, I shall anew
With this flesh then be enshrouded;
In this body I shall view
God, my Lord, with eyes unclouded;
In this flesh I then shall see
Jesus Christ eternally.**

Sermon: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-49

³⁵ But someone may ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body will they come?” ³⁶ How foolish! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ When you sow, you do not plant the body that will be, but just a seed, perhaps of wheat or of something else. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has determined.

⁴² So will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is sown is perishable, it is raised imperishable; ⁴³ it is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory; it is sown in weakness, it is raised in power; ⁴⁴ it is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body.

If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ So it is written: “The first man Adam became a living being”; the last Adam, a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven.

⁴⁸ As was the earthly man, so are those who are of the earth; and as is the man from heaven, so also are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.

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 almighty,**

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.**

Hymn: # 606 “For Me to Live Is Jesus”

**♪ For me to live is Jesus; To die is gain for me.
So, when my Savior pleases, I meet death willingly.**

**For Christ, my Lord and brother, I leave this world so dim
And gladly seek another, Where I shall be with him.**

**My woes are nearly over Though long and dark the road;
My sin his merits cover, And I have peace with God.**

**In my last hour, oh, grant me A slumber soft and still,
No doubts to vex or haunt me, Safe anchored in your will.**

**Amen! For Christ my Savior Will grant this unto me.
Your Spirit lead me ever That I fare happily.**

**Offering
Prayer of the Church**

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 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: 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.

Hymn: "Ten Thousand Times Ten Thousand" (TLH: 476)
(on the back page)

WELS CONNECTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service were given by Terry and Chris Oberg in appreciation for the Lord's blessings.

PRAYERS Pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano, Bob and Carol Munk, John Velasques, Douglas Ward, Ruth Fabian, and little Elias.

THIS WEEK

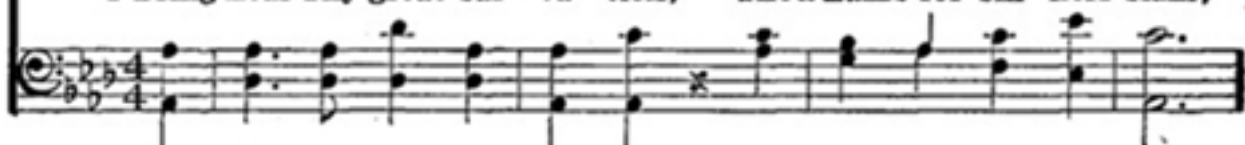
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|-----------------|---|
| Tuesday | ESL, 6:00 p.m. |
| Thursday | Bible Class, 10:00 a.m. |
| | ESL, 6:00 p.m. |
| Sunday | Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. |
| | Worship, 10:00 a.m. |

COMING UP

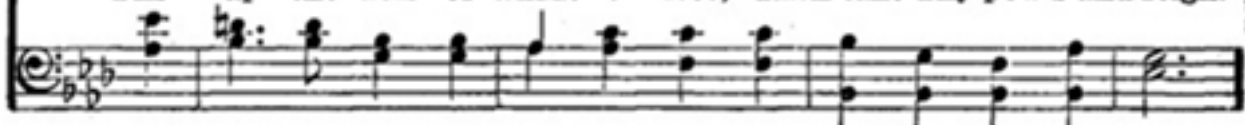
**ASH WEDNESDAY (Beginning of Lent), Wednesday,
March 6, 7:00 p.m.**



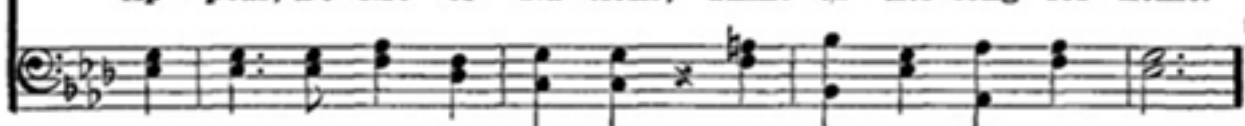
1 Ten thou-sand times ten thou-sand. In spar-king rai-ment bright,
2 What rush of al - le - lu - ias Fills all the earth and sky!
3 Oh, then what rap-tured greet-ings On Ca-naan's hap-py shore;
4 Bring near Thy great sal - va - tion, Thou Lamb for sin - ners slain;



The ar-mies of the ran-somed saints Throng up the steeps of light.
What ring-ing of a thou-sand harps Pro-claims the tri-umph nigh!
What knit-ting sev-ered friend-ships up Where part-ings are no more!
Fill up the roll of Thine e - lect, Then take Thy pow'r and reign.



'Tis fin-ished, all is fin-ished, Their fight with death and sin;
O day, for which cre - a - tion And all its tribes were made;
Then eyes with joy shall spar-kle That brimmed with tears of late;
Ap - pear, De-sire of Na-tions; Thine ex - iles long for home.



Fling o - pen wide the gold - en gates And let the vic-tors in.
O joy, for all its for-mer woes A thou-sand-fold re-paid!
Or-phans no lon-ger fa - ther-less Nor wid-ows des - o - late.
Show in the heav'ns Thy promised sign; Thou Prince and Savior, come!

