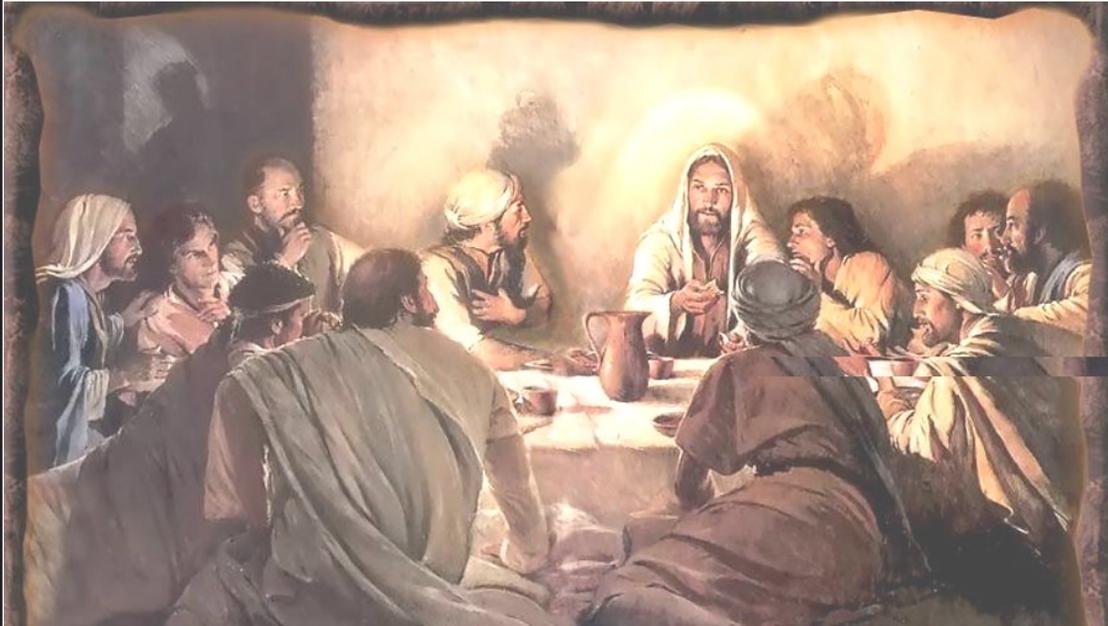


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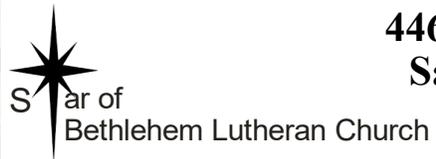


Wednesday



“IS IT I?”

 **Star of
Bethlehem Lutheran Church**



4465 South Blosser Road
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Office: 805-937-0339
www.starlutheran.org
Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 7:00 p.m.



Thought for the day: The Lenten journey begins with humble repentance and forgiveness from our gracious God. The Lord's wrath on the self-righteous will be fierce. Thanks be to God that he has worked righteousness for our salvation in Jesus.

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: # 111 “Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing”

♪ **Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross we spend,
Life and health and peace possessing
From the sinner’s dying friend.**

**Here we rest in wonder, viewing
All our sins on Jesus laid;
Here we see redemption flowing
From the sacrifice he made.**

**Here we find the dawn of heaven
While upon the cross we gaze,
See our trespasses forgiven,
And our songs of triumph raise.**

**Oh, that, near the cross abiding,
We may to the Savior cleave,
Naught with him our hearts dividing,
All for him content to leave!**

Please stand for second verse:

**Lord, in loving contemplation
Fix our hearts and eyes on you
Till we taste your full salvation
And your unveiled glory view.**

REFLECTION ON LENT; SELF-EXAMINATION

CONFESSION OF SINS

Minister: Most holy and merciful Father,

Congregation: **We confess to you and to one another that we have
sinned by our own fault, by our own grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

M: We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and
strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

M: Too often, we have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

M: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: our pride, our hypocrisy, and the impatience of our lives,

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our manipulation of other people

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Our love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to bear witness to others the faith that is in us,

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

C: Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Return to the LORD your God,

C: for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. (Joel 2:13)

PSALM 51a

M: O Lord, hear my voice.

C: Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy.

M: If you, O LORD, kept a record of sins,

C: O Lord, who could stand?

M: But with you there is forgiveness;

C: therefore you are feared.

M: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

C: and in his word I put my hope.

M: My soul waits for the Lord

C: more than watchmen wait for the morning,

M: O Israel,

C: put your hope in the LORD,

M: for with the LORD is unfailing love

C: and with him is full redemption.

M: He himself will redeem Israel

C: from all their sins.

M: Almighty and merciful Father, you freely forgive those who, as David of old, acknowledge and confess their sins. Create in us pure hearts, and wash away all our sins in the blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LESSON: Isaiah 59:12-20

**¹²Yes, our rebellious deeds are many before you,
and our sins testify against us.**

**Our rebellious deeds are with us,
and as for our guilty deeds, we are aware of them.**

**¹³Those deeds are rebellion and treachery against the LORD.
We turn back from following our God.**

We incite oppression and apostasy.

We conceive and mutter deceitful words from our heart.

**¹⁴Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands far away,
for truth stumbles in the city square,
and honesty cannot enter it.**

**¹⁵The truth is missing,
and anyone who turns from evil makes himself prey.
The LORD looked and saw something evil—
there was no justice.**

**¹⁶He saw that there was no one.
He was appalled that there was no one who could intervene.
So his own arm worked salvation for him,
and his own righteousness supported him.**

**¹⁷He clothed himself with righteousness like armor
and wore a helmet of salvation on his head.
He dressed in garments for vengeance,
and he wrapped himself with zeal like a cloak.**

**¹⁸He will repay in full what they have earned,
namely, wrath to his foes and full payment to his enemies.
He will repay even the distant coastlands.**

**¹⁹From the west they will fear the LORD's name,
and from the rising of the sun they will fear his glory,
for he will come like a raging river,
driven by the Spirit of the LORD.**

**²⁰Then a redeemer will come for Zion
and for those in Jacob who turn from rebellion.
This is the declaration of the LORD.**

HYMN # 391 "God Loved the World So that He Gave"

**♪ God loved the world so that he gave
His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in him believe
Should everlasting life receive.**

**Christ is the solid rock of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death.
All who confide in him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.**

**God would not have the sinner die—
His Son with saving grace is nigh.
His Spirit in the Word does teach
How we the blessed goal may reach.**

LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2

**We urge you, on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.
²¹God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so
that we might become the righteousness of God in him.
^{6:1}As fellow workers we also urge you not to receive God's grace
in vain. ²For he says:
At a favorable time I listened to you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you.
Look, now is the favorable time! See, now is the day of salvation!**

HYMN "The Old Rugged Cross" (Latppy, 226)

**♪ On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suff'ring and shame;
And I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.**

***Refrain:* So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it someday for a crown.**

**In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see,
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and justify me. *Refrain***

**To the old rugged cross I will ever be true;
Its shame and reproach gladly bear;
Then He'll call me someday to my home far away,
Where His glory forever I'll share. *Refrain***

LESSON: Matthew 26:20-25

²⁰ When evening came, Jesus was reclining at the table with the Twelve.

²¹ As they were eating, he said, “Amen I tell you: One of you will betray me.”

²² They were very sad and began to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I, Lord?”

²³ He replied, “The one who dipped his hand in the bowl with me will betray me. ²⁴ The Son of Man is going just as it is written about him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would be better for that man if he had not been born.”

²⁵ Judas, who betrayed him, replied, “Surely, not I, Rabbi?” He said to him, “Yes, you are the one.”

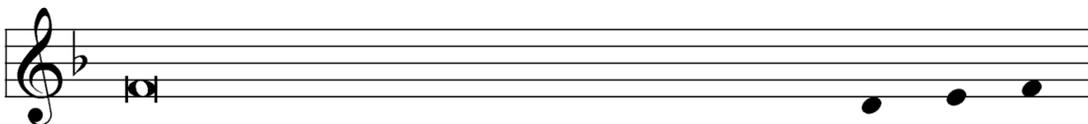
HYMN # 302 “Lord, to You I Make Confession”

♪ Lord, to you I make confession: I have sinned and gone astray;
I have multiplied transgression, Chosen for myself my way.
Led by you to see my errors, Lord, I tremble at your terrors.

Yet, though conscience’ voice appall me, Father,
I will seek your face.
Though your child I dare not call me, Yet receive me to your grace.
Do not for my sins forsake me; Do not let your wrath o’ertake me.

For your Son has suffered for me, Giv’n himself to rescue me,
Died to save me and restore me, Reconciled and set me free.
Jesus’ cross alone can vanquish
These dark fears and soothe this anguish.

OFFERING



M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:



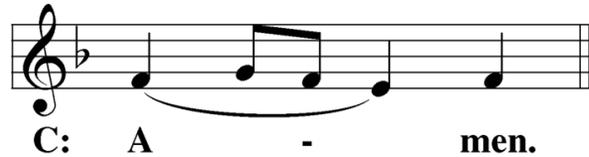
C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



C: Thanks be to God.

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



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 LORD'S SUPPER

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And with your Spirit.**

M: We lift up our hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

C: **Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part
 ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen
 your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry
 peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles
 and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

BLESSING

M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God
 and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.
 C: A - men.

CLOSING HYMN: # 592 “All Praise to Thee, My God”

♪ **All praise to thee, my God, this night
For all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings,
Beneath thine own almighty wings.
Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son
The ill that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself, and thee
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.**

**Teach me to live that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed.
Teach me to die so that I may
Rise glorious at the awe-full day.
Oh, may my soul on thee repose
And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,
Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make
To serve my God when I awake.**

**When in the night I sleepless lie,
My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,
No pow'rs of darkness me distress.
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.**

