



**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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UNLESS YOU

*repent,*

YOU TOO

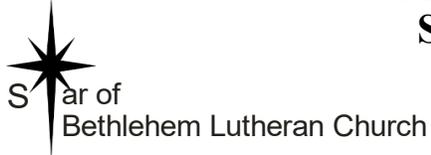
WILL ALL  
PERISH.

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Luke 13:3



**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Sunday, March 24, 2019 10:00 a.m.*

## Third Sunday in LENT

**Theme of the day:** At its heart, our Lenten journey must be one of Spirit-wrought repentance. Here is the Lenten invitation: turn from sin fully confident of the Lord's deliverance.

## 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: # 339 “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”**

♪ **Today your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.  
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,  
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.**

**Today your gate is open, And all who enter in  
Shall find a Father’s welcome And pardon for their sin.  
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,  
A future grace be promised: A glorious crown in heav’n.**

**Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits.  
His blessed angels gather Around the heav’nly gates.  
No question will be asked us How often we have come;  
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father’s home.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,  
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o’er?  
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,  
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.**

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.*

**“Savior, When in Dust to You” (CW 124)**

**♪ 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!**

**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!**

**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, 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



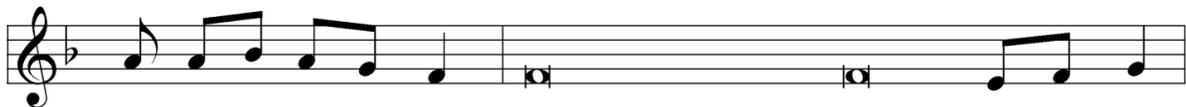
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the



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:** Almighty God, look with favor on your humble servants and stretch out the right hand of your power to defend us against all our enemies; 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: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

**For I do not want you to be ignorant of the fact, brothers, that our forefathers were all under the cloud and that they all passed through the sea. <sup>2</sup> They were all baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. <sup>3</sup> They all ate the same spiritual food <sup>4</sup> and drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank from the spiritual rock that accompanied them, and that rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them; their bodies were scattered over the desert.**

**<sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: “The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry.” <sup>8</sup> We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. <sup>9</sup> We should not test the Lord, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. <sup>10</sup> And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.**

**<sup>11</sup> These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup> So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! <sup>13</sup> No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.**

## Psalm of the Day: Psalm 38

### *Refrain*



Be mer - ci - ful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

### *Psalm tone*



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

**For your arrows have pierced me,\*  
and your hand has come down upon me.**

**My guilt has overwhelmed me\*  
like a burden too heavy to bear.**

### **Refrain**

**All my longings lie open before you, O LORD;\*  
my sighing is not hidden from you.**

**I wait for you, O LORD;\*  
you will answer, O Lord my God.**

**Come quickly to help me,\*  
O Lord my Savior.**

**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, the author and perfecter of our faith;

**C:** **Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. (John 3:14,15)**

## **Second Lesson: Luke 13:1-9**

Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? <sup>3</sup> I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.”

<sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’

<sup>8</sup> “ ‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’ ”

## **Hymn: # 389 “Rock of Ages”**

♪ **Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee;  
Let the water and the blood From thy riven side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.**

**Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill thy law’s demands.  
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save and thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring, Simply to thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to thee for dress, Helpless, look to thee for grace.  
Foul, I to the fountain fly—Wash me, Savior, or I die!**

**While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When mine eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown, See thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee!**

### **Sermon: Exodus 3:1-8,10-15**

**Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. <sup>3</sup> So Moses thought, “ I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”**

**<sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.” <sup>5</sup> “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” <sup>6</sup> Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. <sup>7</sup> The LORD said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. <sup>8</sup> So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey. <sup>10</sup> So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.” <sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” <sup>12</sup> And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”**

**<sup>13</sup> Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”**

**<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ” <sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation.**

## **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: # 424 “O God, Forsake Me Not”**

**♪ O God, forsake me not! Your gracious presence lend me;  
Lord, lead your helpless child; Your Holy Spirit send me  
That I my course may run. Oh, be my light, my lot,  
My staff, my rock, my shield—O God, forsake me not!**

**O God, forsake me not! Take not your Spirit from me;  
Do not permit the might Of sin to overcome me.  
Increase my feeble faith, Which you alone have wrought.  
Oh, be my strength and pow’r—O God, forsake me not!**

**O God, forsake me not! Lord, hear my supplication!  
In ev’ry evil hour Help me o’ercome temptation;  
And when the prince of hell My conscience seeks to blot,  
Be then not far from me—O God, forsake me not!**

**O God, forsake me not! Lord, I am yours forever.  
Oh, keep me strong in faith That I may leave you never.  
Grant me a blessed end When my good fight is fought;  
Help me in life and death—O God, forsake me not!**

**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.**

## **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 on the occasion of Dan's birthday .

**PRAYERS** Pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano, Bob and Carol Munk, John Velasques, Douglas Ward, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, and Midwest storm & flood victims.

### THIS WEEK

**Tuesday** ESL, 6:00 p.m.  
**Wednesday** Midweek Lenten Service, 7:00 p.m.  
**Thursday** Bible Study, 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

**Clean-up/Work Day: Saturday, April 13, 9:00-12:00**

#### **Holy Week:**

**Palm Sunday - April 14, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Maundy Thursday - April 18, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Good Friday - April 19, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Easter Sunday - April 21, 10:00 a.m.**



**Midweek 4** ..... I Am He  
**Midweek 5** ..... What Is Truth?  
**Midweek 6** ..... Take Him Away!  
**Palm Sunday** ..... Save Us Now!  
**Maundy Thursday** .... Take and Eat;