

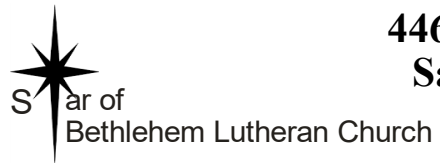
"No one who puts  
a hand to the plow  
and looks back  
is fit for service..."

LUKE 9:62

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Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Sunday, July 21, 2019 10:00 a.m.*

## Sixth Sunday after PENTECOST

**Theme of the day:** Being a disciple of Christ is not without cost. Elijah wondered whether he was the only one left that followed God's ways. Jesus urged three would-be disciples to count the cost of following him. Yet, the path of discipleship brings the fruit of the Spirit mentioned by Paul and ends in the eternal bliss of heaven.

## 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: # 471 “Renew Me, O Eternal Light”**

♪ **Renew me, O eternal Light,  
And let my heart and soul be bright,  
Illumined with the light of grace  
That issues from your holy face.**

**Destroy in me the lust of sin;  
From all impureness make me clean.  
Oh, grant me pow’r and strength, my God,  
To strive against my flesh and blood.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord,  
That gladly I obey your Word.  
Oh, let your will be my desire  
And with new life my soul inspire.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**Grant that I only you may love  
And seek those things which are above  
Till I behold you face to face,  
O Light eternal, through your grace.**

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: O God, you have prepared joys beyond understanding for those who love you. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; 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: 1 Kings 19:14-21

<sup>14</sup>He said, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of Armies, but the people of Israel have abandoned your covenant. They have torn down your altars and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking to take my life.”

<sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him, “Go back the way you came and go to the Wilderness of Damascus. When you get there, you are to anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>You will also anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel and Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill, and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill. <sup>18</sup>But I have preserved in Israel seven thousand whose knees have not bent to Baal and whose lips have not kissed him.”

<sup>19</sup>So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. Elisha was doing the plowing with twelve teams of oxen in front of him, and he himself was driving the twelfth team. Elijah crossed over to him and threw his cloak over him. <sup>20</sup>Then Elisha left the oxen and ran after Elijah. He said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother good-bye! Then I will follow you.”

Then Elijah said, “Go back! For what have I done to you?”

<sup>21</sup>So Elisha turned back from following him. Then he took the team of oxen and slaughtered them. Using the equipment from the oxen as fuel, he cooked the meat and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he got up, followed Elijah, and served him.

### Psalm of the Day: Psalm 62

#### *Refrain*



The might-y Lord is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our for-tress.

#### *Psalm tone*



My soul finds rest in God alone;\*  
my salvation comes from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation;\*  
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

Find rest, O my soul, in God alone;\*  
my hope comes from him.

#### *Refrain*

Though your riches increase,\*  
do not set your heart on them.

My salvation and my honor depend on God;\*  
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Trust in him at all times, O people;  
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

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. If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. Alleluia. (Mark 8:34)

C: ♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!  
These words are written that we may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### SECOND LESSON: Galatians 5:1, 13–25

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not allow anyone to put the yoke of slavery on you again.

<sup>13</sup>After all, brothers, you were called to freedom. Only do not use your freedom as a starting point for your sinful flesh. Rather, serve one another through love. <sup>14</sup>In fact, the whole law is summed up in this one statement: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>15</sup>But if you keep on biting and devouring one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

<sup>16</sup>What I am saying is this: Walk by the spirit, and you will not carry out what the sinful flesh desires. <sup>17</sup>For the sinful flesh desires what is contrary to the spirit, and the spirit what is contrary to the sinful flesh. In fact, these two continually oppose one another, so that you do not continue to do these things you want to do. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the spirit, you are not under the control of the law.

<sup>19</sup>Now the works of the sinful flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, complete lack of restraint, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, hatred, discord, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissensions, heresies, <sup>21</sup>envy, murders, drunkenness, orgies, and things similar to these. I warn you, just as I also warned you before, that those who continue to do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. <sup>24</sup>Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the spirit, let us also walk in step with it.

**Hymn: # 453 “Come, Follow Me, the Savior Spoke”**

♪ “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.

“My heart abounds in lowliness, My soul with love is glowing,  
And gracious words my lips express,  
With meekness overflowing.  
My heart, my mind, my strength, my all  
To God I yield; on him I call.

“I teach you how to shun and flee  
What harms your souls’ salvation,  
Your hearts from ev’ry guile to free,  
From sin and its temptation.  
I am the refuge of the soul  
And lead you to your heav’nly goal.”

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.



## **SERMON: Luke 9:51–62**

<sup>51</sup>When the days were approaching for him to be taken up, Jesus was determined to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup>He sent messengers ahead of him. They went and entered a Samaritan village to make preparations for him. <sup>53</sup>But the people did not welcome him, because he was determined to go to Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup>When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?”

<sup>55</sup>But he turned and rebuked them. “You don’t know what kind of spirit is influencing you. <sup>56</sup>For the Son of Man did not come to destroy people’s souls, but to save them.” Then they went to another village.

<sup>57</sup>As they went on the way, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

<sup>58</sup>Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

<sup>59</sup>He said to another man, “Follow me!”

But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

<sup>60</sup>Jesus told him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

<sup>61</sup>Another man also said, “I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say good-bye to those at my home.”

<sup>62</sup>Jesus told him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

## **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**

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.

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 perfect unity with his Son and the Holy Spirit, he is the source, guide, and goal of our lives.

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.**

### **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: # 752 “In Christ Alone”**

**♪ In Christ alone my hope is found;  
He is my light, my strength, my song;  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace,  
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My comforter, my all in all— Here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone, Who took on flesh,  
Fullness of God in helpless babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
Scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
The wrath of God was satisfied;  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid—  
Here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain;  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
Up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;  
For I am His and He is mine—  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death—  
This is the pow'r of Christ in me;  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
Can ever pluck me from His hand;  
Till He returns or calls me home—  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.**

## **Thanksgiving**

*Please stand.*

**♪ Thank the Lord and sing his praise.  
Tell ev'ryone what he has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice  
and proudly bear his name.  
He renews his promises and leads  
his people forth in joy  
With shouts of thanksgiving.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## 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.

## Song: Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore

Lord,—you have come to the lakeshore  
Looking neither—for wealthy nor wise ones;  
You only asked me—to follow humbly,

*Refrain: O Lord, by your Word you have called me,  
And while smiling have spoken my name;  
Now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me;  
By your side I will seek other seas.*

You know so well my possessions,  
For you made me and gave me my talents  
With which I serve you and those around me. *Refrain*

You give us hope of a new life  
Through your blessing: the gift of your Son.  
May we proclaim You and speak of Jesus. *Refrain*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWERS** for today's service are given to the glory of God by the Moores.

**PRAYERS** Pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, Albert Nunez, Judy Moore, Don (Turk) Oberg, Andrew Alba, and Shawna Bushey (Carol Powell's daughter).

**“Hi, We're Your Neighbors at Star”** - Big, fun, promotional, fellowship, outreach day at Waller Park, Saturday, August 24.

### **THIS WEEK**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>ESL, 6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>ESL, 6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday School &amp; Bible Class, 9:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>Worship, 10:00 a.m.</b>

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# PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(cf. page 156 in the front of Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal)

**Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?**

*A: He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

**Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?**

*A: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

**Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?**

*A: I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

**Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?**

*A: His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

**Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?**

*A: In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

**Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?**

*A: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

**Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?**

*A: I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

*Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.*

