



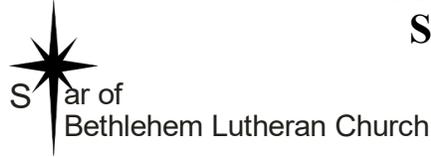
**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

*Set your  
hearts*  
on things  
above.

COLOSSIANS 3:1



**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

### **Worship Service**

*Sunday, August 25, 2019 10:00 a.m.*

### **Eleventh Sunday after PENTECOST**

**Theme of the day:** Earthly wealth is meaningless without God.

The meaning of life cannot be found in the abundance of earthly possessions but in the abundance of heavenly blessings. The believer recognizes that everything the world seeks and offers is meaningless. Rather, he sets his heart on the treasure found in the fullness of Christ.

### **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.

## The Service of the Word

**OPENING HYMN:** # 372 “I Lay My Sins On Jesus”

♪ **I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;  
He bears them all and frees us From the accursed load.  
I bring my guilt to Jesus To wash my crimson stains  
White in his blood most precious Till not a spot remains.**

**I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in him.  
He heals all my diseases; My soul he does redeem.  
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;  
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.**

**I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine.  
His right hand me embraces; I in his arms recline.  
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;  
Like fragrance on the breezes His name abroad is poured.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**I long to be like Jesus: Meek, loving, lowly, mild;  
I long to be like Jesus, The Father’s holy child.  
I long to be with Jesus Amid the heav’nly throng  
To sing with saints his praises, To learn the angels’ song.**

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:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** Amen.

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



**C:** Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -



ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -



ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -



ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M:** God of all power and might, you are the giver of all that is good. Help us to love you with all our heart, strengthen us in true faith, provide us with all we need, and keep us safe in your care; 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.*

## THE WORD

### FIRST LESSON: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:18-26

<sup>2</sup>“Nothing but vapor,” Ecclesiastes said. “Totally vapor. Everything is just vapor that vanishes.”

<sup>2:18</sup>I also hated all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard under the sun, since I must leave it all to the man who comes after me. <sup>19</sup>And who knows—will he be wise, or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the results of my hard work, for which I worked so hard and so wisely, under the sun. This too is vapor that vanishes.

<sup>20</sup>So I changed my course, and my heart began to despair over all my hard work at which I worked so hard under the sun. <sup>21</sup>Sure, there may be a man who has worked hard—wisely, aptly, and skillfully. But he must hand over whatever he accumulated by all his hard work to a man who has not worked hard for it. This too is vapor. It’s so unfair! <sup>22</sup>For what does a man gain through all his hard work, through all the turmoil in his heart as he works so hard under the sun?

<sup>23</sup>Bah! Pain fills his days. His occupation is frustration. Even at night his heart does not rest. This too is vapor.

<sup>24</sup>There is nothing better for a man than to eat and to drink and to find joy in his work. This too, I saw, is from God’s hand. <sup>25</sup>For who can eat or enjoy himself apart from him? <sup>26</sup>Yes, God gives wisdom, knowledge, and happiness to the man whom he considers good, but to the person who goes on sinning God gives the task of gathering and collecting, but only so that he can give it all to a person whom God considers good. This too is vapor, nothing but chasing wind.

## PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 34

*Refrain*



Hap-py the peo-ple the Lord has cho-sen to be his own.

*Psalm tone*



Taste and see that the LORD is good;\*

blessed are they who take refuge in him.

The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous\*  
and his ears are attentive to their cry.

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,\*  
and he delivers them.

### *Refrain*

The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;\*  
he delivers them from all their troubles.

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted\*  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

The LORD redeems his servants;\*  
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.

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! Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise; They will tell of the power of your awesome works, and I will proclaim your great deeds. Alleluia. (Psalm 145)**

**C: Jesus replied, “If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.” Alleluia! (John 14:23)**

## GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 12:13–21

<sup>13</sup>Someone from the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But Jesus said to him, “Man, who appointed me to be a judge or an arbitrator over you?”

<sup>15</sup>Then he said to them, “Watch out and be on guard against all greed, because a man’s life is not measured by how many possessions he has.”

<sup>16</sup>He told them a parable: “The land of a certain rich man produced very well. <sup>17</sup>He was thinking to himself, ‘What will I do, because I do not have anywhere to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>He said, ‘This is what I will do. I will pull down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will tell my soul, “Soul, you have many goods stored up for many years. Take it easy. Eat, drink, and be merry.”’

<sup>20</sup>“But God said to him, ‘You fool, this night your soul will be demanded from you. Now who will get what you have prepared?’

<sup>21</sup>“That is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

## HYMN: # 477 “What Is the World to Me”

♪ What is the world to me With all its vaunted pleasure  
When you, and you alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!  
You only, dearest Lord, My soul’s delight shall be;  
You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!

**The world seeks to be praised And honored by the mighty,  
Yet never once reflects That they are frail and flighty.  
But what I truly prize Above all things is he,  
My Jesus, he alone. What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks after wealth And all that money offers,  
Yet never is content Though gold should fill its coffers.  
I have a higher good; Content with it I'll be;  
My Jesus is my wealth—What is the world to me!**

**What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,  
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my pleasure,  
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss eternally.  
Once more then I declare: What is the world to me!**

#### **SERMON: Colossians 3:1–11**

**Therefore, because you were raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. <sup>3</sup>For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.**

**<sup>5</sup>So put to death whatever is worldly in you: sexual immorality, uncleanness, lust, evil desire, and greed, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup>It is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming on the sons of disobedience. <sup>7</sup>You too once walked in these things, when you were living in them.**

**<sup>8</sup>But now, you too are to rid yourselves of all of these: wrath, anger, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth.**

**<sup>9</sup>Do not lie to each other since you have put off the old self with its practices, <sup>10</sup>and put on the new self, which is continually being renewed in knowledge, according to the image of its Creator.**

**<sup>11</sup>Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcision or uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but rather Christ is all and is in all.**

## **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: # 484 "Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly"**

**♪ Brothers, sisters, let us gladly  
Give to God our all, our best—  
Service hearty, thorough, honest,  
With a living love impressed.  
All our duty, all our striving,  
All our time to him belong;  
Praise him, then, with true devotion;  
Come before him with a song.**

**By his mercy, by his bounty,  
By the gift of Christ, his Son,  
What great goodness he has shown us,  
What high marvels he has done!  
Let us to him promptly, freely,  
Yield our bodies and our souls,  
Thankful that his love protects us,  
That his wisdom all controls.**

**Gracious Lord, accept our service  
For the sake of Christ, your Son;  
Lo, our hope abides now only  
In the righteousness he won.  
Bless and save us; help and guide us;  
Watch to comfort and restore  
Till in heav'n we rest rejoicing,  
Praising you forevermore.**

## **OFFERING**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**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: 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.**

### **HYMN # 417 "I'm But a Stranger Here"**

**♪ I'm but a stranger here; Heav'n is my home.  
Earth is a desert drear; Heav'n is my home.  
Danger and sorrow stand Round me on ev'ry hand.  
Heav'n is my fatherland; Heav'n is my home.**

**What though the tempest rage, Heav'n is my home.  
Short is my pilgrimage; Heav'n is my home.  
And time's wild, wintry blast Soon shall be overpast;  
I shall reach home at last; Heav'n is my home.**

**There at my Savior's side—Heav'n is my home—  
I shall be glorified; Heav'n is my home.  
There are the good and blest, Those I love most and best,  
And there I, too, shall rest; Heav'n is my home.**

**Therefore I murmur not; Heav'n is my home.  
Whate'er my earthly lot, Heav'n is my home.  
And I shall surely stand There at my Lord's right hand.  
Heav'n is my fatherland; Heav'n is my home.**

## **The WELS Connection**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MEDITATIONS** are on the ledge in the narthex.

**PRAYERS** Pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, Albert Nunez, Judy Moore, Don (Turk) Oberg and his wife, Shawna Bushey, Rose Marie Hillberg, Atalia (Moore's grand-daughter), Austin Barnard, Dennis Douglas, Julieanna Saenz, and Rylie Lopez.

### **THIS WEEK**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>ESL, 6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Bible Study, 7:00 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>

**NEW ESL SESSION**, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:00-7:30 p.m., beginning September 3.

**AREA REFORMATION SERVICE**, November 3, 4:00 p.m.  
It is Star of Bethlehem's turn to provide the luncheon.

When **Christ**,  
who is your **life**, appears,



then you also will appear  
with him in **glory**.