

“There is
rejoicing...
over one sinner
who repents.”

LUKE 15:10



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Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, September 29, 2019 10:00 a.m.

The Festival of St. Michael and All Angels

Theme of the day: The Christian Church has celebrated this festival for 1500 years. See, angels are one of God's answers to our fears. He wants us to have the proper perspective as we go through life. No matter what sounds we hear, or dilemmas we face, or tragedies we endure, God's message for us is always this: Don't be afraid. We are not alone.

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.

“He Will Command His Angels Concerning You”

If you are able, please stand at the minister's direction:

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Congregation: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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: *(spoken)* **Amen**

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
Praise the LORD from the heavens.

(Psalm 148:1)

C: Praise him in the heights above.

M: Bless the LORD, you his angels,

(Ps. 103:20-22)

C: You strong warriors who obey his word.

M: Bless the LORD, all his armies,

C: You who minister to him, you who do whatever pleases him.

M: Bless the LORD, everything he has made

C: in all places where he rules.

M: And I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels who were around the throne and around the living creatures and the elders.

Their number was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands upon thousands. With a loud voice they were saying:
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing.

(Revelation 5)

**C: ♪ Around the throne of God a band (CW: # 198)
Of glorious angels ever stand;
Bright things they see, sweet harps they hold,
And on their heads are crowns of gold.**

M: I sought the LORD, and he answered me. From all my terrors he delivered me. His people look to him and are radiant, and their faces will never blush. This poor man called, and the LORD heard. From all his distress the LORD saved him. The Angel of the LORD camps around those who fear him, and he delivers them. *(Ps. 34)*

**C: ♪ Some wait around him, ready still (CW: # 198)
To sing his praise and do his will,
And some, when he commands them, go
To guard his servants here below.**

M: Yes, you LORD are my refuge! If you make the Most High your shelter, evil will not overtake you. Disaster will not come near your tent. Yes, he will give a command to his angels concerning you, to guard you in all your ways. They will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone. *(Ps. 91)*

**C: ♪ Lord, give your angels ev'ry day (CW: # 198)
Command to guide us on our way,
And bid them ev'ry evening keep
Their watch around us while we sleep.**

M: When the man of God's servant got up early and went out, there were soldiers, horses, and chariots surrounding the city. So his attendant said to Elisha, "Oh no, my lord! What will we do?" He answered, "Don't be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." Then Elisha prayed and said, "O Lord, open his eyes so that he can see." Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he saw that the hills were full of horses and chariots of fire, all around Elisha. *(2 Kings 6)*

**C: ♪ Then shall no wicked thing draw near (CW: # 198)
To do us harm or cause us fear,
And we shall live, when life is past,
With angels round your throne at last.**

M: Everlasting God, you have ordained and constituted in a wonderful order the ministries of angels and mortals. Mercifully grant that, as your holy angels always serve and worship you in heaven, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth; 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: Revelation 12:7-12

⁷ There was also a war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought with the dragon. The dragon fought back along with his angels, ⁸ but he was not strong enough. There was no longer a place for them in heaven. ⁹ The great dragon was thrown down—the ancient serpent, the one called the Devil and Satan, the one who leads the whole inhabited earth astray—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

**¹⁰ I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying:
Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Christ,
because the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down,
the one who accuses them before our God day and night.**

**¹¹ They conquered him
because of the blood of the Lamb and
because of the word of their testimony.
They did not love their lives in the face of death.**

**¹² For this reason,
rejoice, you heavens and those who dwell in them.
Woe to the earth and the sea,
for the Devil has gone down to you.
He is full of rage, because he knows that his time is short.**

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 91

Refrain



Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.



Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

Psalm tone



He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High*
will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say of the LORD,*
“He is my refuge and my fortress,
my God, in whom I trust.”

Refrain

You will not fear the terror of the night,*
nor the arrow that flies by day.

If you make the Most High your dwelling,*
then no harm will befall you,
no disaster will come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you*
to guard you in all your ways;

they will lift you up in their hands,*
so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.

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

Gospel Lesson: Luke 10:17-20

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name!”

¹⁸ He told them, “I was watching Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ Look, I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy. And nothing will ever harm you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names have been written in heaven.”

Hymn: # 196 “Lord God, to You We All Give Praise”

(sung to melody of hymn #334)

♪ Lord God, to you we all give praise;
To you our joyful hymns we raise
That angel hosts you did create
Around your glorious throne to wait.

They shine with light and heav’nly grace
And constantly behold your face.
They heed your voice; they know it well;
In godly wisdom they excel.

They never rest nor sleep as we;
Their whole delight is but to be
With you, Lord Jesus, and to keep
Your little flock, your lambs and sheep.

The ancient dragon is their foe;
His envy and his wrath they know.
So now he subtly lies in wait
To ruin school and church and state.

But watchful is the angel band that follows
Christ on ev’ry hand
To guard his people where they go
And break the counsel of the foe.

O Lord, awaken songs of praise
For angel hosts that guard our days;
Teach us to serve you and adore
As angels do forevermore.

MESSAGE: Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

¹⁰ Then a hand touched me and pulled me up, trembling, to my hands and knees. ¹¹ He said to me, “Daniel, you are a highly valued man. Understand the words that I am speaking to you. Stand up where you are, because now I have been sent to you.” When he spoke this word to me, I stood up, shaking.

¹² He said to me, “Do not be afraid, Daniel, because from the first day that you began to commit your heart to gaining understanding and to humbling yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come in response to your words. ¹³ However, an officer of the kingdom of Persia was standing against me for twenty-one days. Yet Michael, one of the chief officers, came to help me, for I had been left there against the kings of Persia. ¹⁴ I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the latter days, because the vision concerns days still to come.”

Then at that time Michael, the great prince who stands over your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress that has not happened from the first time that there was a nation until that time. At that time your people will be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ² Many who are sleeping in the dusty ground will awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame, to everlasting contempt. ³ Those who have insight will shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who bring many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever and ever.

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.**

Please be seated.

Hymn: # 440 “On Eagles’ Wings”

**♪ You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
Who abide in his shadow for life,
Say to the Lord: “My refuge,
My rock in whom I trust!”
And he will raise you up on eagles’ wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**Snares of the fowler will never capture you,
And famine will bring you no fear;
Under his wings your refuge,
His faithfulness your shield.
And he will raise you up on eagles’ wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of his hand.**

**For to his angels he’s given a command
To guard you in all of your ways;
Upon their hands they will bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.
And he will raise you up on eagles’ wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of his hand.**

Offering

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, how great is your love to us in Christ Jesus. For the sake of his sacrifice on the cross, you have forgiven all our sins and assured us that we are your dearly loved children now and forever. Because we are heirs of salvation, you have sent your holy angels to serve us.

C: When we feel weak and helpless, comfort us with the knowledge that your powerful angels surround us. When we are concerned about the welfare of our children and our fellow believers, remind us of your promise that guardian angels are also there to watch over them.

M: On various occasions you sent your Archangel Michael to accomplish your purposes. As Michael once fought against the devil and his angels in heaven, assure us that your angels are still overcoming the powers of evil around us in the world.

C: As you sent Michael to carry out your will for the nations of the ancient world, comfort us with the knowledge that your holy angels are still guarding and protecting your institutions of government and family.

M: As you once sent Michael to protect the body of your servant Moses, help us realize that whether we live or die, your angels continue to watch over us and at last will carry our souls to heaven to be with you.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. (Silent prayer.)

M: As the angels praise your name continuously, so move us to offer you our constant thanks and praise for all you have done and continue to do for us. Hear us for the sake of Jesus our Savior.

C: Amen.

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: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, you have brought us safely to this new day. Defend us with your mighty power, and grant that this day we neither fall into sin nor run into any kind of danger; and in all we do, direct us to what is right in your sight, through Jesus Christ, your son, our Lord.

C: *(spoken)* 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: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: # 213 “Forever with the Lord”

♪ **Forever with the Lord! Amen! So let it be.**

Life from the dead is in that word, My immortality.

**While time on earth is spent, Absent from him I roam,
Yet nightly pitch my moving tent A day’s march nearer home.**

**My Father’s house on high, Home of my soul, how near
At times, to faith’s foreseeing eye The golden gates appear!**

**Lord, be at my right hand, Then can I never fail.
If you uphold me, I shall stand; With you I shall prevail.**

**So when my dying breath Shall rend the veil in two,
By death I shall escape from death To endless life with you.**

**I’ll know as I am known; How shall I love that word
And oft repeat before the throne, “Forever with the Lord!”**

The WELS Connection

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FLOWERS for today’s service are given to the glory of God
by Kathryn Pereira.**

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 (Moores’ grand-daughter), Austin Barnard, Dennis Douglas, Julieanna Saenz, Rylie Lopez, and Molly Webb.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	ESL, 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday	Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.
Thursday	Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.
	ESL, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday	Catechism Class, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday	Sunday School & Bible Class, 9:00 a.m.
	Worship with Holy Communion, 10:00 a.m.

LWMS MISSION CALENDARS will be ordered soon. Let us know if you want in.

AREA REFORMATION SERVICE, November 3, 4:00 p.m.

It is Star of Bethlehem's turn to provide the luncheon.

Special Mission Offering for this season is the Central Africa Medical Mission.

