



NORTHWESTERN
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“Surely the
my people...”;

*and so he
became their*
Savior.

ISAIAH 63:8



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Star of
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Office: 805-937-0339
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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

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

First Sunday after Christmas



Theme of the day: The Son of God came into this world to serve as our Substitute under the law of God. As our brother in humanity, Christ did what we cannot — he perfectly kept that law of God, and he freed us from the guilt and power of sin.

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: # 369 “Beautiful Savior”

♪ **Beautiful Savior, King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Truly I’d love thee, Truly I’d serve thee,
Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.**

**Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow’rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer;
He makes our sorr’wing spirit sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels in the sky.**

Please stand for last verse:

**Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be thine!**

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, through Moses, commanded his people, “The man or woman who sins against his neighbor, betrays the Lord and will have to answer for it. He should confess his sin.”

Silence to reflect on the Word of God .

♪ Song: Away in a Manger

**Lord Jesus, I long to be cleansed and made whole;
Have pardon and mercy on my ill soul.
By faith, for my cleansing, I see your blood flow,
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

**Lord Jesus, have mercy, my burden is great,
Come now, and within me a new heart create;
Renew me and guide me; your mercy will show
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
from manger to cross,
your blood for me shed.
Now, only by grace am I able to say,
I 'm cleansed and forgiven; in Jesus I'm saved.**

M: We now confess our sins both seen and unseen in thought, word, and action, using the words of Psalm 51:

C: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight. Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins and blot out my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me!

M: The Lord is merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. He gives us this great comfort: "As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him." The blood of His Son, Jesus Christ cleanses us from all sin. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ, and by his authority, I forgive you of 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!

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.

M: The Lord be with you.

C:  And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

The minister says the Prayer of the Day.

C:  Amen.

PLEASE BE SEATED

First Lesson: Isaiah 63:7-9

⁷I will tell about the LORD's mercies,
about the praises of the LORD,
about all that the LORD has done for us,
about his great goodness to the house of Israel,
which he did for them according to his abundant compassion,
and according to his great mercy.

⁸He said, "Surely they are my people,
sons who will not deal falsely,"
so he became their Savior.

⁹In all their anguish he had anguish,
and the Angel of his Presence saved them.
In his love and in his pity he himself redeemed them,
and he took them up and carried them all the days of old.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 2

Refrain



Great are the works of the Lord. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-



lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

Psalm tone



**Why do the nations conspire*
and the peoples plot in vain?**

**The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers
gather together against the LORD*
and against his Anointed One.**

Refrain

**The One enthroned in heaven laughs;*
the Lord scoffs at them.**

**Then he rebukes them in his anger
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,*
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”**

**I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:*
He said to me, “You are my Son;
today I have become your Father.”**

**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. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.
Alleluia. (*Colossians 3:15*)

C: ♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Second Lesson: Galatians 4:4-7

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son to be born of a woman, so that he would be born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those under the law, so that we would be adopted as sons. ⁶And because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts to shout, “*Abba*, Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but a son. And if you are a son, then you are also an heir of God through Christ.

Hymn: # 41 “Let All Together Praise our God”

**♪ Let all together praise our God Before his highest throne;
Today he opens heav’n again And gives us his own Son,
And gives us his own Son.**

**He leaves his heav’nly Father’s throne, Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.**

**He veils in flesh his pow’r divine A servant’s form to take;
In want and lowliness must die
Who heav’n and earth did make,
Who heav’n and earth did make.**

**A wondrous change which he does make:
He takes our flesh and blood,
And he conceals for sinners’ sake His majesty as God,
His majesty as God.**

**He serves that I a lord may be—A great exchange indeed!
Could Jesus’ love do more for me To help me in my need,
To help me in my need?**

**For us he opens wide the door Of paradise today.
The angel guards the gate no more;
To God our thanks we pay,
To God our thanks we pay.**

Sermon: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

¹³After the Wise Men were gone, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared to Joseph in a dream. He said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, because Herod will search for the child in order to kill him.”

¹⁴Joseph got up, took the child and his mother during the night, and left for Egypt. ¹⁵He stayed there until the death of Herod. This happened to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Out of Egypt I called my son.”

¹⁹After Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. The angel said, ²⁰“Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to kill the child are dead.”

²¹Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus, Herod's son, had succeeded his father as ruler in Judea, he was afraid to go there. Since he had been warned in a dream, he went to the region of Galilee. ²³When he arrived there, he settled in a city called Nazareth. So what was spoken through the prophets was fulfilled: "He will be called a Nazarene."

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: # 291 "We Have a Sure Prophetic Word"

**♪ We have a sure prophetic Word
By inspiration of the Lord,
And, though assailed on ev'ry hand,
Jehovah's Word shall ever stand.**

**By pow'rs of empire banned and burned,
By pagan pride rejected, spurned,
The Word still stands, the Christian's trust,
While haughty empires lie in dust.**

**Whate'er the Word in times of old
Of future days and deeds foretold
Is all fulfilled while ages roll,
As traced on the prophetic scroll.**

**Abiding, steadfast, firm, and sure,
The teachings of the Word endure.
Blest all who trust this steadfast Word;
Their anchor holds in Christ, the Lord.**

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.

Hymn: # 75 "Father, Let me Dedicate"

**♪ Father, let me dedicate All this year to you,
In whate'er my earthly state, In whate'er I do.
Not from sorrow, pain, or care Freedom dare I claim;
This alone shall be my prayer: Glorify your name.**

**Can a child presume to choose Where or how to live?
Can a father's love refuse All the best to give?
More you give me ev'ry day Than the best can claim;
Help me trust you that I may Glorify your name.**

**If you have for me a cross And its shadow come,
Turning all my gain to loss, Shrouding heart and home,**

**Let me think how your dear Son To his glory came
And in deepest woe pray on: "Glorify your name."**

**If in mercy you prolong Joys that now are mine,
If on life serene and fair Brighter rays may shine,
Let my glad heart, while it sings, You in all proclaim
And, whate'er the future brings, Glorify your name.**

WELS CONNECTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2020 are in the fellowship hall.

FLOWERS for today's service were given to the glory of God by
Pat and Sandy Murphy.

PRAYERS Remember to pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano,
John Velasques, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, Albert Nunez, Judy &
Jim Moore, Shawna Bushey, Rose Marie Hillberg, Atalia (Moore's
grand-daughter), Austin Barnard, Dennis Douglas, Julieanna Saenz,
Rylie Lopez, Molly Webb, Jim Moore (Jr.) and family, Bob Ward,
and Kathryn Pereira.

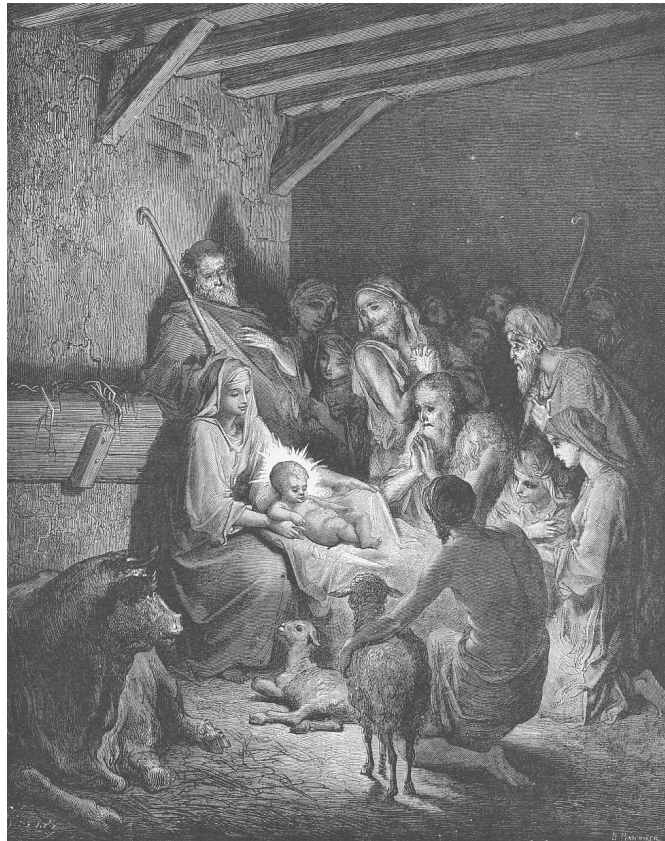
THANK YOU: Pastor and Theresa thank the members of Star for the
extremely generous gift of money given to them on Christmas Eve.
Thank you also for the cards, greetings, goodies, and other gifts.

THIS WEEK

Thursday **No Bible Study or ESL this week,
We will start again the 7th.**

Sunday **Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
Worship with communion, 10:00 a.m.**

...the rising sun will come to
us from heaven,



to shine on those living
in darkness. - Luke 1:78,79