



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

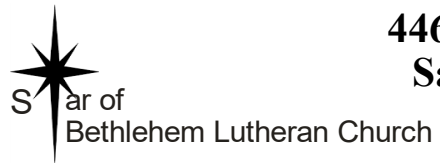
**NO ONE
HAS EVER
SEEN GOD,**

**BUT THE ONE
AND ONLY SON...
HAS MADE HIM
KNOWN.**

— John 1:18



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Santa Maria, CA 93455
Office: 805-937-0339
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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, January 5, 2020 10:00 a.m.

SECOND SUNDAY after CHRISTMAS

Theme of the day: The Incarnation reveals the unseen God to the eyes of the faithful. The light of Christ illuminates hearts and eyes once darkened by sin (*prayer of the day*), and the whole world sees the salvation of our unseen God made visible in our flesh-and-blood Savior (*verse of the day*).



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: #94 “O Jesus, King of Glory”

♪ **O Jesus, King of glory, Both David’s Lord and son!
Your rule endures forever; In heaven is your throne.
Help that in earth’s dominions, From pole to farthest pole,
Your reign may spread salvation To each benighted soul.**

**The eastern Magi, coming Their gifts of love to bring,
Bear witness to your glory And worship you, their King.
To you the star is pointing And the prophetic Word;
So joyously we hail you: Our Savior and our Lord.**

**You are a mighty monarch, As by your Word is told,
And yet you care but little For earthly goods or gold.
You do not come displaying Your power and renown.
You dwell in no high castle; You wear no jeweled crown.**

**Oh, look on me with pity Though I am weak and poor;
Admit me to your kingdom To dwell there, blest and sure.
I pray, Lord, guide and keep me Safe from my bitter foes,
From sin and death and Satan; Free me from all my woes.**

Please stand for last verse:

**Then let your Word within me Shine as the fairest star;
Keep sin and all false doctrine Forever from me far.
Help me confess you truly And with all Christendom
Here hail you King and Savior And in the world to come.**

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 glorious is your name in all the earth.
 Almighty God, merciful Father, you crown our life with your love.
 You take away our sin; you comfort our spirit;
 you make us pure and holy in your sight.
 You did not spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all.
 O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.
 O Son of God, eternal Word of the Father,
 you came to live with us;
 you made your Father known;
 you washed us from our sins in your own blood.
 You are the King of glory; you are the Lord!
 O Lord, our Lord, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

M: Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of your Word
 who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith
 shine in all that we do; 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: Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18

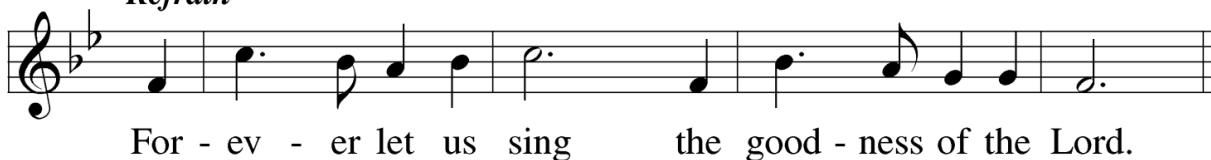
³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

⁴He did this when he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world, so that we would be holy and blameless in his sight. In love ⁵he predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ. He did this in accordance with the good purpose of his will, ⁶and for the praise of his glorious grace, which he has graciously given us in the one he loves.

¹⁵This is why, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶I never stop giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I keep praying that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, will give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in knowing Christ fully. ¹⁸I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you may know the hope to which he has called you, just how rich his glorious inheritance among the saints is.

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 148

Refrain



Psalm tone



Praise the LORD from the heavens,*
praise him in the heights above.

Praise him, all his angels,*
praise him, all his heavenly hosts.

Praise him, sun and moon,*
praise him, all you shining stars.

Refrain

Praise the LORD from the earth,*
lightning and hail, stormy winds that do his bidding,

you mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars,*
wild animals and all cattle, small creatures and flying birds,

kings of the earth and all rulers on earth,*
young men and maidens, old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the LORD,*
for his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

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. “All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia. (*Psalm 98:3*)

C: ♪ **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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

Gospel Lesson: John 1:14-18

¹⁴The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

¹⁵John testified about him. He cried out, “This was the one I spoke about when I said, ‘The one coming after me outranks me because he existed before me.’” ¹⁶For out of his fullness we have all received grace upon grace. ¹⁷For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. The only-begotten Son, who is close to the Father’s side, has made him known.

Hymn: # 357 “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

(sung to melody of CW # 124)

♪ **Jesus, lover of my soul, Let me to thy bosom fly
While the nearer waters roll, While the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide. Oh, receive my soul at last!**

**Other refuge have I none; Hangs my helpless soul on thee.
Leave, ah, leave me not alone; Still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed; All my help from thee I bring.
Cover my defenseless head With the shadow of thy wing.**

**Thou, O Christ, art all I want; More than all in thee I find.
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness.
False and full of sin I am; Thou art full of truth and grace.**

**Plenteous grace with thee is found, Grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art; Freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart; Rise to all eternity.**

Sermon: Genesis 16:1-16

Now Sarai, Abram's wife, bore no children for him. She had a servant girl, an Egyptian, whose name was Hagar. ² Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has prevented me from bearing children. Please go to my servant girl. It may be that I can build up a family through her." Abram listened to the voice of Sarai.

³ After Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram's wife, took her servant girl, Hagar the Egyptian, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife. ⁴ He went to Hagar, and she conceived. When she saw that she had conceived, she looked down on her mistress. ⁵ Sarai said to Abram, "This wrong that I am suffering is on account of you. I gave my servant girl into your embrace, and when she saw that she had conceived, she looked down on me. May the LORD judge between me and you."

⁶ But Abram said to Sarai, "Look, your servant girl is in your hands. Do to her whatever seems good to you." Sarai dealt harshly with her, and she fled from her presence.

⁷ The Angel of the LORD found Hagar beside a flowing spring in the wilderness, beside the spring on the way to Shur. ⁸ He said, "Hagar, servant girl of Sarai, where did you come from? Where are you going?"

She said, "I am fleeing from the presence of my mistress Sarai."

⁹ The Angel of the LORD said to her, "Return to your mistress and submit to her authority." ¹⁰ The Angel of the LORD said to her, "I will greatly multiply your descendants, so that they will be too many to count." ¹¹ The Angel of the LORD said to her, "Listen, you are expecting a child and will give birth to a son. You shall name him Ishmael, because the LORD has heard your affliction.

¹² He will be a wild donkey of a man. His hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him. He will dwell in hostility toward all of his brothers."

¹³ She called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God who sees," for she said, "Here have I really seen him who sees me?"

¹⁴ Therefore the well was called Be'er Lahai Roi. It is right there between Kadesh and Bered.

¹⁵ Hagar gave birth to a son for Abram. Abram named his son, whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. ¹⁶ Abram was eighty-six years old when Hagar bore Ishmael for him.

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 suf-
fered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scrip-
tures. 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

M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time you came into our world to save us from sin and death:

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

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.

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.** (*spoken*)

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 the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.


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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.


C:  **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.**

Communion Hymn: # 315 “Here, O My Lord, I See You”

 **Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen,
Here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon you lean.**

**This is the hour of banquet and of song;
Here is the heav’nly table spread anew.
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with you.**

**I have no help but yours nor do I need
Another arm but yours to lean upon.
It is enough, O Lord, enough indeed;
My strength is in your might, your might alone.**

**Mine is the sin but yours the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt but yours the cleansing blood.
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
Your blood, your righteousness, O Lord, my God.**

**Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear.
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone.
The bread and wine remove, but you are here,
Nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.**

**Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.**

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.**

CLOSING HYMN: # 169 “May We Your Precepts, Lord, Fulfill”

♪ **May we your precepts, Lord, fulfill
And do on earth our Father’s will
As angels do above,
Still walk in Christ, the living way,
With all your children, and obey
The law of Christian love.**

**So may we join your name to bless,
Your grace adore, your pow’r confess,
To flee from sin and strife.
One is our calling, one our name,
The end of all our hopes the same:
A glorious crown of life.**

**Spirit of life, of love, and peace,
Unite our hearts, our joy increase,
Your gracious help supply.
To each of us the blessing give
In Christian fellowship to live,
In joyful hope to die.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today’s service were given to the glory of God by the Lyon family.

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.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	Elders, 10:00 a.m. ESL (English as a Second Language), 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
Sunday	Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:00 a.m.

Arise, shine,



for your light has come!

Isaiah 60:1

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.