



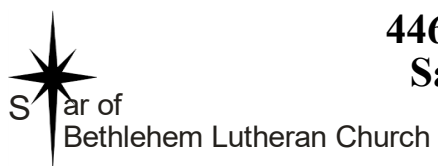
NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE

THE  
LORD  
IS YOUR  
*Life...*

||| DEUTERONOMY 30:20 |||



NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE



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Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Sunday, February 16, 2020 10:00 a.m.*

### Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

**Theme of the day:** The Savior's Sermon: Live a holy life! Jesus came to free us from *sin*. His Word today reminds us just how holy our God is, and the dire warnings remind us just how holy he wants us to be. After examining our lives, we must despair, but we are reminded to flee to Christ who has the words of life. So we ask to be given the grace both to know and do what pleases him.

## 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: # 586 “O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright”**

♪ **O Splendor of God’s glory bright,  
You daily bring forth light from light.  
O Light from Light, light’s fountain-spring,  
O Day, our days enlightening:**

**Come, very Sun of truth and love,  
Come in your radiance from above,  
And shed the Holy Spirit’s ray  
On all we think or do today.**

**Teach us to work with all our pow’r  
To conquer in temptation’s hour.  
Let faith her eager fires renew  
And hate the false and love the true.**

**Oh, joyful be the livelong day,  
Our thoughts as pure as morning ray,  
Our faith like noonday’s glowing height,  
Our souls undimmed by shades of night.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**All praise to God the Father be,  
All praise to Christ eternally,  
Whom with the Spirit we adore  
Forever and forevermore.**

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**

**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.**

M: Lord God, in mercy receive the prayers of your people. Grant them the wisdom to know the things that please you and the grace and power always to accomplish them; 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: 2 Samuel 11:1-17,26-27**

**Springtime arrived, the time when kings go out to war. David sent Joab out with his officers and with all Israel. They ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed in Jerusalem.**

**<sup>2</sup>One evening David had gotten up from his couch and was walking around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very good looking. <sup>3</sup>David sent to inquire about the woman, and he was told, “Isn’t this Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?”**

**<sup>4</sup>David sent messengers to bring her. She came to him, and he lay down with her. (She had been purifying herself from her ceremonial uncleanness.) She then returned to her house.**

**<sup>5</sup>The woman became pregnant, so she sent a message and told David, “I am pregnant.”**

**<sup>6</sup>David sent a message to Joab, “Send Uriah the Hittite to me.” So Joab sent Uriah to David, <sup>7</sup>and Uriah came to him.**

**David asked how Joab and the troops were doing, and how the war effort was going. <sup>8</sup>Then David said to Uriah, “Go down to your house and wash your feet.”**

**When Uriah went out from the palace, the king sent a gift to him.**

**<sup>9</sup>But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all the servants of his master. He did not go down to his own house.**

**<sup>10</sup>David was informed, “Uriah has not gone down to his house.”**

**So David said to Uriah, “Haven’t you come a long distance? Why didn’t you go down to your house?”**

<sup>11</sup>Uriah said to David, “The ark and Israel and Judah are living in shelters, and my master Joab and the servants of my master are camped on the bare ground in the open countryside. Should I go to my house to eat and to drink and to lie down with my wife? By your life, as surely as you live, I will not do such a thing.”

<sup>12</sup>Then David said to Uriah, “Stay here today also. Tomorrow I will send you back.” So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. <sup>13</sup>David summoned him, and Uriah ate as his guest, and David got him drunk. But in the evening he went and slept on his mat where the servants of his master were. He did not go to his own house.

<sup>14</sup>In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and he sent it in the hands of Uriah. <sup>15</sup>In the letter he wrote, “Station Uriah opposite the fiercest fighting. Then withdraw from behind him so that he will be struck down and die.”

<sup>16</sup>So when Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew that the enemy’s strongest warriors were. <sup>17</sup>The men of the city came out and fought against Joab, and some of the troops of David fell. Uriah the Hittite also died.

<sup>26</sup>The wife of Uriah the Hittite heard that her husband was dead, so she mourned for her husband. <sup>27</sup>When her mourning was completed, David sent for her and brought her to his house, and she became his wife. She gave birth to a son for him. But what David had done was evil in the eyes of the LORD.

## Psalm of the Day: Psalm 119a

### *Refrain*



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

### *Psalm tone*



Blessed are they whose ways are blameless,\*  
who walk according to the law of the LORD.

Blessed are they who keep his statutes\*  
and seek him with all their heart.

You have laid down precepts\*  
that are to be fully obeyed.

*Refrain*

Oh, that my ways were steadfast\*  
in obeying your decrees!

Then I would not be put to shame\*  
when I consider all your commands.

I will praise you with an upright heart\*  
as I learn your righteous laws.

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*

## Second Lesson: Matthew 5:21-37

<sup>21</sup>“You have heard that it was said to people long ago, ‘You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be subject to judgment.’

<sup>22</sup>But I tell you that everyone who is angry with his brother without a cause will be subject to judgment, and whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca,’ will have to answer to the Sanhedrin. But whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of hell fire.

<sup>23</sup>“So if you are about to offer your gift at the altar, and there you remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there in front of the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother. Then come and offer your gift.

<sup>25</sup>“If someone accuses you, reach an agreement with him quickly, while you are with him on the way. Otherwise your accuser may bring you to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup>Amen I tell you: You will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

<sup>27</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ <sup>28</sup>but I tell you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to fall into sin, pluck it out and throw it away from you. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>If your right hand causes you to fall into sin, cut it off and throw it away from you. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

<sup>31</sup>“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ <sup>32</sup>But I tell you that whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, causes her to be regarded as an adulteress. And whoever marries the divorced woman is regarded as an adulterer.

<sup>33</sup>“Again you have heard that it was said to people long ago, ‘Do not break your oaths, but fulfill your vows to the Lord.’ <sup>34</sup>But I tell you, do not swear at all: not by heaven, because it is God’s throne; <sup>35</sup>and not by earth, because it is his footstool; and not by Jerusalem, because it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not swear by your own head, since you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Instead, let your statement be, ‘Yes, yes,’ or ‘No, no.’ Whatever goes beyond these is from the Evil One.

### **Hymn: # 283 “Speak, O Savior; I Am Listening”**

♪ **Speak, O Savior; I am list’ning, As a servant to his lord.  
Let me show respect and honor To your holy, precious Word,  
That each day, my whole life through,  
I may serve and follow you.  
Let your Word e’er be my pleasure  
And my heart’s most precious treasure.**

**Oh, what blessing to be near you And to listen to your voice!  
Let me ever love and fear you; Let your Word still be my  
choice.  
Many hardened sinners, Lord, Flee in terror at your Word,  
But to all who feel sin’s burden  
You give peace and words of pardon.**



**Lord, your words are waters living  
Where I quench my thirsty needs.  
Lord, your words are bread life-giving;  
On your words my spirit feeds.  
Lord, your words will be my light  
Through death's cold and dreary night;  
Yes, they are my sword prevailing And my cup of joy unfailing.**

**As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me; Let your words in me take root.  
May your Spirit e'er be near me That I bear abundant fruit.  
May I daily sing your praise, From my heart glad anthems raise,  
Till my highest praise is given In the endless joy of heaven.**

### **Sermon: 1 Corinthians 2:6-13**

**<sup>6</sup>Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature, but it is not a wisdom of this world or of the rulers of this world, who are being reduced to nothing. <sup>7</sup>Instead we speak God's wisdom that has been hidden in mystery—before the ages, God foreordained that this wisdom would result in our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this world knew it. (If they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.)**

**<sup>9</sup>But as it is written:**

**What no eye has seen and no ear has heard  
and no human mind has conceived—**

**that is what God has prepared for those who love him.**

**<sup>10</sup>But God revealed it to us through his Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>Indeed, who among men knows a man's thoughts except the man's spirit within him? So also, no one else knows God's thoughts except God's Spirit.**

**<sup>12</sup>What we received is not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we might know the blessings freely given to us by God. <sup>13</sup>We also speak about these things, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in words taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual truths with spiritual words.**

### **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**

**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**

**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.**

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: 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.**

### **The 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.

**Hymn Verses during Communion: # 536 “Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s Head”**

♪ **Lord Jesus Christ, the Church’s head,  
You are her one foundation.  
In you she trusts, before you bows,  
And waits for your salvation.  
Built on this rock secure, Your Church shall endure  
Though all the world decay And all things pass away.  
Oh, hear, oh, hear us, Jesus!**

**O Lord, let this your little flock, Your name alone confessing,  
Continue in your loving care, True unity possessing.  
Your sacraments, O Lord, And your saving Word  
To us e’er pure retain. Grant that they may remain  
Our only strength and comfort.**

**Help us to serve you evermore  
With hearts both pure and lowly.  
And may your Word, that light divine,  
Shine on in splendor holy  
That we repentance show, In faith ever grow.  
The pow’r of sin destroy And evils that annoy.  
Oh, make us faithful Christians.**

**And for your gospel let us dare To sacrifice all treasure;  
Teach us to bear your blessed cross, To find in you all pleasure.  
Oh, grant us steadfastness In joy and distress.  
Lord, for your mercy’s sake, Let us by grace partake  
Of endless joy and glory.**

**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!**

**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: # 321 “Savior, Again, to Thy Dear Name”**

♪ **Savior, again to thy dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise.  
Once more we bless thee ere our worship cease,  
Then, lowly bending, wait thy word of peace.**

**Grant us thy peace upon our homeward way;  
With thee began, with thee shall end the day.  
Guard thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
That in this house have called upon thy name.**

**Grant us thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;  
Turn thou for us its darkness into light.  
From harm and danger keep thy people free,  
For dark and light are both alike to thee.**

**Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life,**

**Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife.  
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWERS** for today's service were given to the glory of God by Noreen and John.

**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), Dennis Douglas, Julieanna Saenz, Rylie Lopez, Molly Webb (and her brother Jim), Jim Moore (Jr.) and family, Bob Ward, Kathryn Pereira, George Caravana, Alice Taubman, Crisanna Terrell, and Don Fabian.

## **THIS WEEK**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>ESL (English as a Second Language), 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>Friday</b>	<b>Atascadero Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Catechism, 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>Worship, 10:00 a.m.</b>

## **COMING UP**

**ASH WEDNESDAY**, Wednesday, February 26, 7:00 p.m.

**CLHS BELLS AND WORSHIP BAND**, Sunday March 15.

# 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.*

