



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE

"I HAVE
COME

THAT THEY MAY HAVE

LIFE,
AND HAVE IT
TO THE FULL."

John 10:10



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE



Star of
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Office: 805-937-0339
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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, May 3, 2020 10:00 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday of EASTER

Theme of the day: On “Good Shepherd Sunday” our attention is fixed on Jesus the Good Shepherd of the sheep. His care and concern are recognized by those whom he has called as his sheep. Even in suffering, his sheep know his care for them and follow 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: # 339 “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

♪ **Today your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.**

**Today your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised: A glorious crown in heav’n.**

**Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits.
His blessed angels gather Around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;**

**O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o’er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.**

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.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a,51-60

In those days, as the number of disciples was increasing, a complaint arose from the Greek-speaking Jews against the Hebrew-speaking Jews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. ²So the Twelve called together the whole group of disciples and said, “It is not right for us to neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. ³Brothers, carefully select from among you seven men with good reputations, who are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom. We will put them in charge of this service. ⁴But we will devote ourselves to prayer and the ministry of the word.” ⁵This proposal pleased the entire group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas, a proselyte from Antioch.

⁶They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

⁷The word of God kept on spreading, and the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly. Also a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

⁸Now Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and miraculous signs among the people. ⁹Some men who were from what is called the Synagogue of the Freedmen (Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and some from Cilicia and Asia) rose up and disputed with Stephen.

² Stephen said, “Gentlemen, brothers and fathers, listen!

⁵¹“You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit! You are doing just what your fathers did. ⁵²Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? They killed those who prophesied the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers—⁵³you who received the law as transmitted by angels, but did not keep it.”

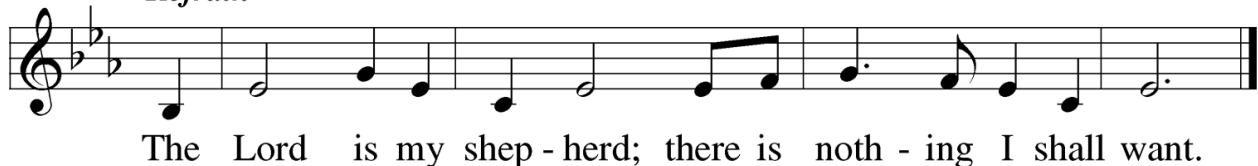
⁵⁴When they heard these things, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed up into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶He said, “Look, I see heaven opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

⁵⁷But they screamed at the top of their voices, covered their ears, and rushed at him with one purpose in mind. ⁵⁸They threw him out of the city and stoned him. The witnesses laid their cloaks at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!” ⁶⁰Then he fell to his knees and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” After he said this, he fell asleep.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 23

Refrain



Psalm tone



The LORD is my shepherd,*
I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;*
he guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,*
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Refrain

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.*
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,*
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**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: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For this is favorable: if a person endures sorrows while suffering unjustly because he is conscious of God. ²⁰For what credit is it to you if you receive a beating for sinning and patiently endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and endure it, this is favorable with God.

²¹Indeed, you were called to do this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example so that you would follow in his steps. ²²He did not commit a sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. ²³When he was insulted, he did not insult in return. When he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself carried our sins in his body on the tree so that we would be dead to sins and alive to righteousness. By his wounds you were healed. ²⁵For you were like sheep going astray, but you are now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

VERSE OF THE DAY

**M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me.
Alleluia! (John 10:14)**

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

HYMN: # 449 “Children of the Heavenly Father”

**♪ Children of the heav’nly Father
Safely in his bosom gather;
Nestling bird or star in heaven
Such a refuge ne’er was given.**

**God his own doth tend and nourish;
In his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them;
In his mighty arms he bears them.**

**Neither life nor death shall ever
From the Lord his children sever;
Unto them his grace he showeth,
And their sorrows all he knoweth.**

**Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne’er forsaketh;
His the loving purpose solely
To preserve them pure and holy.**

SERMON: John 10:1-10

“Amen, Amen, I tell you: Anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the door, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ²The one who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The doorkeeper opens the door for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own sheep, he walks ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will never follow a stranger, but will run away from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this illustration in speaking to the people, but they did not understand what he was telling them.

⁷So Jesus said again, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: I am the door for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. Whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰“A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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.

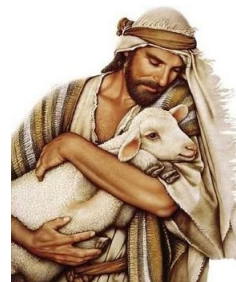
We believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

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.

Hymn: # 432 “I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

♪ **I am Jesus’ little lamb;
Ever glad at heart I am,
For my shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my needs and well provides me,
Loves me ev’ry day the same,
Even calls me by my name.**

**Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, he bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow.**



**Who so happy as I am,
Even now the shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By his angel hosts attended,
He shall fold me to his breast,
There within his arms to rest.**

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

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 # 745 "May the Peace of God"

**♪ May the peace of God our heav'nly Father,
And the grace of Christ the risen Son,
And the fellowship of God the Spirit
Keep our hearts and minds within his love,
And to him be praise for his glorious reign
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain —
Christ eternal, the King of kings.**

**May this peace which passes understanding,
And this grace which makes us what we are,
And this fellowship of his Communion
Make us one in spirit and in heart.**

**And to him be praise for his glorious reign
From the depths of earth to the heights of heav'n.
We declare the name of the Lamb once slain —
Christ eternal, the King of kings.**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by John Withers.

PRAYERS - Remember to pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, Albert Nunez, 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, George Caravana, Alice Taubman, Don Fabian, Doris Scheuffele, Marie Cole, and Kenny Kuhnoffer.

“Hi, We’re Your Neighbors at Star” - Big, fun, promotional, fellowship, outreach day at Waller Park, Saturday, August 22. Start thinking about it now.

