



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE

"The kingdom of
HEAVEN
is like
TREASURE
hidden in a field..."

- MATTHEW 13:44



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Star of
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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

Worship Service

Sunday, August 9, 2020 10:00 a.m.

The Tenth Sunday after PENTECOST

Theme of the day: The Christian seeks *spiritual* wealth. Our lessons today show people who have come into great wealth, but still this earthly wealth only serves to illustrate where true treasure lies. Today we see that true, spiritual wealth can only be found in God and his eternal blessings for us in Christ.

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.

The Service of the Word

OPENING HYMN: # 523 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

♪ **God of grace and God of glory,
On your people pour your pow’r;
Crown your ancient Church’s story;
Bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage For the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us Scorn the Christ, assail his ways.
From our fears that long have bound us,
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.**

**Cure your children’s warring madness;
Bend our pride to your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Lest we miss your kingdom’s goal,
Lest we miss your kingdom’s goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation To the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of your salvation Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Serving you whom we adore,
Serving you whom we adore.**

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: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and
serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and de-
serve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our
sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

M: O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants, who come to you in Jesus name. Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:  Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Kings 3:5-12

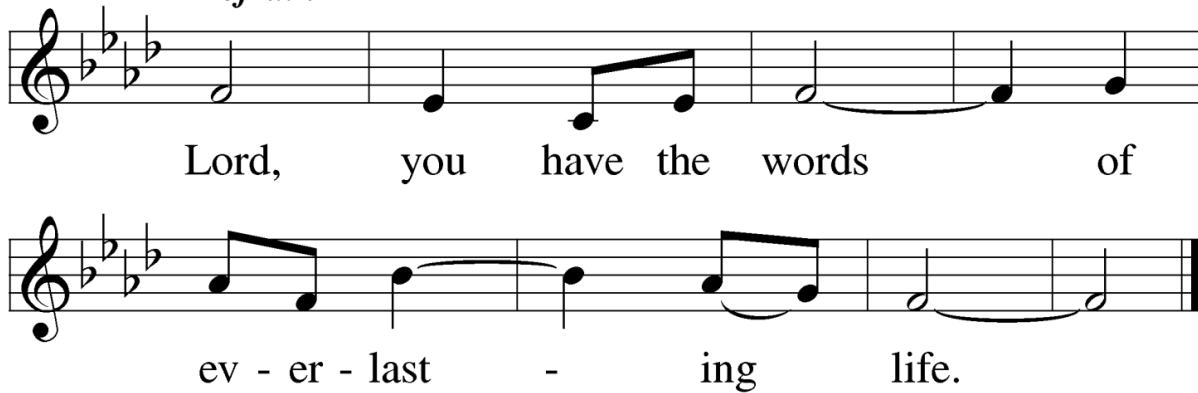
⁵The LORD appeared to Solomon in Gibeon in a dream at night. God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

⁶Solomon said, “You have shown great mercy and faithfulness to your servant, my father David, just as he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and uprightness of heart toward you. You have shown this great mercy and faithfulness to him and have given him a son who is seated on his throne to this very day. ⁷O LORD my God, now you have made your servant king in the place of my father David, but I am a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸And I, your servant, am among your people whom you have chosen, a great people, who cannot be counted or numbered because they are so many. ⁹Now give to your servant a perceptive heart to judge your people, to distinguish between good and evil, for who is able to judge this great people of yours?”

¹⁰In the eyes of the LORD, Solomon’s request was good. ¹¹So God said to him, “Because you have asked for this, and you have not asked for a long life, nor have you asked for riches, nor have you asked for the lives of your enemies, but you have asked for discernment to reach just verdicts, ¹²therefore I will act according to your words. Yes, I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you before you, nor will anyone like you rise up after you.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 119b

Refrain



Psalm tone



Give me understanding, and I will keep your law*
and obey it with all my heart.

Direct me in the path of your commands,*
for there I find delight.

Refrain

Turn my eyes away from worthless things;*
preserve my life according to your Word.

Fulfill your promise to your servant,*
so that you may be feared.

How I long for your precepts!*
Preserve my life in your righteousness.

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. Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia! (*John 6:68*)

C:  Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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


SECOND LESSON: 1 Timothy 6:17-21

¹⁷**Instruct those who are rich in this present age not to be arrogant or to put their hope in the uncertainty of riches, but rather in God, who richly supplies us with all things for our enjoyment.**

¹⁸**Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they are storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.**

²⁰**O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, turning away from godless, empty talk and the contradictions of what is falsely called “knowledge.” ²¹By professing it, some have veered away from the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.**

HYMN: # 349 “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

 **Jesus, priceless treasure, Fount of purest pleasure,
Truest friend to me.
Ah, how long in anguish Shall my spirit languish,
Yearning, Lord, for thee?
Thou art mine, O Lamb divine!
I will suffer naught to hide thee, Naught I ask beside thee.**

**In thine arms I rest me; Foes who would molest me
Cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking, Ev’ry heart be quaking,
Jesus calms my fear.
Lightnings flash And thunders crash;
Yet, tho’ sin and hell assail me, Jesus will not fail me.**

**Satan, I defy thee; Death, I now decry thee;
Fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me Nor thy threats alarm me
While I sing of peace.
God's great pow'r Guards ev'ry hour;
Earth and all its depths adore him, Silent bow before him.**

**Hence, all earthly treasure! Jesus is my pleasure;
Jesus is my choice.
Hence, all empty glory! Naught to me thy story
Told with tempting voice.
Pain or loss Or shame or cross
Shall not from my Savior move me Since he deigns to love me.**

**Hence, all fear and sadness! For the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father, Though the storms may gather,
Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure, Jesus, priceless treasure!**

SERMON: Matthew 13:44-52

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid again. In his joy, he goes away and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one very valuable pearl, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When the net was filled, they pulled it onto the shore. They sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw the bad ones away. ⁴⁹That is how it will be at the end of the world. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous who are among them.

⁵⁰And they will throw the wicked into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” ⁵¹Jesus said to them, “Did you understand all these things?”

They answered him, “Yes.”

⁵²He said to them, “Therefore every expert in the law who has been trained as a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his treasure both new things and old things.”

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: # 477 “What Is the World to Me”

**♪ What is the world to me With all its vaunted pleasure
When you, and you alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord, My soul’s delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks to be praised And honored by the mighty,
Yet never once reflects That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize Above all things is he,
My Jesus, he alone. What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks after wealth And all that money offers,
Yet never is content Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good; Content with it I'll be;
My Jesus is my wealth—What is the world to me!**

**What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth,
My friend, my love, my pleasure,
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss eternally.
Once more then I declare: What is the world to me!**

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: # 421, verses 1,3,5 “All Depends on Our Possessing”

**♪ All depends on our possessing
God's abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart.
They who trust with faith unshaken
In their God are not forsaken
And e'er keep a dauntless heart.**

**Many spend their lives in fretting
Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground.
I shall strive to win a treasure
That will bring me lasting pleasure
And that now is seldom found.**

**If on earth my days he lengthen,
He my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding;
Safe I anchor in his grace.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service are given to the glory of God by
Gordon Hillberg in gratefulness for God's blessings.

PRAYERS Remember to pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn
Lozano, John Velasques, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, Shawna
Bushey, Rose Marie Hillberg, Atalia (Moore's grand-
daughter), Dennis Douglas, Julieanna Saenz, Rylie Lopez,
Bob Ward, George Caravana, Alice Taubman, Don Fabian,
Doris Scheuffele, Molly Webb (and her brother Jim), and
Helen Marten.

