



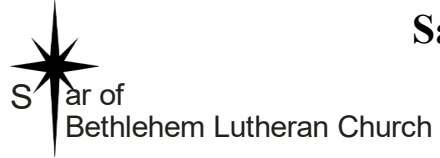
**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

**“YOU DO NOT HAVE
IN MIND
THE CONCERNS OF
GOD,
BUT MERELY
HUMAN CONCERNS.”**

- MATTHEW 16:23



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



4465 South Blosser Road
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Office: 805-937-0339
www.starlutheran.org
Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, September 13, 2020 10:00 a.m.

The Fifteenth Sunday after PENTECOST

Theme of the day: In the struggles of daily life, we can be tempted to question God or join in with the world or give up the fight. By means of contrition and repentance the Christian is renewed for service in the kingdom of God. Such service is our spiritual worship.

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: # 484 “Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly”

♪ **Brothers, sisters, let us gladly
Give to God our all, our best—
Service hearty, thorough, honest,
With a living love impressed.
All our duty, all our striving,
All our time to him belong;
Praise him, then, with true devotion;
Come before him with a song.**

**By his mercy, by his bounty,
By the gift of Christ, his Son,
What great goodness he has shown us,
What high marvels he has done!
Let us to him promptly, freely,
Yield our bodies and our souls,
Thankful that his love protects us,
That his wisdom all controls.**

**Gracious Lord, accept our service
For the sake of Christ, your Son;
Lo, our hope abides now only
In the righteousness he won.
Bless and save us; help and guide us;
Watch to comfort and restore
Till in heav’n we rest rejoicing,
Praising you 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: 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 deserve 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 Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:  Amen.

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 15:15-21

- ¹⁵ O LORD, you understand.
Remember me and care for me.
Take vengeance for me on those who persecute me.
You are slow to anger. Do not take me away.
Keep in mind that for your sake I bear disgrace.**
- ¹⁶ Your words came to me, and I devoured them.
Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart,
because I bear your name,
O LORD God of Armies.**
- ¹⁷ I did not sit with the band of partygoers,
nor did I celebrate with them.
I sat alone, because your hand was upon me.
You filled me with indignation.**
- ¹⁸ Why is my pain unending?
Why is my wound incurable, refusing to heal?
Will you be as deceptive as an intermittent stream to me,
like a source of water that a person can't depend on?**
- ¹⁹ Therefore this is what the LORD says.
If you repent, I will take you back,
so that you may stand before me.
If what you say is worthwhile and not worthless,
you will be my spokesman.
They must turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.**
- ²⁰ I will make you like a bronze wall to this people.
They will fight against you,
but they will not overcome you,
because I am with you to save you
and to rescue you, declares the LORD.**
- ²¹ I will rescue you from the hand of the wicked,
and I will deliver you from the grasp of the ruthless.**

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 121

Refrain



Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.



Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

Psalm tone



I lift up my eyes to the hills.*
Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,*
the maker of heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot slip,*
he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel*
will neither slumber nor sleep.

Refrain

The LORD watches over you,*
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The LORD will keep you from all harm,*
he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going*
both now and forevermore.

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. Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart. Alleluia! (*Jeremiah 15:16*)

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: Matthew 16:21-26

²¹From that time, Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and experts in the law, and be killed, and on the third day be raised again.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “May you receive mercy, Lord! This will never happen to you.”

²³But Jesus turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a snare to me because you are not thinking the things of God, but the things of men.”

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone wants to follow me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. ²⁵In fact whoever wants to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. ²⁶After all, what will it benefit a person if he gains the whole world, but forfeits his soul? Or what can a person give in exchange for his soul?”

HYMN: # 488 “Savior, Thy Dying Love”

**♪ Savior, thy dying love Thou gavest me;
Nor should I aught withhold, Dear Lord, from thee.
In love my soul would bow, My heart fulfill its vow,
Some off’ring bring thee now, Something for thee.**

**O’er the blest mercy seat, Pleading for me,
My feeble faith looks up, Jesus, to thee.
Help me the cross to bear, Thy wondrous love declare,
Some song to raise or prayer, Something for thee.**

**Give me a faithful heart, Likeness to thee,
That each departing day Henceforth may see
Some work of love begun, Some deed of kindness done,
Some wand'rer sought and won, Something for thee.**

**All that I am and have, Thy gifts so free,
In joy, in grief, through life, Dear Lord, for thee!
And when thy face I see, My ransomed soul shall be
Through all eternity Something for thee.**

SERMON: Romans 12:1-8

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. ²Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

³So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. ⁴For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. ⁵In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. ⁷If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. ⁸If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

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: # 469 “Take My Life and Let It Be”

♪ Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to thee.

Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of thy love.

Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King.

Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold; Not a mite would I withhold.

Take my intellect and use Ev’ry pow’r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; It shall be no longer mine.

Take my heart—it is thine own; It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love, my Lord, I pour At thy feet its treasure store.

Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for thee.

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: # 566 “We All Are One in Mission”

♪ **We all are one in mission; We all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united By Christ, the Lord of all.
A single great commission Compels us from above
To plan and work together That all may know Christ's love.**

**We all are called to service, To witness in God's name.
Our ministries are diff'rent; Our purpose is the same:
To touch the lives of others With God's surprising grace,
So ev'ry folk and nation May feel God's warm embrace.**

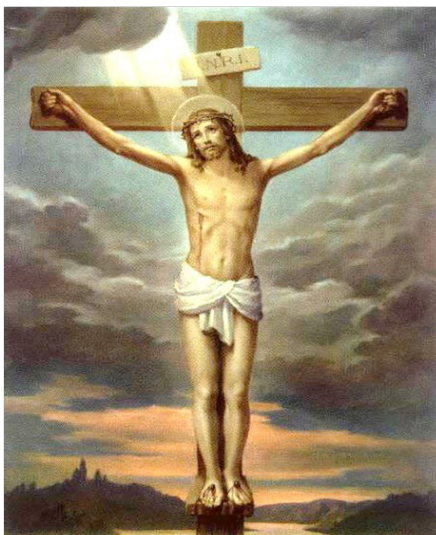
**Now let us be united, And let our song be heard;
Now let us be a vessel For God's redeeming Word.
We all are one in mission; We all are one in call,
Our varied gifts united By Christ, the Lord of all.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service are given to the glory of God by Kathy Pereira on the occasion of her birthday.

PRAYERS Remember to pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, Shawna Bushey, Rose Marie Hillberg, Atalia (Moore's granddaughter), 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.

**If any-
one
wants to
follow
me, let
him
deny
himself,**



**take
up his
cross,
and
follow
me.**



