



**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

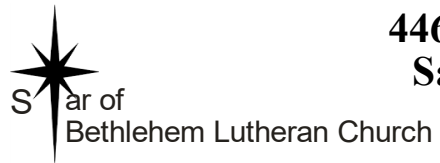


*“And I,  
when I am  
lifted up . . . ,  
will draw  
all people  
to myself.”*

*John 12:32*



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Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Sunday, March 21, 2021 10:00 a.m.*

## FIFTH SUNDAY in LENT

**Theme of the day:** The readings today tie Lent with both Epiphany and Easter. In them Jesus shows his glory as a saving glory but a glory that is hidden under a blanket of suffering and a veil of humiliation.

## 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: # 256 “How Great Thou Art”**

♪ **O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed.**

**Refrain: Then sings my soul, my Savior-God, to thee,  
“How great thou art! How great thou art!”  
Then sings my soul, my Savior-God to thee,  
“How great thou art! How great thou art!”**

**When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze, *Refrain***

**And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin. *Refrain***

*Please stand for last verse:*

**When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim: “My God, how great thou art!” *Refrain***

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 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: Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; 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: Hebrews 5:7-9

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, he offered prayers and pleas with loud cries and tears to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. <sup>8</sup>Although he was the Son, he learned obedience from the things he suffered. <sup>9</sup>After he was brought to his goal, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him.

### PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 143

*Refrain*



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

*Psalm tone*

O LORD, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy;

in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.

Do not bring your servant into judgment,\*  
for no one living is righteous before you.

**My spirit grows faint within me;\*  
my heart within me is dismayed.**

*Refrain*

**Answer me quickly, O LORD;\*  
do not hide your face from me.**

**Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love,\*  
for I have put my trust in you.**

**Teach me to do your will, for you are my God;\*  
may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.**

**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:** Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the Author and Perfecter of our faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross.

**C:** **The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.** (Mark 10:45)

**GOSPEL LESSON: John 12:20-33**

<sup>20</sup>Now there were some Greeks among those who went up to worship at the Festival. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, “Sir, we want to see Jesus.” <sup>22</sup>Philip went to tell Andrew. Andrew came with Philip and told Jesus.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, “The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless a kernel of wheat

falls to the ground and dies, it continues to be one kernel. But if it dies, it produces much grain. <sup>25</sup>Anyone who loves his life destroys it. And the one who hates his life in this world will hold on to it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>If anyone serves me, let him follow me. And where I am, there my servant will be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

<sup>27</sup>“Now my soul is troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, this is the reason I came to this hour.

<sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name!”

A voice came from heaven: “I have glorified my name, and I will glorify it again.”

<sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said it thundered. Others said an angel talked to him. <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, “This voice was not for my sake but for yours.

<sup>31</sup>“Now is the judgment of this world. Now the ruler of this world will be thrown out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate what kind of death he was going to die.

#### **HYMN: # 387 “Drawn to the Cross”**

♪ Drawn to the cross, which you have blessed  
With healing gifts for souls distressed,  
To find in you my life, my rest,  
Christ crucified, I come.

How well you know my griefs and fears,  
Your grace abused, my misspent years;  
So now to you with contrite tears,  
Christ crucified, I come.

Wash me and take away each stain;  
Let nothing of my sin remain.  
For cleansing through your cross and pain,  
Christ crucified, I come.

To pledge my labor willingly,  
Which shall so sweet a service be  
That angels well might envy me,  
Christ crucified, I come.

## **SERMON: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

**<sup>31</sup>Yes, the days are coming, declares the LORD,  
when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel  
and with the house of Judah.**

**<sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers,  
when I took them by the hand  
and led them out of the land of Egypt.  
They broke that covenant of mine,  
although I was a husband to them, declares the LORD.**

**<sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel  
after those days,  
declares the LORD.**

**I will put my law in their minds,  
and I will write it on their hearts.**

**I will be their God,  
and they will be my people.**

**<sup>34</sup>No longer will each one teach his neighbor,  
or each one teach his brother, saying, “Know the LORD,”  
because they will all know me,  
from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD,  
for I will forgive their guilt,  
and I will remember their sins no more.**

## **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, eternal-  
ly begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true  
God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Fa-  
ther. Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was in-  
carnate 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 Fa-  
ther. 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:** Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

**C: We confess that without your love we are lost.**

**M:** Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

**C: Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.**

**M:** Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

**C: By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.**

**M:** Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

**C: Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.**

**M:** Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

**C: Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.**

**M:** Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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. He made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

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: # 110**

**♪ My song is love unknown, My Savior's love to me,  
Love to the loveless shown That they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I That for my sake  
My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?**

**He came from his blest throne Salvation to bestow,  
But such disdain! So few The longed-for Christ would know!  
But oh, my friend, My friend indeed,  
Who at my need His life did spend!**

**Sometimes they strew his way And his sweet praises sing,  
Resounding all the day Hosannas to their King.  
Then "Crucify!" Is all their breath,  
And for his death They thirst and cry.**

**Why? What has my Lord done?  
What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run; He gave the blind their sight.  
Sweet injuries! Yet they at these  
Themselves displease And 'gainst him rise.**

**They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away.  
A murderer they save; The Prince of life they slay.  
Yet cheerful he To suff'ring goes  
That he his foes From death might free.**

**In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;  
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.  
What may I say? Heav'n was his home  
But mine the tomb Wherein he lay.**

**Here might I stay and sing; No story so divine,  
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like thine.  
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise  
I all my days Could gladly spend!**

**THANKSGIVING - Hymn 277, verses 1,3**

*Please stand.*

**♪ God, we praise you! God, we bless you!  
God, we name you sov'reign Lord!  
Mighty King whom angels worship,  
Father, by your Church adored:  
All creation shows your glory;  
Heav'n and earth draw near your throne,  
Singing, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts and God alone!"**

**Jesus Christ, the King of glory,  
Everlasting Son of God,  
Humble was your virgin mother,  
Hard the lonely path you trod:  
By your cross is sin defeated, Hell confronted face to face,  
Heaven opened to believers, Sinners justified by grace.**

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: # 456 “Forth in Your Name, O Lord, I Go”**  
*(sung to the tune of Hymn # 152)*

**♪ Forth in your name, O Lord, I go,  
My daily labor to pursue,  
Determined only you to know  
In all I think or speak or do.**

**Oh, let me cheerfully fulfill  
The task your wisdom has assigned  
And do your good and perfect will—  
In all my works your presence find!**

**May I find you at my right hand;  
Your eyes see truly what I do.  
I labor on at your command  
And offer all my works to you.**

**Give me to bear your easy yoke  
And ev'ry moment watch and pray  
And still to things eternal look  
And hasten to your glorious day.**

**For you I joyously employ  
Whatever you in grace have giv'n;  
I run my daily course with joy  
And closely walk with you to heav'n.**



Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies,  
it continues to be one kernel.

But if it dies, it produces much grain.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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, Bob Ward, George Caravana, Don Fabian, Doris Scheuffele, Molly Webb (and her brother Jim), Helen Marten, Doug Ward, Kathy Jones, Art Amarillas, Val Wheelock, Linda Hill & Christina, and Wayne Chapman.

### **THIS WEEK**

**Wednesday Lenten Service - 7:00 p.m.**

**Thursday Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.**

**Saturday Cleaning & Work Day, 9:00 a.m.-noon**

**Sunday Bible Class, 9:00 a.m.**

**Worship, 10:00 a.m.**

### **COMING UP**

**Holy Week:**

**Palm Sunday - March 28, 10:00 a.m.**

**Maundy Thursday - April 1, 7:00 p.m.**

**Good Friday - April 2, 7:00 p.m.**

**Easter Sunday - April 4, 10:00 a.m.**

**HELP WANTED:** Looking for assistance in the AV department (music and slides for services, streaming, website updating, etc.) No experience necessary. Will train.

