



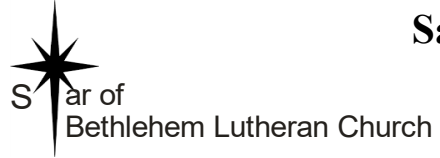
**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

"PEACE be with you!"

John 20:19



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, April 11, 2021 10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday of EASTER

Theme of the day: The fact of Jesus' resurrection is our assurance that we have eternal life. Our faith, based on our risen Savior, gives us what we need for this life and for the life to come. Through his Word we receive our faith and the strength it needs. In our risen Savior, we have the victory and want to live like people who know that.

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: # 160 “This Joyful Eastertide”

♪ **This joyful Eastertide
Away with sin and sorrow!
My love, the Crucified,
Has sprung to life this morrow.
Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen.**

**Death’s flood has lost its chill
Since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
My passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen.**

Please stand for last verse:

**My flesh in hope shall rest
And for a season slumber
Till trump from east to west
Shall wake the dead in number.
Had Christ, who once was slain,
Not burst his three-day prison,
Our faith had been in vain:
But now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen;
But now is Christ arisen.**

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*)

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.

*(The congregation will sing the refrain in bold.
The verses will be sung by the pastor) (CW #265)*

♪ ***This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.

♪ ***This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

Blessing, honor, glory, and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

♪ ***This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

For the Lamb who was slain
Has begun his reign. Alleluia!

♪ ***This is the feast of victory for our God,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

M: O risen Lord, you came to your disciples and took away their fears with your word of peace. Come to us also by your Word and sacraments, and banish our fears with the comforting assurance of your abiding presence; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

FIRST LESSON: 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the God who has given birth also loves one who has been born of him. ²This is how we know that we love the children of God: when we love God and keep his commands. ³In fact, this is love for God: that we keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴because everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world: our faith. ⁵Who is the one who overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood: Jesus Christ. He did not come by the water alone but by the water and by the blood. The Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 16

Refrain



I will walk in the pres-ence of the Lord,



in the land of the liv - ing.

Psalm tone



Keep me safe, O God,*
for in you I take refuge.

I said to the LORD, “You are my Lord;*
apart from you I have no good thing.”

I have set the LORD always before me.*
Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Refrain

**My heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;*
my body also will rest secure,**

**because you will not abandon me to the grave,*
nor will you let your Holy One see decay.**

**You have made known to me the path of life;*
you will fill me with joy in your presence.**

**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. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

**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: John 20:19-31

¹⁹On the evening of that first day of the week, the disciples were together behind locked doors because of their fear of the Jews. Jesus came, stood among them, and said to them, “Peace be with you!” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. So the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you! Just as the Father has sent me, I am also sending you.” ²²After saying this, he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³Whenever you forgive people’s sins, they are forgiven. Whenever you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.”

²⁴But Thomas, one of the Twelve, the one called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵So the other disciples kept telling him, “We have seen the Lord!”

But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, and put my finger into the mark of the nails, and put my hand into his side, I will never believe.”

²⁶After eight days, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them. “Peace be with you,” he said. ²⁷Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe.”

²⁸Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹Jesus said to him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”

³⁰Jesus, in the presence of his disciples, did many other miraculous signs that are not written in this book. ³¹But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

HYMN: # 354 “Lamb of God, We Fall before You”

**♪ Lamb of God, we fall before you,
Humbly trusting in your cross.
Our great joy is to adore you; All things else are only dross.**

**Jesus is the perfect Savior, Only source of all that’s good;
Ev’ry grace and ev’ry favor Come to us through Jesus’ blood.**

**Jesus gives us true repentance By his Spirit sent from heav’n,
Whispers this assuring sentence,
“All your sins are now forgiv’n.”**

**Faith he grants us to believe it,
Grateful hearts his love to prize;
Want we wisdom? He must give it,
Hearing ears and seeing eyes.**

**Jesus gives us pure affections, Wills to do what he requires,
Makes us follow his directions,
And what he commands, inspires.**

**All our prayers and all our praises,
Rightly offered in his name—
He that asks for them is Jesus; He that answers is the same.**

MESSAGE: Acts 3:12-20

¹²When Peter saw this, he addressed the people: “Men of Israel, why are you amazed at this? Why are you staring at us, as if by our own power or godliness we have made this man walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and disowned in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you. ¹⁵You killed the Author of Life, whom God raised from the dead. We are witnesses of this. ¹⁶And on the basis of faith in his name, it is the name of Jesus that has strengthened this man, whom you see and know. This faith that comes through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷“Now brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, just like your leaders. ¹⁸But in this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through the mouth of all the prophets: that his Christ would suffer. ¹⁹Therefore repent and return to have your sins wiped out, ²⁰so that refreshing times may come from the presence of the Lord and that he may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you.

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 # 756 “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight” (page 11)

♪ **We walk by faith and not by sight
No gracious words we hear
Of Him who as none e'er spoke
But we believe Him near.**

**We may not touch His hands and side
Nor follow where He trod,
But in His promise we rejoice
And cry "My Lord and God!"**

**Help then, O Lord, our unbelief
And may our faith abound
To call on you when you are near
And seek where you are found.**

**For you, O resurrected Lord,
Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word,
Beneath the bread and wine.**

**Lord, when our life of faith is done,
In realms of clearer light,
We may behold you as you are
With full and endless sight.**

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: # 166 “The Day of Resurrection”

♪ **The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
The Passover of gladness, The Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, From this world to the sky,
Our Christ has brought us over With hymns of victory.**

**Our hearts be pure from evil That we may see aright
The Lord in rays eternal Of resurrection light
And, list'ning to his accents, May hear, so calm and plain,
His own “All hail!” and, hearing, May raise the victor strain.**

**Now let the heav'ns be joyful; Let earth her song begin.
Let all the world keep triumph And all that is therein.
Let all things, seen and unseen, Their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord has risen; Our joy shall have no end.**



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, Wayne Chapman, Gwen Reuter, Lynn Oberg, Louise Perry, and Ilene Trevarrow.

THIS WEEK

Thursday Bible Study, 10:00 a.m. (Zoom)
Saturday Catechism Class, 10:00 a.m., SM
Sunday Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
Worship with Communion, 10:00 a.m.

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

1 We walk by faith and not by sight; No
 2 We may not touch his hands and side Nor
 3 Help then, O Lord, our un-belief, And
 4 For you, O res-sur-rec-ted Lord, Are
 5 Lord, when our life of faith is done, In

gra-cious words we hear From him who spoke as
 fol-low where he trod, But in his prom-ise
 may our faith a-bound To call on you when
 found in means di-vine: Be-neath the wa-ter
 realms of clear-er light, We may be-hold you

none e'er spoke, But we be-lieve him near.
 we re-joice And cry, "My Lord and God!"
 you are near And seek where you are found.
 and the Word, Be-neath the bread and wine.
 as you are With full and end-less sight.

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