



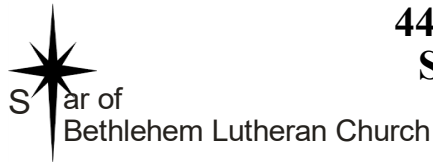
**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

“Very **truly** I tell you,  
the one who **believes**  
has **eternal life.**”

*John 6:47*



**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Sunday, August 15, 2021      10:00 a.m.*

### Twelfth Sunday after PENTECOST

**Theme of the day:** If it were just us weak sinners, we could never do what God requires of us. But today we see that Christ, the bread of life, calls us to faith through his Gospel, giving life and strength to follow him in this world and to overcome our flesh and its sinful desires.

## 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: # 580 “Every Morning Mercies New”**

♪ **Ev’ry morning mercies new Fall as fresh as morning dew;  
Ev’ry morning let us pay Tribute with the early day.  
For your mercies, Lord, are sure;  
Your compassion will endure.**

**Still your kindness and your love Ev’ry day our sins remove;  
Daily, far as east from west, Lift the burden from the breast;  
Give unbought to those who pray  
Strength to live for you each day.**

**Let our prayers each morn prevail  
That these gifts may never fail.  
And as we confess our sin And the tempter’s pow’r within,  
Feed us with the bread of life; Fit us for our daily strife.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**As the morning light returns, As the sun with splendor burns,  
Teach us still to turn to you; With your light our souls renew.  
Then shall we our voices raise In unfailing prayer and praise.**

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.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**M:** Almighty and everlasting God, you are always more ready to hear than we to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and mediation of 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: Ephesians 4:30-5:2**

**<sup>30</sup>Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup>Get rid of every kind of bitterness, rage, anger, quarreling, and slander, along with every kind of malice. <sup>32</sup>Instead, be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us.**

**5 Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children. <sup>2</sup>And walk in love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.**

### **PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 34**

*Refrain*



Hap-py the peo-ple the Lord has cho-sen to be his own.

*Psalm tone*

\*  
Taste and see that the LORD is good;\*

**Taste and see that the LORD is good;\*  
blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

**The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous\*  
and his ears are attentive to their cry.**

**The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear him,\*  
and he delivers them.**

*Refrain*

**The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;\*  
he delivers them from all their troubles.**

**The LORD is close to the brokenhearted\*  
and saves those who are crushed in spirit.**

**The LORD redeems his servants;\*  
no one who takes refuge in him will be condemned.**

**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. Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. Alleluia. (*Hebrews 11:1*)

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 6:41-51**

<sup>41</sup>So the Jews started grumbling about him, because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” <sup>42</sup>They asked, “Isn’t this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? So how can he say, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

<sup>43</sup>Jesus answered them, “Stop grumbling among yourselves. <sup>44</sup>No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the Last Day. <sup>45</sup>It is written in the Prophets, ‘They will all be taught by God.’ Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me. <sup>46</sup>I am not saying that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God. He is the one who has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Amen, Amen, I tell you: The one who believes in me has eternal life.

<sup>48</sup>“I am the Bread of Life. <sup>49</sup>Your fathers ate manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that anyone may eat it and not die. <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever. The bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

## **HYMN: # 331 “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”**

**♪ Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
Pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty;  
Hold me with thy pow’rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain  
Whence the healing stream doth flow;  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar  
Lead me all my journey through.  
Strong Deliv'rer, Be thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
Bid my anxious fears subside;  
Death of death and hell's Destruction,  
Land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises I will ever give to thee.**

### **MESSAGE: 1 Kings 19:3-8**

**<sup>3</sup>Elijah was afraid, and he ran for his life. He went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and he left his servant there. <sup>4</sup>But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. There he sat down under a broom tree, where he prayed that he would die. He said, "I've had enough, LORD. Take my life, for I am no better than my fathers." <sup>5</sup>Then he lay down and went to sleep under the broom tree.**

**Suddenly an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat."**

**<sup>6</sup>Then he looked around, and near his head there was a loaf of bread baking on coals and a jar of water, so he ate and drank, and then he lay down again.**

**<sup>7</sup>Then the angel of the LORD came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, because the journey is too much for you."**

**<sup>8</sup>So he got up and ate and drank. Then, with the strength gained from that food, he walked for forty days and forty nights to Horeb, the mountain of God.**

### **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.**

## **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.**

## **The Holy Sacrament**

**M: The Lord be with you.**

**C: ♪ And also with you.**

**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 sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.

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.**

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.

## **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.

**COMMUNION HYMN: # 315 “Here, O My Lord, I See You”**

♪ Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;  
Here would I touch and handle things unseen,  
Here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,  
And all my weariness upon you lean.

This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
Here is the heav’nly table spread anew.  
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong  
The brief bright hour of fellowship with you.

I have no help but yours nor do I need  
Another arm but yours to lean upon.  
It is enough, O Lord, enough indeed;  
My strength is in your might, your might alone.

Mine is the sin but yours the righteousness;  
Mine is the guilt but yours the cleansing blood.  
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:  
Your blood, your righteousness, O Lord, my God.

Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear.  
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone.  
The bread and wine remove, but you are here,  
Nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.

Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,  
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
The Lamb’s great marriage feast of bliss and love.

**Thanksgiving**

*Please stand.*

♪ **Thank the Lord and sing his praise.  
Tell ev'ryone what he has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice  
and proudly bear his name.  
He renews his promises and leads  
his people forth in joy  
With shouts of thanksgiving.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

### **Prayer of Thanks**

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: # 318 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"**

♪ **Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from his dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended; Oh, be now extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.**

**The seed of his teaching, Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
His grace did invite us; His love shall unite us  
To work for God's kingdom and answer his call.**

**With praise and thanksgiving, To God ever-living,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,  
Embracing his children of each tribe and race.  
With your feast you feed us;  
With your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWERS** for today's service were given to the glory of God by the Evers on the occasion of Lillian's birthday.

**PRAYERS:** Remember to pray for: Gordon Hillberg, Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, Shawna Bushey, Rose Marie Hillberg, 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**

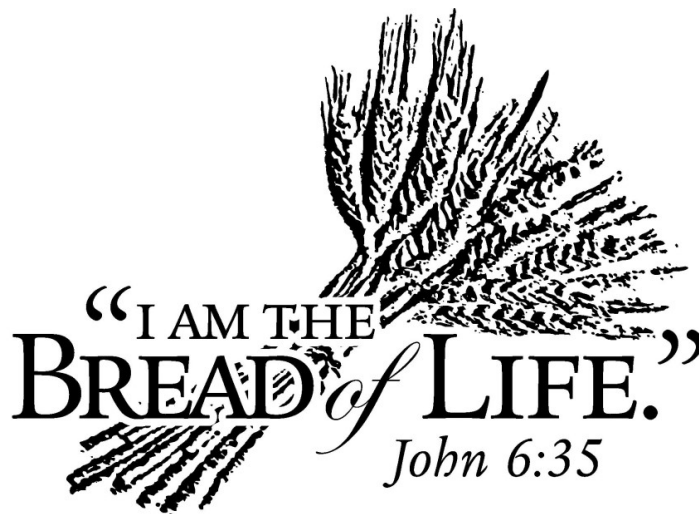
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Atascadero Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday School &amp; Bible Class 9:00 a.m. Worship, 10:00 a.m.</b>

If anyone eats this bread,



he will live forever.

John 6:51



# PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(cf. page 156 in the front of Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal)

**Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?**

*A: He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

**Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?**

*A: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

**Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?**

*A: I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

**Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?**

*A: His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

**Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?**

*A: In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

**Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?**

*A: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

**Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?**

*A: I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

*Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.*

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