



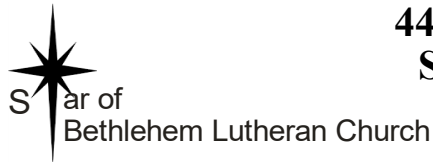
**NORTHWESTERN**  
**PUBLISHING HOUSE**

**"It is what comes  
out of a person  
that defiles them."**

MARK 7:15



**NORTHWESTERN**  
**PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Sunday, September 5, 2021*      *10:00 a.m.*

### **Fifteenth Sunday after PENTECOST**

**Theme of the day:** Jesus wants to so deepen our understanding of his grace that he becomes all in all to us. The emphasis in the readings for this Sunday is the truth that all God pleasing obedience must begin in the heart. As so often, the *Prayer of the Day* affords us a good summary of the thoughts for the day.

## **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: # 106 “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”**

♪ **Come to Calv’ry’s holy mountain, Sinners, ruined by the fall;  
Here a pure and healing fountain Flows to you, to me, to all,  
In a full, perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.**

**Come in poverty and meanness, Come defiled, without, within;  
From infection and uncleanness, From the leprosy of sin,  
Wash your robes and make them white;  
You shall walk with God in light.**

**Come in sorrow and contrition,  
Wounded, paralyzed, and blind;  
Here the guilty, free remission,  
Here the troubled, peace may find.  
Health this fountain will restore;  
He that drinks shall thirst no more**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**He that drinks shall live forever; ’Tis a soul-renewing flood.  
God is faithful; God will never Break his covenant of blood,  
Signed when our Redeemer died, Sealed when he was glorified.**

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:** 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.**

*Please be seated.*

### **FIRST LESSON: Deuteronomy 4:1, 2, 6-8**

**So now, Israel, listen to the statutes and the ordinances that I am teaching you, and carry them out so that you may live and so that you may enter the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving to you and take possession of it. <sup>2</sup>Do not add to the word that I am commanding you, and do not subtract from it, so that you keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you.**

**<sup>6</sup>Keep them and put them into practice, because in this way your wisdom and your understanding will be recognized by all the people who hear about all these statutes; and they will say, “This great nation is certainly a wise and understanding people,” <sup>7</sup>because what other great nation is there that has a god as close to it as the LORD our God is to us whenever we call on him? <sup>8</sup>What other great nation is there that has statutes and ordinances as righteous as this entire law that I am presenting to you today?**

## PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 119c

### *Refrain*



Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

### *Psalm tone*



Oh, how I love your law!\*

I meditate on it all day long.

I have more insight than all my teachers,\*

for I meditate on your statutes.

I have more understanding than the elders,\*

for I obey your precepts.

### *Refrain*

I have kept my feet from every evil path\*  
so that I might obey your Word.

I have not departed from your laws,\*  
for you yourself have taught me.

How sweet are your words to my taste,\*  
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

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. Your words became my joy, the delight of my heart,  
because I bear your name, O LORD. 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: Mark 7:1-8, 14, 15, 21-23

The Pharisees and some of the experts in the law came from Jerusalem and gathered around Jesus. <sup>2</sup>They saw some of his disciples eating bread with unclean (that is, unwashed) hands. <sup>3</sup>In fact, the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they scrub their hands with a fist, holding to the tradition of the elders. <sup>4</sup>When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions they adhere to, such as the washing of cups, pitchers, kettles, and dining couches. <sup>5</sup>The Pharisees and the experts in the law asked Jesus, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders? Instead they eat bread with unclean hands.”

<sup>6</sup>He answered them, “Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites. As it is written:

These people honor me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

<sup>7</sup>They worship me in vain, teaching human rules as if they were doctrines.

<sup>8</sup>“You abandon God’s commandment but hold to human tradition like the washing of pitchers and cups, and you do many other such things.”

<sup>14</sup>He called the crowd to him again and said, “Everyone, listen to me and understand. <sup>15</sup>There is nothing outside of a man that can make him unclean by going into him. But the things that come out of a man are what make a man unclean.

<sup>21</sup>In fact, from within, out of people’s hearts, come evil thoughts, sexual sins, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, unrestrained immorality, envy, slander, arrogance, and foolishness. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things proceed from within and make a person unclean.”

**HYMN: # 474 “Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”**

**♪ Stand up, stand up for Jesus, Ye soldiers of the cross!  
Lift high his royal banner; It must not suffer loss.  
From vict’ry unto vict’ry His army shall he lead  
Till ev’ry foe is vanquished And Christ is Lord indeed.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! The trumpet call obey;  
Forth to the mighty conflict In this his glorious day!  
Ye that are brave, now serve him Against unnumbered foes;  
Let courage rise with danger And strength to strength oppose.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! Stand in his strength alone.  
The arm of flesh will fail you; Ye dare not trust your own.  
Put on the gospel armor; Each piece put on with prayer;  
Where duty calls or danger, Be never wanting there.**

**Stand up, stand up for Jesus! The strife will not be long;  
This day the noise of battle, The next, the victor’s song.  
To him that overcometh A crown of life shall be;  
He with the King of glory Shall reign eternally.**

**MESSAGE: Ephesians 6:10-20**

**<sup>10</sup>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup>Put on the full armor of God, so that you can stand against the schemes of the Devil. <sup>12</sup>For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the world rulers of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. <sup>13</sup>For this reason, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to take a stand on the evil day and, after you have done everything, to stand. <sup>14</sup>Stand, then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness fastened in place, <sup>15</sup>and with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace tied to your feet like sandals. <sup>16</sup>At all times hold up the shield of faith, with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the Evil One. <sup>17</sup>Also take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup>At every opportunity, pray in the Spirit with every kind of prayer and petition. Stay alert for the same reason, always persevering in your intercession for all the saints. <sup>19</sup>Pray for me also, that when I open my mouth a message will be given to me that boldly reveals the mystery of the gospel, <sup>20</sup>for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may speak about it boldly, as it is necessary for me to speak.**



## **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.**

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.**

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.**

## 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 during Communion: # 742 “What Is This Bread?”



1	What	is	this	bread?	Christ's	bod - y
2	What	is	this	wine?	The	blood of
3	So	who	am	I,	That	I should
4	Yet	is	God	here?	Oh,	yes! By
5	Is	this	for	me?	I	am for -



ris - en	from the	dead:	This	bread	we	break,
Je - sus	shed	for mine;	The	cup	of	grace
live	and	He should	Un - der	the	rod?	
Word	and	prom - ise	In	mouth	and	soul
giv - en	and	set free!	I	do	be - lieve	



This	life	we	take,	Was	crushed	to	pay	for	our	re -
Brings	His	em - brace	Of	life	and	love	un - til	I		
My	God,	my	God,	Why	have	You	not	for - sak - en		
He	makes	us	whole—	Christ,	tru - ly	pres - ent	in	this		
That	I	re - ceive		His	ver - y	bod - y	and	His		



lease.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	peace.
sing!	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	King.
me?	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	free.
meal.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	real.
blood.	O	taste	and	see—	the	Lord	is	good.

## 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: # 537 "Onward Christian Soldiers"

♪ **Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.  
Christ, the royal master, Leads against the foe;  
Forward into battle See his banners go!  
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.**

**Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God;  
Brothers, we are treading Where the saints have trod.  
We are not divided, All one body we,  
One in hope and doctrine, One in charity.  
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.**

**Crowns and thrones may perish, Kingdoms rise and wane,  
But the Church of Jesus Constant will remain.  
Gates of hell can never 'Gainst that Church prevail;  
We have Christ's own promise, And that cannot fail.  
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.**

**Onward, then, ye faithful; Join the happy throng,  
Blend with ours your voices In the triumph song:  
Glory, laud, and honor Unto Christ the King;  
This through countless ages Saints and angels sing.  
Onward, Christian soldiers, Marching as to war,  
With the cross of Jesus Going on before.**

### **THIS WEEK**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Elders, 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Catechism Class, 10:00 a.m.</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sunday School &amp; Bible Class 9:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>Worship, 10:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>Voters, 11:20 a.m.</b>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FLOWERS** for today's service were given to the glory of God by the Evers in celebration of Liam'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.

**For our struggle...**



**...is not against flesh and blood.**

**Ephesians 6:12**

# 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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