



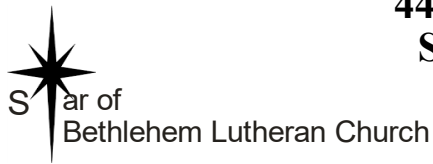
NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE

**“Anyone who wants to
be first must be the
very last . . .”**

Mark 9:35



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, September 26, 2021 10:00 a.m.

Eighteenth Sunday after PENTECOST

Theme of the day: See how deeply the love from God penetrates our heart and soul. We are called to reflect that intense and all-embracing grace in our attitudes toward those around us. Our ambition is to be not the promotion of self, but the imitation of Christ. We learn how fixed we are on that when we face opposition and struggles.



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: # 232 “Lord of My Life, Whose Tender Care”

♪ **Lord of my life, whose tender care
Has led me on till now,
Here lowly, at the hour of prayer,
Before your throne I bow.
I bless your gracious hand and pray
Forgiveness for another day.**

**Oh, may I daily, hourly, strive
In heav’nly grace to grow,
To you and to your glory live,
Dead to all else below!
Tread in the path my Savior trod,
Though thorny, yet the path of God.**

Please stand for last verse:

**To you my humble praise I bring
For mercies day by day.
Lord, teach my heart your love to sing;
Lord, teach me how to pray.
All that I have and e’er can do
I’ll use to serve and honor you.**

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.

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: Lord God, you call us to work in your kingdom and leave no one standing idle. Help us to order our lives by your wisdom and to serve you in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. *Please be seated.*

FIRST LESSON: James 3:13-18

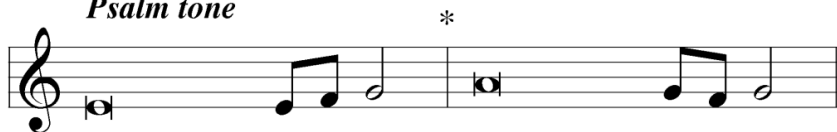
¹³Who among you is wise and intelligent? Let him by his good way of living show that he does things in wise humility. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not boast and lie, contrary to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but it is worldly, unspiritual, and demonic. ¹⁶In fact, where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and every bad practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom that comes from above is first pure, then also peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who practice peace.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 31

Refrain



Psalm tone



In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;
deliver me in your righteousness.

Be my rock of refuge,
a strong fortress to save me.

Into your hands I commit my spirit;
redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.

Refrain

My times are in your hands,*
save me in your unfailing love.

How great is your goodness,*
which you have stored up for those who fear you.


You heard my cry for mercy*
when I called to you for help.

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. “My grace is sufficient for you, because my power is made perfect in weakness.” Alleluia. (*2 Corinthians 12:9*)

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 9:30-37

³⁰They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know this, ³¹because he was teaching his disciples. He told them, “The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him. But three days after he is killed, he will rise.”

³²But they did not understand the statement and were afraid to ask him about it.

³³They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they remained silent, because on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.

³⁵Jesus sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, “If any-one wants to be first, he will be the last of all and the servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and placed him in their midst. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me, welcomes not just me but also him who sent me.”

HYMN: # 542 “Dear Lord, To Your True Servants Give”

♪ Dear Lord, to your true servants give
The grace to you alone to live.
Set free from sin to serve you, Lord,
They go to share your living Word,
The gospel message to proclaim
That all may know your saving name.

They gladly go at your command
To spread your Word o’er sea and land.
Be with them, Lord, and make them strong
To heal sin’s ills, to right the wrong.
Your rule is over wind and wave,
And mighty is your arm to save.

When all their labor seems in vain,
Revive their sinking hopes again;
And when success crowns what they do,
Oh, keep them humble, Lord, and true
Until before your judgment seat
They lay their trophies at your feet.

SERMON: Numbers 12:1-15

Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman he had married (for he had married a Cushite woman).

²They said, “Has the LORD really spoken only through Moses? Hasn’t he also spoken through us?” The LORD heard this.

³(Now the man Moses was very humble, more humble than any-one else on the face of the earth.)

⁴Right then the LORD spoke suddenly to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, “You three come out to the Tent of Meeting!”

The three of them came out. ⁵The LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance to the tent. He called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came forward. ⁶He said, “Now listen to my words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, will make myself known to him in a vision. In a dream I will speak with him.

⁷Not so, however, with my servant Moses. He is faithful in my whole household. ⁸With him I speak face-to-face, clearly, and not in riddles. He sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant, against Moses?” ⁹The LORD’s anger burned against them, and he left.

¹⁰The cloud went up from above the tent, and immediately Miriam was leprous, as white as snow. Aaron turned to Miriam and saw that she was leprous.

¹¹Aaron said to Moses, “My lord, please do not hold this sin against us. We have acted foolishly. We have sinned. ¹²Please do not let her be like a stillborn infant that comes out of its mother’s womb with its flesh half-eaten away.”

¹³Moses cried out to the LORD, “God, please heal her, please!”

¹⁴The LORD said to Moses, “If her father had merely spit in her face, would she not be disgraced for seven days? Have her confined outside of the camp for seven days, and after that she can be brought back in.”

¹⁵Miriam was confined outside of the camp for seven days, and the people did not set out until Miriam was brought back in.

Please stand.

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.**

Please be seated.

HYMN: # 539 “In Christ There Is No East or West”

**♪ In Christ there is no east or west,
In him no south or north,
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.**

**With God there is no tribe or race;
In him we all are one.
He loves us as his children through Our faith in his dear Son.**

**So, brothers, sisters, praise his name
Who died to set us free
From sin, division, hate, and blame, From spite and enmity!**

**Join hands, disciples of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be;
Who serves my Father as his child Is surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west;
In him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him
Throughout the whole wide earth.**

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.

CLOSING HYMN: # 462 “Oh, That the Lord”

♪ Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
To keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
To know and do his will!

Order my footsteps by your Word,
And make my heart sincere;
Let sin have no dominion, Lord,
But keep my conscience clear.

Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
A stricter watch to keep;
And should I e’er forget your way,
Restore your wand’ring sheep.

Make me to walk in your commands—
'Tis a delightful road—
Nor let my head or heart or hands
Offend against my God.

The WELS Connection

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service were given to the glory of God by the Evers in celebration of Laura'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, Linda Hill & Christina, and Wayne Chapman.

WELS Singles: If you're single (unmarried, divorced, widowed) and looking to socialize, make friends, or enjoy fellowship with other singles who share your faith, we encourage you to join our Facebook group! Our group consists of over 500 members from around the world with ages ranging from 18-65+. We are an active group sharing Biblical encouragement, prayers, Lutheran memes, personal victories, and food. Our page is full of discussion posts and we typically have a weekly video hangout on Sunday evenings. We'd love to have you join us. [Facebook Groups](#)

LWMS 2022 CALENDARS coming soon! See Chris Oberg for how to order yours.

LWMS Fall Rally: October 9th, Shepherd of the Hills, Vegas.

THIS WEEK

Thursday	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.
Saturday	Catechism Class, 10:00 a.m.
Sunday	Sunday School & Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
	Worship with Communion, 10:00 a.m.

