

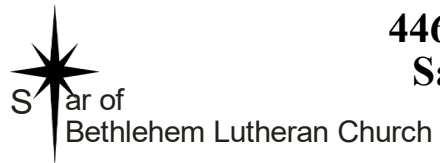


**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

*Joy
to the
World!*



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Santa Maria, CA 93455
Office: 805-937-0339
www.starlutheran.org
Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Saturday, December 25, 2021 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Thought for the day: God's Word for us this day raises us up above the cute and the trite and the trivial; for so many people that is all that Christmas is about. But there is nothing trite or trivial in what has happened today: The deepest lowliness is but the mask for the greatest glory, the glory of him who came to be our Savior!

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: “Let All Together Praise our God” (CW 41)

♪ **Let all together praise our God Before his highest throne;
Today he opens heav’n again And gives us his own Son,
And gives us his own Son.**

**He leaves his heav’nly Father’s throne, Is born an infant small,
And in a manger, poor and lone, Lies in a humble stall,
Lies in a humble stall.**

**He veils in flesh his pow’r divine A servant’s form to take;
In want and lowliness must die Who heav’n and earth did make,
Who heav’n and earth did make.**

**A wondrous change which he does make:
He takes our flesh and blood,
And he conceals for sinners’ sake His majesty as God,
His majesty as God.**

**He serves that I a lord may be—A great exchange indeed!
Could Jesus’ love do more for me To help me in my need,
To help me in my need?**

Please stand as you are able:

**For us he opens wide the door Of paradise today.
The angel guards the gate no more; To God our thanks we pay,
To God our thanks we pay.**

Minister: We begin this Christmas Day service in the name of the only true God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Congregation: **Blessed be the name of our God, for he has regarded the lowly estate of his people.**

M: We are in the presence of the true and living God, before whom all angels veil their faces and bow in humble adoration.

C: **We acknowledge his glory as the only true God, and we offer to him the praise of our hearts and our lips.**

M: Let all the earth stand in awe of our God, who has visited and redeemed his people.

C: Blessing and honor and glory and power be to our God forever and ever! Amen.

(Introduction is played, and then congregation sings:)

♪ **Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, Born the King of angels.
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.**

M: Beloved in the Lord! In the beauty of this glorious celebration of our Savior's birth, our sins against a pure and holy God are still evident. Let us come before Him to make confession and be assured of His forgiveness.

C: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions and my sin is always before me.

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the miraculous birth, the perfect life and the 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: (Spoken) Amen

♪ **Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above.
Glory to God, All glory in the highest.
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord.**

Prayer for the Day

All: Almighty God, we thank You for the birth of your Son in the flesh that sets us free from our old bondage under the yoke of sin and the law. Give us your Holy Spirit to help us rejoice in the peace you have provided for us. We ask this in the name of our Savior who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit as one God, now and forever. Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Exodus 33:18-23; 34:5-7

¹⁸Then Moses said, “Please show me your glory.”

¹⁹The LORD said, “I will make all my goodness pass in front of you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD in your presence. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will show mercy to whom I will show mercy.” ²⁰He said, “You cannot see my face, for no human may see me and live.”

²¹The LORD also said, “Look, there is a place next to me, where you shall stand on the rock. ²²It will happen that, while my glory passes by, I will put you in a crevice in the rock. I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will take away my hand, and you will see my back. But my face will not be seen.”

⁵The LORD came down in the cloud. He took his stand there with Moses and proclaimed the name of the LORD. ⁶The LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed: “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, and overflowing with mercy and truth, ⁷maintaining mercy for thousands, forgiving guilt and rebellion and sin. He will by no means clear the guilty. He calls their children and their children’s children to account for the guilt of the fathers, even to the third and the fourth generation.”

♪ Song: “Go Tell it on the Mountain” (CW # 57)

***Refrain* *Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.***

**While shepherds kept their watching
o’er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. *Refrain***

The shepherds feared and trembled,
When lo! above the earth,
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 98

Refrain



Sing to the Lord a new song, for



he has done mar - vel - ous things.

Psalm tone



Sing to the LORD a new song,*
for he has done marvelous things.

The LORD has made his salvation known*
and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

He has remembered his love and his faithfulness
to the house of Israel;*
all the ends of the earth have seen
the salvation of our God.

Refrain

**Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth,*
burst into jubilant song with music;**

**make music to the LORD with the harp,*
with the harp and the sound of singing.**

**Shout for joy before the LORD, the King.*
He will judge the world in righteousness
and the peoples with equity.**

**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

SECOND LESSON: Romans 8:31,32

³¹What then will we say about these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³²Indeed, he who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also graciously give us all things along with him?

♪ Song: “*When Christmas Morn Is Dawning*” (CW # 48)

**When Christmas morn is dawning,
I wish that I could be
There by the manger cradle
God’s Son, newborn, to see.
There by the manger cradle
God’s Son, newborn, to see.**

**How kind of you, my Savior,
To come to us on earth.
Oh, may we not by sinning
Despise your lowly birth.
Oh, may we not by sinning
Despise your lowly birth.**

**We need you, O Lord Jesus,
To be our dearest friend.
Your love will guard and guide us
And keep us to life's end.
Your love will guard and guide us
And keep us to life's end.**

MESSAGE: John 1:9-14

⁹The real light that shines on everyone was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not recognize him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, yet his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, to those who believe in his name, he gave the right to become children of God. ¹³They were born, not of blood, or of the desire of the flesh, or of a husband's will, but born of God.

¹⁴The Word became flesh and dwelled among us. We have seen his glory, the glory he has as the only-begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

♪ Song: "What Child Is This" (CW # 67)

**What child is this who, laid to rest, On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet With anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the Son of Mary!**

**Why lies he in such mean estate
Where oxen now are feeding?
Good Christians, fear; For sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through;
The cross he'll bear for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the Son of Mary!**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings Salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high; The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the Son of Mary!**

Offering

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER:

♪ *(Tune of "Away in a Manger" CW #68)*

**Our Father in heaven, all praise to Your name!
Your kingdom among us, Your will done the same
By mortals and angels, Come, Lord, reign alone;
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.**

**The bread that we yearn for, provide us each day;
As we forgive others, our sins take away;
In time of temptation, to lead us, be near;
From evil deliver Your children most dear.**

**For Yours is the kingdom, o'er all things You reign.
And Yours is the power; all things You maintain.
To You be the glory, resounding again
From all of creation, forever! Amen.**

♪ **Song: The Benediction** (“Adeste Fidelis” CW, # 55)

M: The Lord bless and keep you,
 Look with love upon you,
 Be gracious, and cause his face
 To shine with peace.

C: **Glory to Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
 The Savior close beside us,
 God's love from harm to hide us,
 The Spirit's pow'r to guide us
 Evermore.**

CLOSING HYMN: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (CW # 61)

♪ **Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all you nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’ angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come, Offspring of a virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th’ incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**

**Hail, the heav’nly Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, Ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”**



† **BIBLE STUDY** every Sunday at 9:00 before worship;
also Thursdays at 10:00.

† **WORSHIP SERVICE** is at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays.

† **Our Worship services are streamed and archived at:**
starlutheran.org

Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

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Corinthians 9:15



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