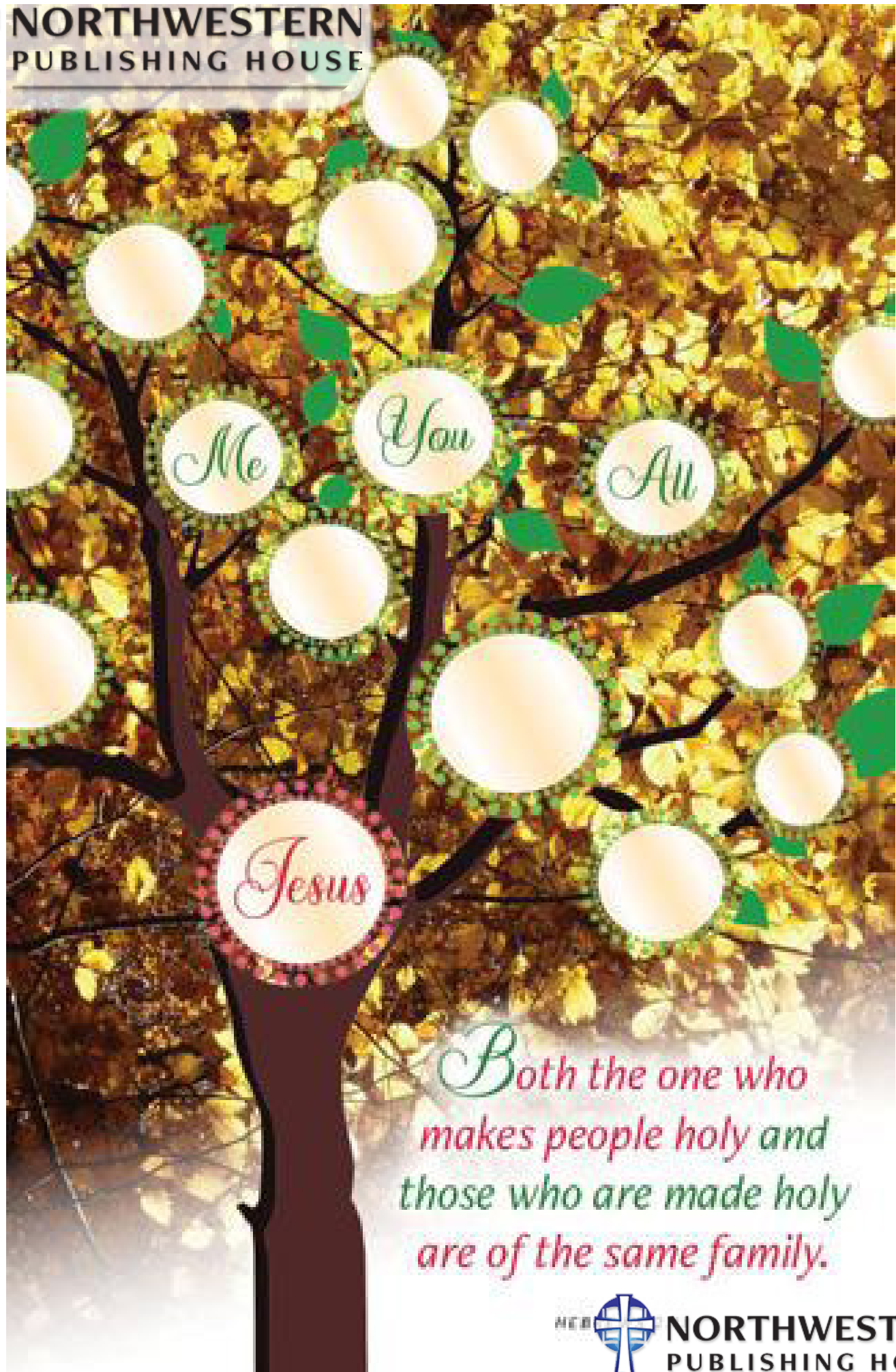




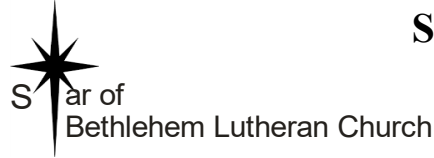
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*Both the one who  
makes people holy and  
those who are made holy  
are of the same family.*



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4465 South Blosser Road  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
Office: 805-937-0339  
[www.starlutheran.org](http://www.starlutheran.org)  
Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Sunday, December 26, 2021 10:00 a.m.*

### First Sunday after Christmas

**Theme of the day:** The Son of God came into this world to serve as our Substitute under the law of God.



As our brother in humanity, Christ did what we cannot — he perfectly kept that law of God, and he freed us from the guilt and power of sin.

## 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: # 226 “To Your Temple I Draw Near”**

♪ **To your temple I draw near; Lord, I love to worship here.  
Here are sacrament and Word;  
Here believers meet their Lord.**

**I through Christ am reconciled;  
I through Christ become your child.  
Abba, Father, give me grace In your courts to seek your face.**

**While your glorious praise is sung,  
Touch my lips, unloose my tongue,  
That my joyful soul may bless  
Christ the Lord, my righteousness.**

**While the prayers of saints ascend, God of love, to mine attend.  
Hear me, for your Spirit pleads; Hear, for Jesus intercedes.**

**While I listen to your law, Fill my soul with holy awe  
Till your gospel brings to me Life and immortality.**

**While your ministers proclaim  
Peace and pardon in your name,  
Through their voice, by faith, may  
I Hear you speaking from the sky.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**From your house, when I return,  
May my heart within me burn,  
And at evening let me say, “I have walked with God today.”**

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**

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.**

**M: Almighty God, in mercy you sent your one and only Son to take upon himself our human nature. By his gracious coming deliver us from the corruption of our sin and transform us into the likeness of his glory; through 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: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26**

**<sup>18</sup>But Samuel ministered before the LORD while he was still a young boy, dressed in a special vest made of linen. <sup>19</sup>His mother would make a little robe for him and bring it to him whenever she came up with her husband to offer the annual sacrifice. <sup>20</sup>Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the LORD give you offspring from this woman in place of the son she asked for, whom she loaned to the LORD.” Then they would go back to their home. <sup>26</sup>The young man Samuel continued to grow, and he increased in favor with both the LORD and with men.**

**PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 111**

*Refrain*



Sing to the Lord a new song, for



he has done mar - vel - ous things.

*Psalm tone*



**Great are the works of the LORD;\*  
they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

**Glorious and majestic are his deeds,\*  
and his righteousness endures forever.**

**He has caused his wonders to be remembered;\*  
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.**

*Refrain*

**The works of his hands are faithful and just;\*  
all his precepts are trustworthy.**

**He provided redemption for his people;\*  
he ordained his covenant forever.**

**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;\*  
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.**

**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. Let the peace of Christ control your hearts.  
Alleluia! (*Colossians 3:15*)

C: **♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**These words are written that we may believe  
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 2:10-18

<sup>10</sup>Certainly it was fitting for God (the one for whom and through whom everything exists), in leading many sons to glory, to bring the author of their salvation to his goal through sufferings.

<sup>11</sup>For he who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified all have one Father. For that reason, he is not ashamed to call them brothers. <sup>12</sup>He says:

**I will declare your name to my brothers.**

**Within the congregation I will sing your praise.**

<sup>13</sup>And again:

**I will trust in him.**

And again:

**Here I am and the children God has given me.**

<sup>14</sup>Therefore, since the children share flesh and blood, he also shared the same flesh and blood, so that through death he could destroy the one who had the power of death (that is, the Devil)

<sup>15</sup>and free those who were held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup>For surely he was not concerned with helping angels but with helping Abraham's offspring.

<sup>17</sup>For this reason, he had to become like his brothers in every way, in order that he would be a merciful and faithful high priest in the things pertaining to God, so that he could pay for the sins of the people. <sup>18</sup>Indeed, because he suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

## HYMN: # 501 "Our Father, by Whose Name"

**♪ Our Father, by whose name All fatherhood is known,  
In love divine you claim Each fam'ly as your own.  
Bless mothers, fathers, guarding well,  
With constant love as sentinel,  
The homes in which your people dwell.**

**O Christ, yourself a child Within an earthly home,  
With heart still undefiled You did to manhood come.  
Our children bless in ev'ry place  
That they may all behold your face  
And, knowing you, may grow in grace.**

**O Holy Spirit, bind Our hearts in unity,  
And teach us how to find The love from self set free.  
In all our hearts such love increase  
That ev'ry home by this release  
May be the dwelling-place of peace.**

### **SERMON: Luke 2:41-52**

<sup>41</sup>Every year his parents traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. <sup>42</sup>When he was twelve years old, they went up according to the custom of the Festival. <sup>43</sup>When the days had ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Since they thought he was in their group, they went a day's journey. Then they began to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him.

<sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? See, your father and I have been anxiously looking for you."

<sup>49</sup>He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be taking care of my Father's business?" <sup>50</sup>They did not understand what he was telling them.

<sup>51</sup>He went down with them and came to Nazareth. He was always obedient to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with people.

### **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: # 366 “O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild”**

**♪ O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!  
For sinners you became a child.  
You came from heaven to fulfill  
Your Father’s just and holy will.  
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!**

**O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!  
With God we now are reconciled.  
You have for all the ransom paid,  
Your Father’s righteous anger stayed.  
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!**

**O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!  
Joy fills the world which sin defiled.  
Whate’er we have belongs to you;  
Oh, keep us faithful, strong, and true.  
O Jesus so sweet, O Jesus so mild!**

**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: # 760 "Peace Like a River"

## 760

## When Peace Like a River

1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my  
2 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous  
3 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be

way, When sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll— What -  
thought— My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is  
sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll; The

ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to  
nailed to the cross, and I bear it no  
trump shall re - sound, and the Lord shall de -

say, It is well, it is well with my soul.  
more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
scend; E - ven so, it is well with my soul.

*Refrain*

It is well with my soul.  
It is well with my

It is well, it is well with my soul.  
soul.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYERS:** Remember to pray for: 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, Wayne Chapman, and Roberta Gowin.

**MISSION OFFERING:** Our Collection for the WELS' Care and Relief Committee comes to an end with the end of 2021. For the next six months our designated Mission Offering will be the California Mission Board's "pick-up" fund, which helps local missions with outreach efforts that don't fall under the synod's budgeted allocations.

### **THIS WEEK**

**Thursday Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.**

**Sunday Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.  
Worship with Communion, 10:00 a.m.**

