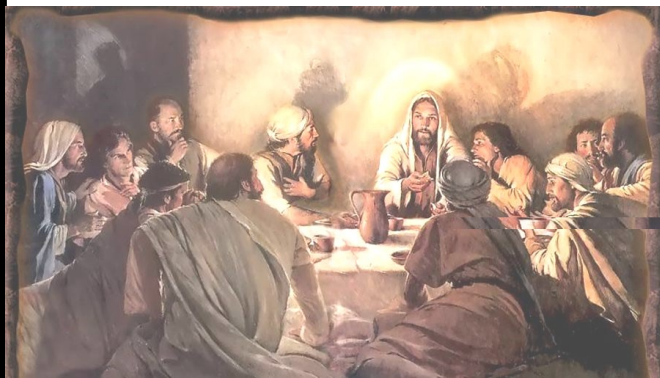



ASH

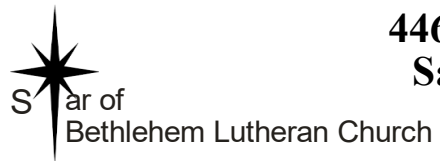
Wednesday



“I will observe the Passover...”



 Star of
Bethlehem Lutheran Church



4465 South Blosser Road
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Office: 805-937-0339
www.starlutheran.org
Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 7:00 p.m.



Thought for the day: Sinful people's response is to try to minimize their sin. Such self-righteous thoughts lead to eternal death. We need the Spirit to give us repentant hearts. As we begin the season of Lent, we remember that death will one day reduce us to ashes — and our hearts need to be reduced to ashes in repentance now.

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: # 124 “Savior, When in Dust to You”

♪ **Savior, when in dust to you Low we bow in homage due,
When, repentant, to the skies Scarce we lift our weeping eyes;
Oh, by all your pains and woe Suffered once for us below,
Bending from your throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!**

**By your helpless infant years, By your life of want and tears,
By your days of deep distress In the savage wilderness,
By the dread, mysterious hour
Of th’ insulting tempter’s pow’r,
Turn, oh, turn a fav’ring eye, Hear our penitential cry!**

**By your hour of dire despair, By your agony of prayer,
By the cross, the nail, the thorn,
Piercing spear, and torturing scorn,
By the gloom that veiled the skies O’er the dreadful sacrifice,
Listen to our humble sigh, Hear our penitential cry!**

Please stand for last verse:

**By your deep expiring groan, By the sad sepulchral stone,
By the vault whose dark abode Held in vain the rising God,
Oh, from earth to heav’n restored, Mighty, reascended Lord,
Bending from your throne on high, Hear our penitential cry!**

REFLECTION ON LENT; SELF-EXAMINATION

CONFESSION OF SINS

Minister: Most holy and merciful Father,

Congregation: **We confess to you and to one another that we have
sinned by our own fault, by our own grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

M: We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and
strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

C: **Have mercy on us, Lord.**

M: Too often, we have been deaf to your call to serve, as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

C: Have mercy on us, Lord.

M: We confess to you, Lord, all our past unfaithfulness: our pride, our hypocrisy, and the impatience of our lives,

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our manipulation of other people

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Our anger at our own frustration, and our envy of those more fortunate than ourselves,

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Our love of worldly goods and comforts, and our dishonesty in daily life and work,

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to bear witness to others the faith that is in us,

C: We confess to you, Lord.

M: Forgive us, Lord, for the wrongs we have done: for our blindness to human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward others and for our prejudice and contempt for those who differ from us,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: For what we think or say or do that is at variance with your will,

C: Forgive us, O Lord.

M: Restore us, good Lord, and let your anger depart from us;

C: Favorably hear us, for your mercy is great.

M: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, does not desire the death of sinners but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live.

Therefore, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

During these days of Lent, let us implore God to give us renewal and his Holy Spirit. May we continue to abide in the true faith and at the last be received by him through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Return to the LORD your God,

C: for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. (Joel 2:13)

PSALM 51a

M: Have mercy on me, O God,

C: according to your unfailing love.

M: Wash away all my iniquity,

C: and cleanse me from my sin.

M: For I know my transgressions,

C: and my sin is always before me.

M: Against you, you only, have I sinned

C: and done what is evil in your sight.

M: Surely I was sinful at birth,

C: sinful from the time my mother conceived me.

M: Hide your face from my sins,

C: and blot out all my iniquity.

M: Restore to me the joy of your salvation,

C: and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

M: Lord Jesus, keep our minds fixed on your precious Word and our thoughts on your glorious victory over death so that we may know the joy of your resurrection and share the pleasures of the saints at your right hand, where you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LESSON: 2 Samuel 12:1-13

So the LORD sent Nathan to David. He came and told him this:

There were two men in a city. One was rich and one poor.

²The rich man had a large number of flocks and herds. ³The poor man did not own anything except one little ewe lamb, which he had bought. He raised it so that it grew up together with him and his children. It ate from his food and drank from his cup. It slept in his arms. It was like a daughter to him.

⁴When a traveler came to the rich man, the rich man was unwilling to take an animal from his flock or from his herd to prepare a meal for the traveler who had come to him. So he took the lamb from the poor man and prepared it for the man who had come to him.

⁵David's anger flared up against that man. He said to Nathan, "As the LORD lives, the man who has done this is as good as dead. ⁶In place of that lamb, he will restore four lambs, because he did this and had no pity." ⁷Nathan told David, "You are the man. This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says." I anointed you king over Israel. I rescued you from the hand of Saul. ⁸I gave the house of your master to you, and I gave the wives of your master into your embrace. I gave you the house of Israel and the house of Judah. If this was too little, I would have added even more. ⁹Why have you despised the word of the LORD by doing evil in his eyes? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword. You have taken his wife as your own wife. You have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. ¹⁰So now the sword will not depart from your house forever, because you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.

¹¹This is what the LORD says. Look! I am raising up disaster against you from your own house. Right in front of your eyes I will take your wives and give them to your neighbor, and he will lie down with your wives in the sight of the sun. ¹²Because you acted in secret, I will do this in front of all Israel in broad daylight.

¹³David said to Nathan, "I have sinned against the LORD."

Nathan said to David, "The LORD himself has put away your sin. You will not die.

HYMN: # 391, 1-3 "God Loved the World So that He Gave"

**♪ God loved the world so that he gave
His only Son the lost to save
That all who would in him believe
Should everlasting life receive.**

**Christ is the solid rock of faith,
Who was made flesh and suffered death.
All who confide in him alone
Are built on this chief cornerstone.**

**God would not have the sinner die—
His Son with saving grace is nigh.
His Spirit in the Word does teach
How we the blessed goal may reach.**

LESSON: 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2

**We urge you, on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God.
²¹God made him, who did not know sin, to become sin for us, so
that we might become the righteousness of God in him.
^{6:1}As fellow workers we also urge you not to receive God's grace
in vain. ²For he says:
At a favorable time I listened to you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you.
Look, now is the favorable time! See, now is the day of salvation!**

HYMN: # 111 "Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing"

**♪ Sweet the moments, rich in blessing,
Which before the cross we spend,
Life and health and peace possessing
From the sinner's dying friend.**

**Here we rest in wonder, viewing All our sins on Jesus laid;
Here we see redemption flowing From the sacrifice he made.**

**Here we find the dawn of heaven
While upon the cross we gaze,
See our trespasses forgiven, And our songs of triumph raise.**

**Oh, that, near the cross abiding, We may to the Savior cleave,
Naught with him our hearts dividing,
All for him content to leave!**

**Lord, in loving contemplation Fix our hearts and eyes on you
Till we taste your full salvation And your unveiled glory view.**

MESSAGE: Matthew 26:18

He said, “Go into the city to a certain man and tell him the Teacher says, ‘My time is near. I will observe the Passover with my disciples at your house.’ ”

HYMN: # 339 “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

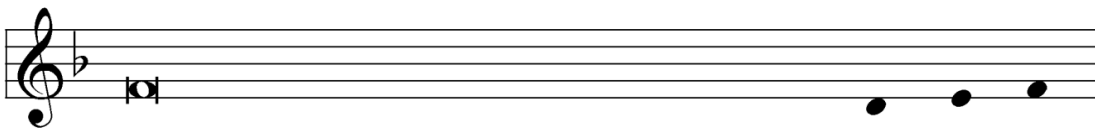
♪ **Today your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.
However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.**

**Today your gate is open, And all who enter in
Shall find a Father’s welcome And pardon for their sin.
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,
A future grace be promised: A glorious crown in heav’n.**

**Today our Father calls us; His Holy Spirit waits.
His blessed angels gather Around the heav’nly gates.
No question will be asked us How often we have come;
Although we oft have wandered, It is our Father’s home.**

**O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,
What should we do without you When heart and eye run o’er?
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer**

OFFERING



M: In the closing hours of this day, hear us as we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For the well-being of people everywhere, for the growth of your church in all the world, and for the strengthening of all who serve and worship here, we pray, O Lord:



C: Christ, have mer - cy.

M: For one another, young and old, for your blessings that come with every stage of life, and for joy in doing your will, we pray, O Lord:



C: Lord, have mer - cy.

M: For our public servants who work day and night to bring protection, justice, learning, and health to this and every place, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For favorable weather and bountiful harvests, for clothing and food, for health of body, mind, and spirit, and for deliverance from all sin and every form of evil, we pray to you, O Lord:



C: Lord, hear our prayer.

M: For the faithful who have gone before us, who have shared with us your good news, whose souls are now at rest in your heavenly kingdom, we give you thanks, O Lord:



C: Thanks be to God.

M: In thanksgiving for your many and varied gifts to us, we now commend ourselves to your care. Be our shield and strength, O Lord.



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 LORD'S SUPPER

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your Spirit.

M: We lift up our hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

C: In peace, Lord, you let your ser - vant now de - part
ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen
your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for ev - 'ry
peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles
and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

BLESSING

M: The grace of our Lord + Je - sus Christ and the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.
C: A - men.

CLOSING HYMN: # 592 “All Praise to Thee, My God”

♪ **All praise to thee, my God, this night
For all the blessings of the light.
Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings,
Beneath thine own almighty wings.
Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son
The ill that I this day have done,
That with the world, myself, and thee
I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.**

**Teach me to live that I may dread
The grave as little as my bed.
Teach me to die so that I may
Rise glorious at the awe-full day.
Oh, may my soul on thee repose
And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close,
Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make
To serve my God when I awake.**

**When in the night I sleepless lie,
My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;
Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,
No pow'rs of darkness me distress.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

