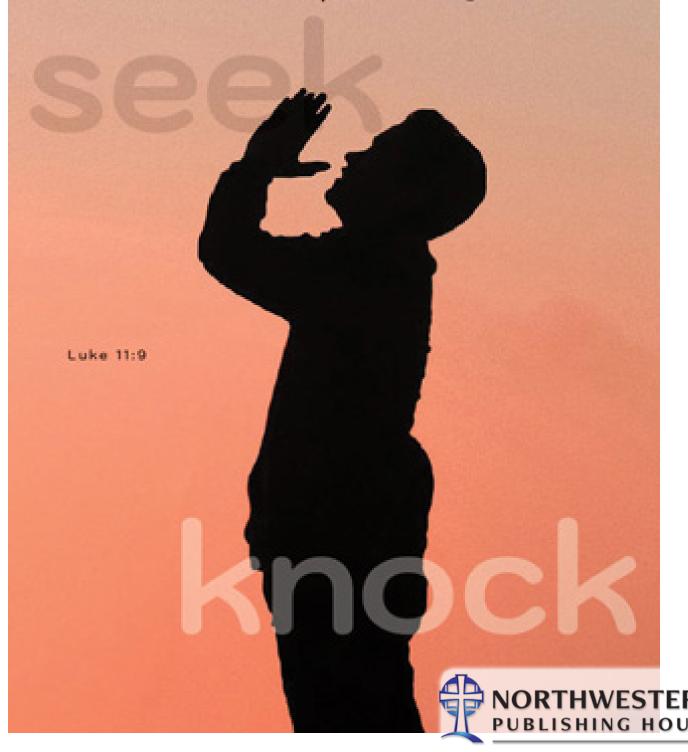


"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."







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

Worship Service

Sunday, July 24, 2022 10:00 a.m. **Seventh Sunday after PENTECOST**

Theme of the day: In a certain sense, prayer is a natural impulse within the heart of creatures toward their Creator. What does not come naturally, however, is the focused prayer God wants for us. Our prayers are based on the unique and unearned relationship we have with God. Prayer is an opportunity to bring our will into conformity with his rather than the other way around.

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.

HYMN: #776 "With the Lord Begin Your Task"

Let each day begin with prayer, Praise and adoration. On the Lord cast ev'ry care; He is your salvation. Morning, evening, and at night Jesus will be near you, Save you from the tempter's might, With his presence cheer you.

With your Savior at your side Foes need not alarm you; In his promises confide And no ill can harm you. All your trust and hope repose In the mighty Master, Who in wisdom truly knows How to stem disaster.

Please stand for last verse:

If your task is thus begun With the Savior's blessing, Safely then your course will run, Naught your soul distressing. Good will follow ev'rywhere While you here must wander; You at last the joy will share In the mansions yonder.

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

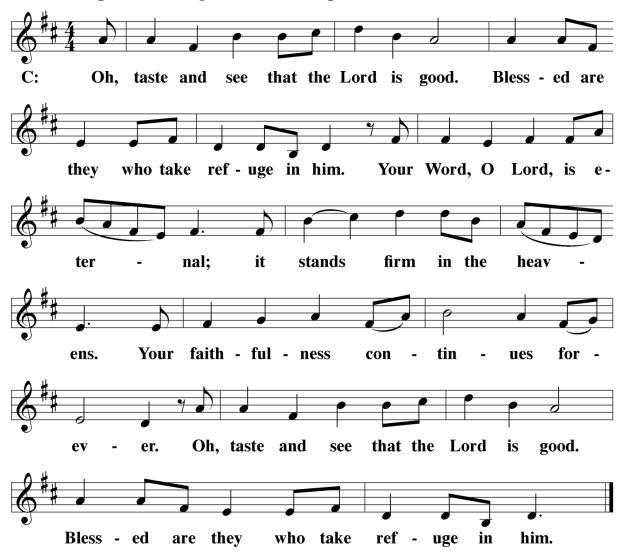
Congregation: And also with you. (spoken)

- 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.



M: O Lord, your ears are always open to the prayers of your humble servants who come to you in Jesus' name. Teach us always to ask according to your will that we may never fail to obtain the blessings you have promised; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

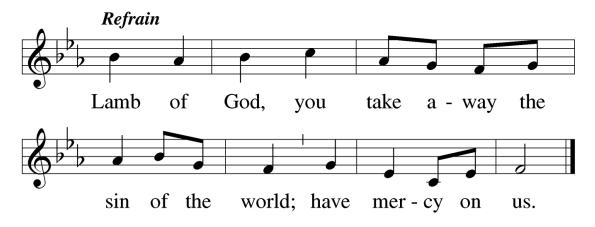
C: A Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ²for kings and all those who are in authority, in order that we might live a quiet and peaceful life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is good and pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who wants all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God and one mediator between God and mankind, the man Christ Jesus, ⁶who gave himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time. ⁷For this testimony, I was appointed a herald and an apostle—I speak the truth; I am not lying—a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 6





O LORD, do not rebuke me in your <u>anger*</u> or discipline me <u>in</u> your wrath.

Be merciful to me, LORD, for <u>I</u> am faint;* O LORD, heal me, for my soul is in <u>anguish</u>.

Turn, O LORD, and de<u>liver me</u>;* save me because of your un<u>failing</u> love.

Refrain

I am worn out from <u>groaning.*</u> My eyes grow weak with <u>sor</u>row.

Away from me, all you who do evil,* for the LORD has heard my weeping.

The LORD has heard my cry for mercy;* the LORD accepts my prayer.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

M: Alleluia. Keep asking, and it will be given to you. Keep seeking, and you will find. Keep knocking, and it will be opened for you. Alleluia. (*Matthew 7:7*)

C: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 11:1-13

On another occasion, Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, just as John also taught his disciples."

²He said to them, "When you pray, say, 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴Forgive us our sins, as we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.' "

⁵He said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and tell him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, ⁶because a friend of mine who is on a journey has come to me, and I do not have anything to set before him.' ⁷And the one inside replies, 'Don't bother me. The door is already locked, and my children and I are in bed. I can't get up and give it to you.' ⁸I tell you, even if he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his bold persistence, he will get up and give him as much as he needs.

⁹"I tell you, keep asking, and it will be given to you. Keep seeking, and you will find. Keep knocking, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives. The one who seeks finds. And to

the one who knocks, it will be opened.

¹¹"What father among you, if your son asks for bread, would give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, would give him a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if he asks for an egg, would give him a scorpion? ¹³If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

HYMN: #719 "Lord, Teach Us How to Pray"

 □ Lord, teach us how to pray as once the Twelve you taught, for we can never find the words to praise you as we ought.

Lord, teach us how to pray when cares distract the mind. Help us to wait in quietness, a calmer spirit find.

Lord, teach us how to pray; rekindle faith's bright flame, until our faith leaps up again to speak and praise your name.

Lord, teach us how to pray; remind us day by day that you wait eagerly to hear before we think to pray.

SERMON: Genesis 18:20-32

²⁰So the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very flagrant, ²¹I will go down now and see if what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has come to me. If not, I will know."

Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³Abraham approached him and said, "Will you really sweep away the righteous along with the wicked? ²⁴What if there are fifty righteous people in the city? Will you really sweep them away and not spare the place for the sake of the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵You would never do such a thing, killing the righteous along with the wicked, treating the righteous the same as the wicked. You would never do such a thing. The Judge of all the earth should do right, shouldn't he?"

²⁶The Lord said, "If I find fifty righteous people within the city

of Sodom, then I will spare the entire place for their sake."

²⁷Abraham answered, "See now, I who am but dust and ashes have taken it on myself to speak to my Lord. ²⁸What if there are five fewer than fifty righteous? Will you destroy the entire city if the number is five short?" He said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there."

²⁹He spoke to him yet again and said, "What if only forty are

found there?"

He said, "I will not do it for the sake of the forty."

³⁰He said, "Please, do not be angry, my Lord, but I will speak again. What if thirty are found there?"

He said, "I will not do it if I find thirty there."

³¹He said, "See now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to my Lord. What if there are twenty found there?"

He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of the twenty."

³²He said, "Please, do not be angry, my Lord, but I will speak just once more. What if ten are found there?"

He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of the ten."

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: #721 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry Ev'rything to God in prayer! Oh, what peace we often forfeit, Oh, what needless pain we bear, All because we do not carry Ev'rything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged—Take it to the Lord in prayer. Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness—Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy laden, Cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge—Take it to the Lord in prayer. Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer. In his arms he'll take and shield you; You will find a solace there.

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: A Amen. Amen. Amen.

HYMN: # 803 "Day by Day"

Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, bringing comfort to my anxious soul. Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal. Love divine, beyond all mortal measure, brings to naught the burdens of my quest; Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, where at last I'll find eternal rest.

Day by day, I know you will provide me strength to serve and wisdom to obey; I will seek your loving will to guide me o'er the paths I struggle day by day. I will fear no evil of the morrow, I will trust in your enduring grace. Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow till in glory I behold your face.

Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my burdens grow too great to bear; oh, what joy to know that you will hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no matter what betide me, you will hold me ever in your hand. Savior, with your presence here to guide me, I will reach at last the promised land.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS: Remember to pray for: Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, Ruth Fabian, little Elias, Rose Marie Hillberg, Dennis Douglas, Bob Ward, George Caravana, Doris Scheuffele, Molly Webb (and her brother Jim), Helen Marten, Doug Ward, Kathy Jones, Art Amarillas, Linda Hill & Christina, Roberta Gowin, Melinda Brown, Alice Taubman, Monica, Ryan Bevington, and Don Pedersen.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you have someone for which you would like us to be praying or you would like to be included in this chain, please let Ryan (thecamoores@gmail.com) or Pastor Foley (revmikefoley@gmail.com) know. Requests from prayer chain will also be included in the bulletin.

"Hi, We're Your Neighbors at Star" - Big, fun, promotional, fellowship, outreach day at Waller Park, Saturday, August 20. Sign up to let us know how you'd like to help.

BIBLE STUDIES: While we do meet in person for our weekly Bible Classes (Sundays at 9:00 a.m.; Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.), we also continue to "Zoom" all our studies. If you want to be included in the weekly e-mail with the zoom codes and print-outs, please let Pastor Foley know.

Star of Bethlehem Officers (2022-23):

President - Carl Evers Jr.

Secretary - Eric Oberg

Treasurer - Jared Evers

Financial Secretary - Derek Ehinger

Trustees - Karl Koeller; Carl Evers III

Elders - Morris Taubman; Terry Oberg; Steve Daugherty

THIS WEEK

Thursday NO BIBLE CLASS

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



"Lord, teach us to pray."

www.starlutheran.org