



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE

“Those who
humble themselves
will be exalted.”

Luke 14:11b



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Star of
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, August 28, 2022 10:00 a.m.

Twelfth Sunday after PENTECOST

Theme of the day: Jesus (who was absolutely focused on doing all it took to save us eternally) gives us the focus we need for our lives. Often he does that by turning our faulty thinking around completely (“the first last and the last first”). Today he shows us *the humble will be exalted and the exalted will be humbled*. True and saving faith is always humble, because it always looks to Jesus instead of self.

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: # 706 “Come unto Me, Ye Weary”

♪ **“Come unto me, ye weary, and I will give you rest.”
O blessed voice of Jesus, which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction, of pardon, grace, and peace,
of joy that has no ending, of love that cannot cease.**

**“Come unto me, ye wand’ers, and I will give you light.”
O loving voice of Jesus, which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness, and we had lost our way,
but thou hast brought us gladness and songs at break of day.**

**“Come unto me, ye fainting, and I will give you life.”
O cheering voice of Jesus, which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager, the fight is fierce and long,
but thou hast made us mighty and stronger than the strong.**

Please stand for last verse:

**“And whosoever cometh, I will not cast him out.”
O patient love of Jesus, which drives away our doubt,
which, though we be unworthy of love so great and free,
invites us very sinners to come, dear Lord, to thee!**

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: O Lord of grace and mercy, teach us by your Holy Spirit to follow the example of your Son in true humility, that we may withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds avoid ungodly pride; through your Son, 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: Proverbs 25:6,7

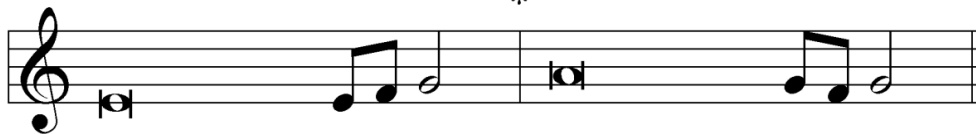
**Do not honor yourself in a king's presence.
Do not stand in a place reserved for great people,
because it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than for you to be humiliated before a ruler
whom your eyes have seen.**

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 33

Refrain



Psalm tone



Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;
it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

For the Word of the LORD is right and true;
he is faithful in all he does.

By the word of the LORD were the heavens made,
their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.

Refrain

The LORD foils the plans of the nations;
he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever,
the purposes of his heart through all generations.

The LORD loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of his unfailing love.

**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

M: Alleluia. Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted. Alleluia. (*Luke 14:11*)

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: James 2:1-13

My brothers, have faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ without showing favoritism. ²For example, suppose a man enters your worship assembly wearing gold rings and fine clothing, and a poor man also enters wearing filthy clothing. ³If you look with favor on the man wearing fine clothing and say, “Sit here in this good place,” but you tell the poor man, “Stand over there” or “Sit down here at my feet,” ⁴have you not made a distinction among yourselves and become judges with evil opinions? ⁵Listen, my dear brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom, which he promised to those who love him? ⁶But you dishonored the poor man. Don’t the rich oppress you, and don’t they drag you into court? ⁷Aren’t they the ones who blaspheme the noble name that was pronounced over you? ⁸However, if you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well.

¹⁰In fact, whoever keeps the whole law but stumbles in one point has become guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹For the one who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not commit murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery, but you do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law of freedom. ¹³For there will be judgment without mercy on the one who has not shown mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

HYMN: # 729 “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

♪ **Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us,
hallows all our human race,
you our head, who, throned in glory,
for your own will ever plead:
fill us with your love and pity,
heal our wrongs and help our need.**

**Bind us all as one together in your Church’s sacred fold,
weak and healthy, poor and wealthy,
sad and joyful, young and old.
Is there want or pain or sorrow? Make us all the burden share.
Are there spirits crushed and broken?
Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.**

**As you, Lord, have lived for others, so may we for others live.
Freely have your gifts been granted;
freely may your servants give.
Yours the gold and yours the silver,
yours the wealth of land and sea;
we but stewards of your bounty held in solemn trust will be.**

**Son of God, eternal Savior, source of life and truth and grace,
Word made flesh, whose birth among us,
hallows all our human race,
by your praying, by your willing
that your people should be one,
grant, O grant our hope’s fruition:
here on earth your will be done.**

SERMON: Luke 7:1-10

After Jesus had finished saying all these things to the people who were listening, he went into Capernaum. ²A centurion’s servant, who was valuable to him, was sick and about to die. ³When the centurion heard about Jesus, he sent some elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and heal his servant. ⁴When they came to Jesus, they begged him earnestly, saying, “He is worthy of having you do this for him, ⁵because he loves our nation, and he built our synagogue for us.”

⁶Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to tell Jesus, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, because I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. ⁷That is why I did not consider myself worthy to come to you. But say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁸For I am also a man placed under authority, having soldiers under me. I say to this one, ‘Go!’ and he goes; and to another one, ‘Come!’ and he comes; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.”

⁹When Jesus heard these things, he was amazed at him. He turned to the crowd that was following him and said, “I tell you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel.” ¹⁰And when the men who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant well.

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: # 811 “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

**♪ My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine.**

Now hear me while I pray; take all my guilt away;

O, let me from this day be wholly thine!

**May thy rich grace impart strength to my fainting heart;
my zeal inspire!
As thou hast died for me, O, may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be, a living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide.
Bid darkness turn to day, wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray from thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream,
when death's cold, sullen stream shall o'er me roll,
blest Savior, then, in love, fear and distrust remove;
O, bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!**

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.

HYMN: # 928 “May the Grace of Christ our Savior”

**♪ May the grace of Christ our Savior
and the Father’s boundless love
with the Holy Spirit’s favor
rest upon us from above.
Thus we may we abide in union
with each other and the Lord,
and possess in sweet communion
joys which earth cannot afford.**

The WELS Connection

**“Lord, ...I do not deserve to have you come
under my roof. That is why I did not consider
myself worthy to come to you.**



But say the word...”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by the Evers in celebration of Liam's birthday.

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, and Don Pedersen.

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 CHURCH DIRECTORY: To participate in our online church directory please fill out and return the blue information sheets (in the narthex). Once you have access, you will be able to edit your information (or you can ask Pastor Foley to do so).

To view and use the directory online, go to:

members.instantchurchdirectory.com

Follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now."

To view and use the directory on your smartphone:

download the App for "Instant Church Directory"

*** You will need to use your e-mail address as listed in our directory to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app.

NEW ESL SESSION, Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:00-7:30 p.m., beginning September 6.

THIS WEEK

Thursday Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.

Elders, 11:00 a.m.

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

Worship with Holy Communion, 10:00 a.m.

