



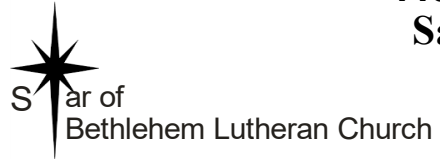
NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE

Increase our faith!

LUKE 17:5



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE



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Santa Maria, CA 93455
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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, October 2, 2022 10:00 a.m.

Seventeenth Sunday after PENTECOST

Theme of the day: Is it a *duty* or a *privilege* to serve? — Yes. But only faith that increases our duties leads us to delight in them. For through faith, we know we serve the One who first came to serve us. We consider it a privilege to imitate Christ in our service to others. Just as his service to us brought him great joy, so does our service to him and others.

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: # 824 “This Is the Threefold Truth”

♪ **This is the threefold truth on which our faith depends;
and with this joyful cry__ worship begins and ends:
Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

**Long used by saints of old, new-minted for our time,
our liturgies confess the hope we have in him:
Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

**On this we fix our minds as, kneeling side by side,
we take the bread and wine, take him, the Crucified:
Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

**By this we are upheld when doubt or grief assails
our Christian faith and love, and only grace avails:
Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

Please stand for last verse:

**This is the threefold truth which, if we hold it fast,
changes the world and us and brings us home at last:
Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

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 your bountiful goodness, keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through you 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: 2 Thessalonians 1:1-5, 11,12

Paul, Silas, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³We are always obligated to thank God for you, brothers, as is fitting, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love that each and every one of you has for one another is increasing.

⁴So we ourselves boast about you in God's churches in regard to your patient endurance and faith in all your persecutions and in the trials that you are enduring. ⁵This is evidence of God's righteous verdict that resulted in your being counted worthy of God's kingdom, for which you also suffer.

¹¹For this reason, we are always praying for you, that our God will make you worthy of your calling and use his power to fulfill every good desire and work of your faith, ¹²so that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you and you in him, in keeping with the grace of our God and Lord Jesus Christ.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 62

Refrain



The might-y Lord is with us; the God of Ja-cob is our for-tress.

Psalm tone



My soul finds rest in God alone;*
my salvation comes from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation;*
he is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

Find rest, O my soul, in God alone;*
my hope comes from him.

Refrain

Though your riches increase,*
do not set your heart on them.

My salvation and my honor depend on God;*
he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Trust in him at all times, O people;*
pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

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. “Who am I? Who are my people that we are able to offer willingly like this?” Alleluia. (*1 Chronicles 29:14*)

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

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 17:1-10

Jesus said to his disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ²It would be better for that person if a millstone would be hung around his neck and he would be thrown into the sea than for him to cause one of these little ones to sin. ³Watch yourselves.

“If your brother sins, rebuke him. If he repents, forgive him. ⁴Even if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times returns to you and says, ‘I repent,’ forgive him.”

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith.”

⁶The Lord said, “If you had faith like a mustard seed, you could tell this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you. ⁷Which one of you who has a servant plowing or taking care of sheep will say to him when he comes in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at the table’? ⁸Won’t the master tell him instead, ‘Prepare my supper, and after you are properly dressed, serve me while I eat and drink. After that you may eat and drink’? ⁹He does not thank the servant because he did what he was commanded to do, does he? ¹⁰So also you, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants. We have only done what we were supposed to do.’ ”

HYMN: # 736:1,2,4 “Lord, You Call Us as Your People”
(sung to tune of # 748)

♪ Lord, you call us as your people, out of darkness into light.
You created and redeemed us, made precious in your sight.
Give us faith to trust you boldly and to love you steadfastly.
By your Spirit may we ever faithful to our callings be.

Lord, you call us as disciples, walking on your pilgrim way.
Crucified and risen Savior, you are with us ev’ry day.
Give us wisdom, give us courage as you teach us patiently.
By your Spirit may we ever faithful to our callings be.

**Lord, you call us to new ventures by a pathway yet unknown.
Though we cannot see the ending, we will follow you alone.
Knowing that your hand is guiding and you love us faithfully,
by your Spirit may we ever faithful to our callings be.**

SERMON: 1 Chronicles 29:1-2, 10-18

King David said this to the whole assembly:

My son Solomon, the one God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. The work is great because this citadel is not for a man. It is for the LORD God. ²According to all my strength, I have provided these things for the house of my God: gold for the gold items, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron, wood for the wooden, onyx stones and settings, antimony, stones of many different colors, every kind of precious stone, and alabaster in abundance.

¹⁰David blessed the LORD in the presence of the entire assembly. He said: Blessed are you, LORD, the God of Israel, our father, from eternity to eternity. ¹¹To you, O LORD, belong greatness, power, glory, victory, and majesty, because everything in the heavens and on the earth belongs to you. You, LORD, are exalted as head above everything. The kingdom belongs to you. ¹²Riches and honor come from you. You are ruling over everything. In your hand are power and strength. It is in your power to make anyone great and strong. ¹³Now, our God, we are thanking you and praising your glorious name.

¹⁴Who am I? Who are my people that we are able to offer willingly like this? For everything comes from you. What we have given to you came from your hand. ¹⁵We are aliens and temporary residents before you, as were all our fathers. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no hope of staying.

¹⁶LORD, our God, all this abundance, which we have provided for building a house for you, for your holy name, is from your hand. This abundance belongs to you.

¹⁷I know, my God, that you test the heart, and you take pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things. Now with joy I see your people, who are present here to bring the offering freely to you.

¹⁸LORD, the God of our fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, preserve forever this purpose and way of thinking in the heart of your people. Direct their heart to you.

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally
begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God
from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incar-
nate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death
and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He
ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He
will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his
kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, The Lord, the giver of life, who pro-
ceeds from the Father and the Son, Who in unity with the Father and
the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the
prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We
acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the
resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy king-
dom 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 Holy Sacrament

Holy Communion, will be celebrated in today's service. The Bible teaches us that Jesus offers us his body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins in the Lord's Supper. The Bible also instructs us that receiving the Lord's Supper together is a public expression of our complete "oneness," or unity of faith.

Because the Lord's Supper is an expression of our unity in faith, we invite to the Lord's Supper only those who have expressed that unity with us through membership in our congregation or one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), or our sister church body, the ELS.

If you are a guest from another Christian church, we kindly ask that you simply refrain from participation in our celebration of the Lord's Supper today. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of declaring your agreement with our beliefs before you have had a chance to learn more.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you. (*spoken*)

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak.


Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

♪ **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.
You are my God, and I will exalt you.
I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.
The whole earth is full of your glory.**

The Words of Institution

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


C:  **Amen.**

 **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.**

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. Amen.**

HYMN: # 671 “Your Body, Given for Me, O Savior”

 **Your body, giv’n for me, O Savior,
your blood which you for me have shed —
these are my life and strength forever;
by them my hungry soul is fed.**

**O Jesus, may your body and your blood
be for my soul the highest good.**

**With you, Lord, I am now united; I live in you and you in me.
In you my soul will be delighted,
as joys increase and sorrows flee.**

**O Jesus, may your body and your blood
be for my soul the highest good.**

**Who can condemn me now? For surely
the Lord is near who justifies.**

No hell I fear, and thus securely with Jesus I to heaven rise.

**O Jesus, may your body and your blood
be for my soul the highest good.**

**Tho’ death may threatened with disaster;
it cannot rob me of my cheer,
for he who is of death the master
with help and strength is always near.**

**O Jesus, may your body and your blood
be for my soul the highest good.**

**Thus ev'ry pain is disappearing;
one taste my heart has come to know —
of Jesus and his love endearing,
the taste that sweetens ev'ry woe.
O Jesus, may your body and your blood
be for my soul the highest good.**

THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

**♪ Thank the Lord and sing his praise.
Tell ev'ryone what he has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.
He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: ♪ 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: # 749 “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

♪ God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store:
nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom,
costly cross, grave’s shattered door —
gifted by you, we turn to you,
off’ring up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through pow’rs your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ’s ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.



“Increase our faith.”

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	ESL (English as a Second Language), 6-7:30 p.m.
Thursday	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.
	ESL, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
(Friday	Parking Lot Repaving Project)
Saturday	LWMS Rally, Santa Barbara, 8:30-2:20
Sunday	Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
	Worship, 10:00 a.m.
	Fellowship Lunch & Voters' Meeting, after.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by the Evers in celebration of Sarah'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, Don Pedersen, Louise Perry, and Rylan Downs.

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.

AREA REFORMATION SERVICE, October 30th, 4:00 p.m.
St. Paul's First, 5244 Tujunga Ave., North Hollywood.

PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(cf. page 156 in the front of Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal)

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.

