



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE

**"What is
impossible
with man
is possible
with God."**

Luke 18:27



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Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, October 23, 2022 10:00 a.m.

Twentieth Sunday after PENTECOST

Theme of the day: When Jesus returns, will he find faith on the earth? In considering his question from last week, we might assume that lack of faith to be easy to spot in immorality and disdain for God. But often it's not an obvious rejection of God and his Word. Often it's something that claims to be faith but trusts in one's own "obedience" and "good works"....

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: # 816 “I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus”

♪ **I am trusting you, Lord Jesus, trusting only you;
trusting you for full salvation, free and true.**

**I am trusting you for pardon; at your feet I bow,
for your grace and tender mercy trusting now.**

**I am trusting you for cleansing in the crimson flood,
trusting you who made me holy by your blood.**

**I am trusting you to guide me; you alone shall lead,
ev’ry day and hour supplying all my need.**

**I am trusting you for power; you can never fail.
Words which you yourself shall give me must prevail.**

Please stand for last verse:

**I am trusting you, Lord Jesus; never let me fall.
I am trusting you forever and for all.**

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: Lord, keep your household, the church, in continual godliness,
and set us free from all adversities that, under your protection, we
may serve you with true devotion and holy deeds; 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: Deuteronomy 10:12-22

¹²So now, Israel, what is the LORD your God asking of you but
to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to love him
and to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all

your soul, ¹³to keep the commandments of the LORD and his statutes that I am commanding you today for your own good.

¹⁴Indeed, the heavens and the heaven of heavens, the earth and everything that is on it—these belong to the LORD your God. ¹⁵Still, the LORD attached himself to your fathers, loved them, and he chose their descendants after them (that's you!) from all peoples, as it is today.

¹⁶So cut away the tough shell of your sinful nature, and do not be stubborn any longer.

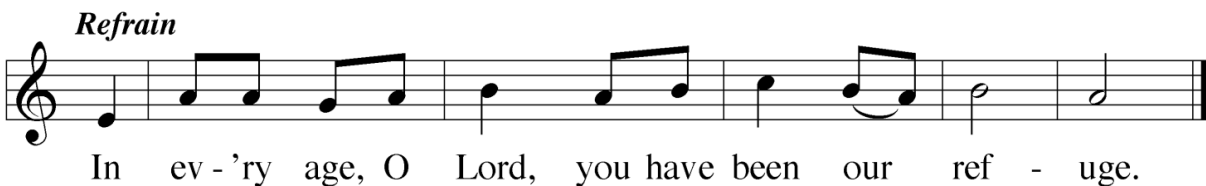
¹⁷The LORD your God is God of Gods and Lord of Lords, the great God, the mighty one and the awesome one, who does not show favoritism and does not take a bribe. ¹⁸He carries out justice for the fatherless and widows. He loves the alien who dwells among you and gives him food and clothing. ¹⁹So you are to love the alien, because you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

²⁰Fear the LORD your God, serve him, cling to him, and take your oaths in his name.

²¹He is your glory. He is your God, who performed for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen.

²²When your fathers went down to Egypt, they numbered seventy people, but now the LORD your God has made you as numerous as the stars of the sky.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 90



Lord, you have been our dwelling place*
throughout all generations.

Before the mountains were born
or you brought forth the earth and the world,*
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

**For a thousand years in your sight are like a day
that has just gone by,*
or like a watch in the night.**

Refrain

**You have set our iniquities before you,*
our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

**You turn mortals back to dust.*
You sweep them away in the sleep of death.**

**The length of our days is seventy years—
or eighty, if we have the strength;*
yet their span is but trouble and sorrow.**

**Teach us to number our days aright,*
that we may gain a heart of wisdom.**

Refrain

**Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,*
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

**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. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. Alleluia. (*Matthew 22:37*)

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 18:18-30

¹⁸A certain ruler asked Jesus, “Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁹Jesus asked him, “Why do you call me good? No one is good, except one—God. ²⁰You know the commandments: ‘You shall not commit adultery. You shall not murder. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. Honor your father and mother.’ ”

²¹“I have kept all these since I was a child,” he said.

²²When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²³But when the ruler heard these words, he became very sad, because he was very rich.

²⁴When Jesus saw that the man became very sad, he said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!

²⁵In fact, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶Those who heard this said, “Then who can be saved?”

²⁷He replied, “What is impossible for people is possible for God.”

²⁸And Peter said, “Look, we have left our possessions and followed you.”

²⁹He said to them, “Amen I tell you: Anyone who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children for the sake of the kingdom of God ³⁰will most certainly receive many times more in this time, and in the age to come, eternal life.”

HYMN: # 705 “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

♪ Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways
to keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace
to know and do his will!

Order my footsteps by your Word,
and make my heart sincere;
let sin have no dominion, Lord,
but keep my conscience clear.

**Assist my soul, too apt to stray,
a stricter watch to keep,
and should I e'er forget your way,
restore your wand'ring sheep.**

**Make me to walk in your commands—
'tis a delightful road—
nor let my head or heart or hands
offend against my God.**

SERMON: 1 John 2:12-17

**¹²I am writing to you, dear children,
because your sins have been forgiven because of his name.**

**¹³I am writing to you, fathers,
because you have known him who is from the beginning.**

**I am writing to you, young men,
because you have overcome the Evil One.**

**¹⁴I have written to you, little children,
because you have known the Father.**

**I have written to you, fathers,
because you have known him who is from the beginning.**

**I have written to you, young men,
because you are strong,
and the word of God remains in you,
and you have overcome the Evil One.**

¹⁵Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the desire of the eyes, boasting about material possessions—is not from the Father but from the world. ¹⁷The world and its desires pass away, but the one who does the will of God remains forever.

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: # 695 “Take My Life and Let It Be”

**♪ Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my voice and let me sing always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.**

**Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use ev’ry pow’r as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine;
take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.**

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: # 510:1,4 "In Christ Alone"

**♪ In Christ alone my hope is found;
he is my light, my strength, my song;
this cornerstone, this solid ground,
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My comforter, my all in all;
here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death,
this is the pow'r of Christ in me;
from life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
can ever pluck me from His hand;
till He returns or calls me home,
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.**

The WELS Connection

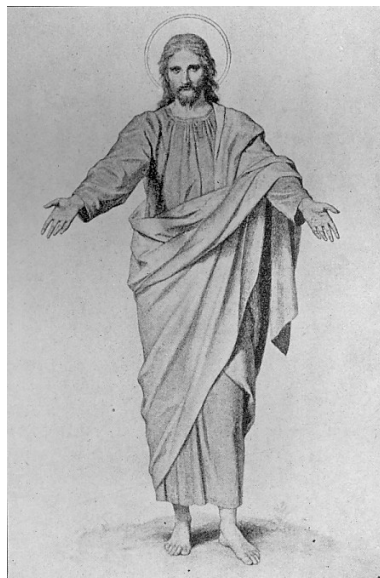
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, 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.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday	ESL, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Thursday	Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.
	ESL, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Sunday	Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
	Worship, 10:00 a.m.
	Joint Reformation service, St. Paul’s First, North Hollywood — 4:00 p.m.



**He replied,
“What is
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Luke 18:27

