



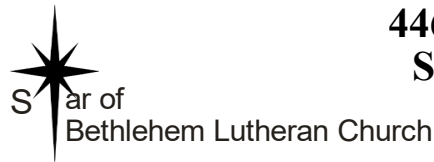
**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

**Look,
the Lamb of God,
who takes away the sin of the world!**

John 1:29b



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, January 15, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Theme of the day: Jesus appears as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. This Lamb would take away the sins of the world and bring both Israel and the Gentile nations into the kingdom of God. The hearts that see this Savior in faith cannot help but take news of this salvation to the ends of the earth.

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: # 375 “Arise and Shine in Splendor”

♪ **Arise and shine in splendor; let night to day surrender.
Your light is drawing near. Above, the day is beaming,
in matchless beauty gleaming; the glory of the Lord is here.**

**See earth in darkness lying, the heathen nations dying
in hopeless gloom and night. To you the Lord of heaven—
your life, your hope—has given
great glory, honor, and delight.**

**Lift up your eyes in wonder— see, nations gather yonder
from sin to be set free. The world has heard your story;
her sons come to your glory,
her daughters haste your light to see.**

Please stand for last verse:

**Your heart will leap for gladness
when from the realms of sadness
they come from near and far.
Your eyes will wake from slumber
as people without number rejoice to see the Morning Star.**

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, you gave your one and only Son to be the light of the world. Grant that your people, illumined by your Word and sacraments, may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory, that he may be known, worshiped and believed to the ends of the earth; 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: Isaiah 49:1-6

Listen to me, you coastlands. Pay attention, you faraway peoples!

The LORD called me from the womb.

When I was inside my mother, he mentioned my name.

²He made my mouth like a sharpened sword.

He hid me in the shadow of his hand.

He made me a polished arrow. He concealed me in his quiver.

**³He said to me, "You are my servant Israel,
in whom I will display my glory."**

⁴But I said to myself, "I have labored in vain.

I spent my strength and came up empty, with nothing.

**Yet a just verdict for me rests with the LORD,
and my reward is with my God."**

⁵But now the LORD,

who formed me from the womb to be his servant,

to turn Jacob back to him,

so that Israel might be gathered to him,

so that I will be honored in the eyes of the LORD,

because my God has been my strength—

⁶the LORD said:

It is too small a thing that you should just be my servant

to raise up only the tribes of Jacob

and to restore the ones I have preserved in Israel,

so I will appoint you to be a light for the nations,

so that my salvation will be known to the end of the earth.

PSALM of the DAY: Psalm 145

Refrain



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Psalm tone



**Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise;*
his greatness no one can fathom.**

**One generation will commend your works to another;*
they will tell of your mighty acts.**

**The LORD upholds all those who fall*
and lifts up all who are bowed down.**

Refrain

**The eyes of all look to you,
and you give them their food at the proper time.*
You open your hand
and satisfy the desires of every living thing.**

**The LORD is near to all who call on him,*
to all who call on him in truth.**

**He fulfills the desires of those who fear him;*
he hears their cry and saves them.**

**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. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the whole world. Alleluia. (*1 John 2:2*)

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: Colossians 2:6-15

⁶Therefore, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷by being rooted and built up in him, and strengthened in the faith just as you were taught, while you overflow in faith with thanksgiving.

⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, which are in accord with human tradition, namely, the basic principles of the world, but not in accord with Christ. ⁹For all the fullness of God's being dwells bodily in Christ. ¹⁰And you have been brought to fullness in him. Christ is the head over every ruler and authority. ¹¹You were also circumcised in him, with a circumcision not done by human hands, in the putting off of the body of flesh, in the circumcision of Christ, ¹²when you were buried with Christ in baptism. And in baptism you were also raised with him through the faith worked by the God who raised Christ from the dead.

¹³Even when you were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ by forgiving us all our trespasses. ¹⁴God erased the record of our debt brought against us by his legal demands. This record stood against us, but he took it away by nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵After disarming the rulers and authorities, he made a public display of them by triumphing over them in Christ.

HYMN: #525 "The Lamb"

**♪ The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb, one perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb, as wayward sheep their shepherd kill
so still, his will, on our behalf the law to fill.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**He sighs, he dies, he takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives, he gives me His own righteousness.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**He rose, He rose, my heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong till ev'ry heart to Him belong.
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

SERMON: John 1:29-42

²⁹The next day, John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
³⁰This is the one I was talking about when I said, ‘The one coming after me outranks me because he existed before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know who he was, but I came baptizing with water so that he would be revealed to Israel.”

³²John also testified, “I saw the Spirit descend like a dove from heaven and remain on him. ³³I myself did not recognize him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘The one on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, he is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴I saw this myself and have testified that this is the Son of God.”

³⁵The next day, John was standing there again with two of his disciples. ³⁶When John saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look! The Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸When Jesus turned around and saw them following him, he asked, “What are you looking for?”

They said to him, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

³⁹He told them, “Come, and you will see.” So they came and saw where he was staying. They stayed with him that day. It was about the tenth hour.

⁴⁰Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard John and followed Jesus. ⁴¹The first thing Andrew did was to find his own brother Simon and say to him, "We have found the Messiah!" (which is translated "the Christ"). ⁴²He brought him to Jesus.

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
incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully
human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suf-
fered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scrip-
tures. 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
proceeds 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

**M: Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's son, in the fullness of time
you came into our world to save us from sin and death:**

C: You ushered in the day of grace so long foretold.

M: Beloved Son of the Father, revered by the Magi, baptized by John, you came preaching and teaching, healing and comforting, forgiving and encouraging:

C: You brought the light of life to those walking in darkness, and the joy of salvation to those doomed to death.

M: Prince of Peace, shine like a beacon for us and the people of our world. Let the good news of salvation be heard in the remotest corners of the earth. Open our own lips to speak your name to those around us who still live without faith or hope:

C: Arouse us and our missionaries to flood the world with the light of your gospel.

M: Lord of the Church, let your peace rule our hearts that we may use our gifts to serve you and each other in willing gratitude and joy. Watch over our loved ones near and far, that they may remember your love and rejoice in your salvation. Strengthen the faith of the sick and the disheartened. Give hope to those in despair and comfort those who mourn:

C: Be gracious to all and lead us to reflect your love in everything we say and do.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Finally, bring us and all your believers to the heavenly home where we will stand in the full light of your glory and with all your saints and angels sing the everlasting song of triumph.

C: Amen.

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 Holy Sacrament

M: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And also with you.

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. In the past he spoke to us through the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, who is the radiance of his glory.

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.

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.

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: # 629 “O God from God, O Light from Light”

**♪ O God from God, O Light from Light,
O Prince of Peace and King of kings,
to you in heaven’s glory bright
the song of praise forever rings.
To him who sits upon the throne,
the Lamb once slain but raised again,
be all the glory he has won,
all thanks and praise! Amen, Amen.**

**For deep in prophets’ sacred page,
and grand in poets’ winged word,
slowly, in type, from age to age
the nations saw their coming Lord;
till through the deep Judean night
rang out the song, “Good will to men!”
What angels sang in heav’nly light
re-echoes now, “Good will!” Amen.**

**That life of truth, those deeds of love,
that death of pain mid hate and scorn—
these all are past, and now above
he reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
Lift up your heads, you mighty gates!
So sang his hosts unheard by men.
Lift up your heads, for you he waits.
We lift them up,. Amen, Amen.**

**Then sing to Christ a mighty song;
extol his name, his mercies tell!
Sing, heav’nly hosts, your praise prolong,
and all on earth, your anthem swell!
All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain!
Forever let the song ascend!**

**To Christ the King enthroned to reign;
all glory, pow'r! Amen, Amen.**
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: # 380 "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

♪ **Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made
and endless praises crown his head;**

**his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of ev'ry tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song,
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the pris'ners leap, unloosed their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.**

**Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
worship and honor to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service were given to the glory of God by Noreen Withers.

PRAYERS: Remember to pray for: Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, little Elias, Dennis Douglas, Bob Ward, George Caravana, Doris Scheuffele, Molly Webb (and brother, Jim), Helen Marten, Doug Ward, Kathy Jones, Art Amarillas, Linda Hill & Christina, Roberta Gowin, Melinda Brown, Alice Taubman, Monica, Louise Perry, Rylan Downs, Sam Daugherty, and Jeff Brown.

STAR CHURCH DIRECTORY: Please update your personal information as it changes (either online or blue sheets in narthex).

To view and use the directory online, go to:
members.instantchurchdirectory.com

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

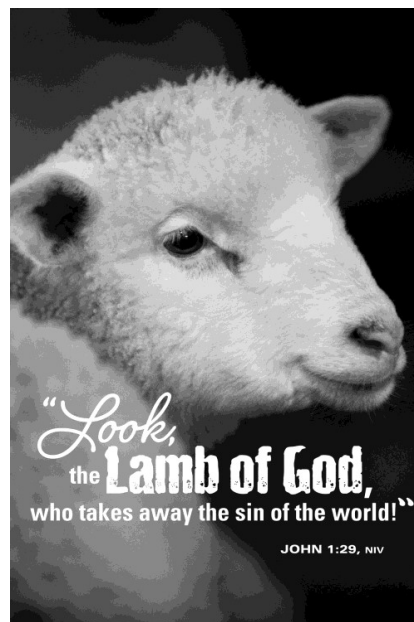
To view and use the directory on your smartphone:
download the App for “Instant Church Directory”

*** 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.

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 (English as a Second Language), 6:00 p.m.**
Thursday **Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.**
 ESL, 6:00 p.m.
Friday **Atascadero Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.**
Sunday **Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.**
 Worship, 10:00 a.m.



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.