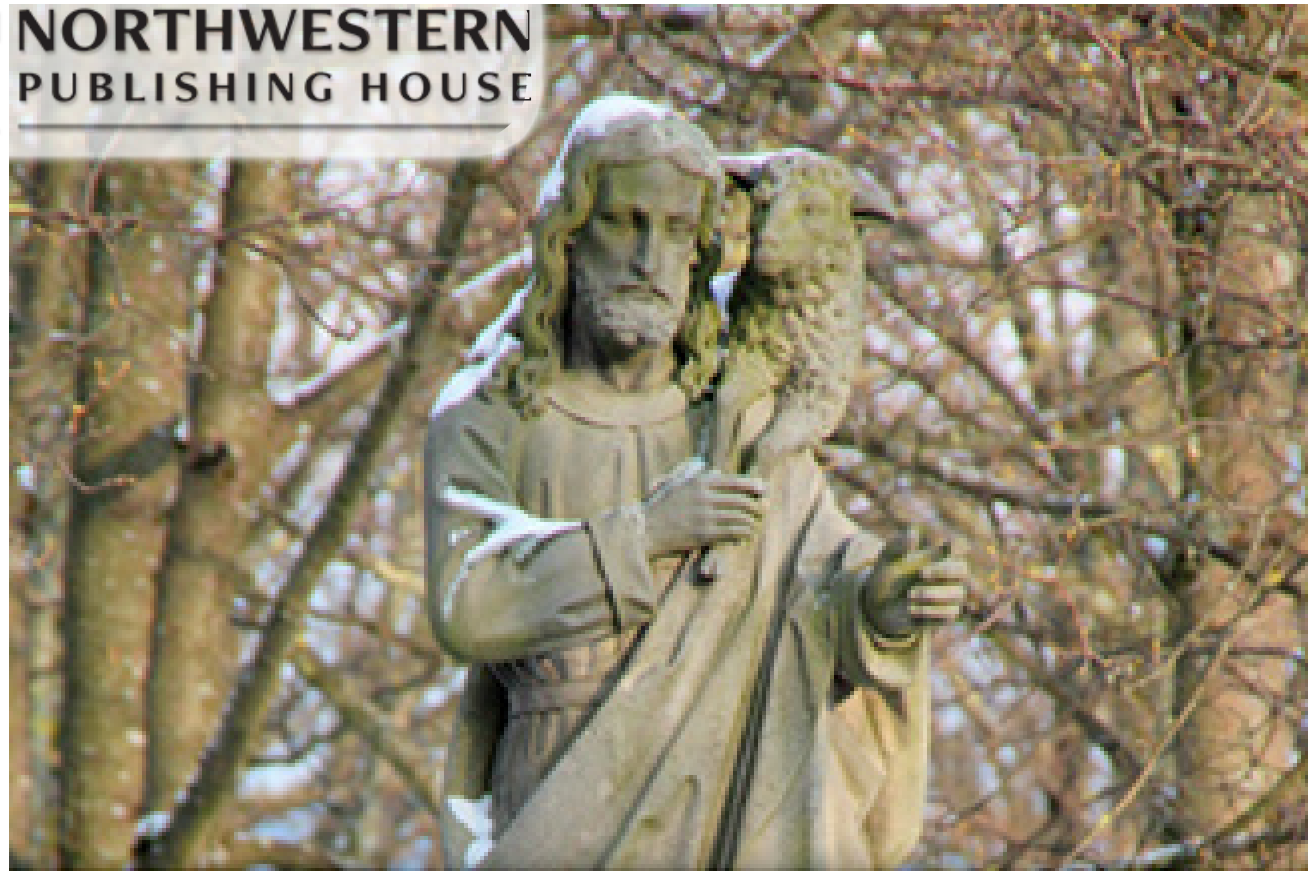
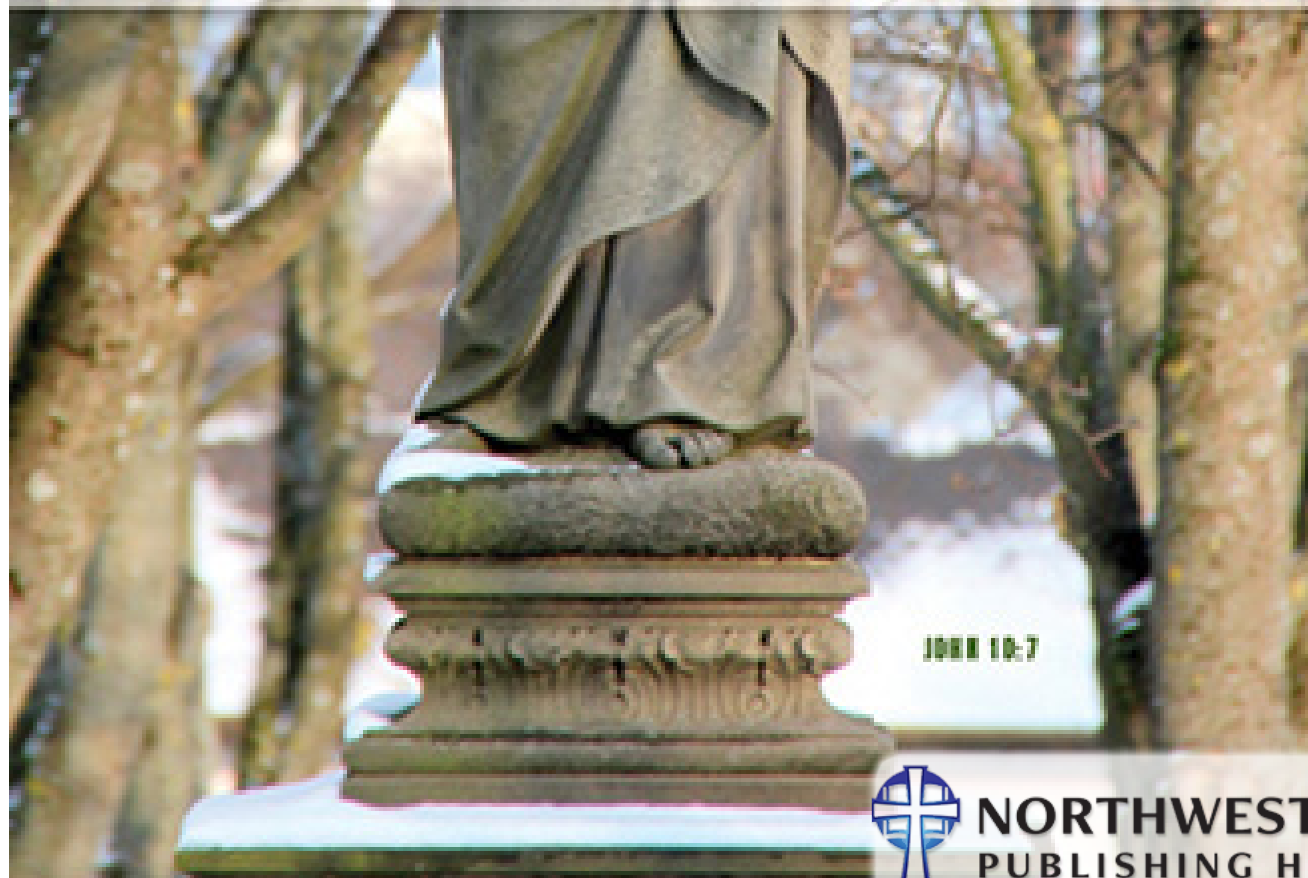




**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



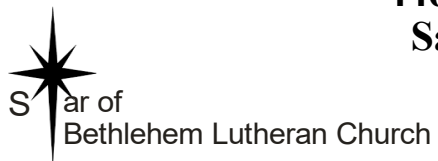
“I AM THE GATE FOR THE SHEEP.”



JOHN 10:7



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, May 7, 2023 10:00 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday of EASTER

Theme of the day: On “Good Shepherd Sunday” our attention is fixed on Jesus the Good Shepherd of the sheep. His care and concern are recognized by those whom he has called as his sheep. Even in suffering, his sheep know his care for them and follow him.



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: # 471 “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

♪ **Now all the vault of heav’n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**O, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above
that we conquer thro’ your triumph;
grant grace sufficient for life’s day
that by our lives we truly say:
“Christ has triumphed! He is living!”
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Please stand for last verse:

**Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav’nly blessed sing:
“Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!”
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

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.

OH, TASTE AND SEE



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 Jesus Christ, you are the Good Shepherd who laid down your life for the sheep. Lead us now to the still waters of your life-giving Word that we may abide in your Father's house forevermore; for you live and reign with him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C:  Amen.

Please be seated.

FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They continued to hold firmly to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of the bread, and to the prayers.

⁴³Awe came over every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They were selling their possessions and property and were distributing the proceeds according to what anyone needed.

⁴⁶Day after day, with one mind, they were devoted to meeting in the temple area, as they continued to break bread in their homes. They shared their food with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷as they continued praising God and being viewed favorably by all the people. Day after day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 23

Refrain



The Lord is my shep-herd; there is noth-ing I shall want.

Psalm tone



The LORD is my shepherd,*
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,*
he leads me beside quiet waters.

He restores my soul;*
he guides me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley
of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,*
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

Refrain

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.*
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,*
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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

GOSPEL LESSON: John 10:1-10

“Amen, Amen, I tell you: Anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the door, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber. ²The one who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The doorkeeper opens the door for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own sheep, he walks ahead of them. The sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will never follow a stranger, but will run away from him, because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this illustration in speaking to the people, but they did not understand what he was telling them. ⁷So Jesus said again, “Amen, Amen, I tell you: I am the door for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me were thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the door. Whoever enters through me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

¹⁰“A thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

M: Alleluia. Alleluia. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!
I am the Good Shepherd. I know my sheep and my sheep know me. Alleluia! (John 10:14)

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

HYMN: # 552 “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

♪ The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness fails me never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow,
my Savior gently leads me;
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feeds me.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me
and on his shoulder gently laid
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

In death’s dark vale I fear no ill
with you, dear Lord, beside me,
your rod and staff my comfort still,
your cross before to guide me.

You spread a table in my sight,
a banquet here bestowing;
your oil of welcome, my delight;
my cup is overflowing!

**And so through all the length of days
your goodness fails me never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
within your house forever!**

SERMON: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For this is favorable: if a person endures sorrows while suffering unjustly because he is conscious of God. ²⁰For what credit is it to you if you receive a beating for sinning and patiently endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and endure it, this is favorable with God.

²¹Indeed, you were called to do this, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example so that you would follow in his steps. ²²He did not commit a sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth. ²³When he was insulted, he did not insult in return. When he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself carried our sins in his body on the tree so that we would be dead to sins and alive to righteousness. By his wounds you were healed. ²⁵For you were like sheep going astray, but you are now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Please stand.

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: # 804 “I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”

**♪ I am Jesus’ little lamb;
ever glad at heart I am,
for my shepherd gently guides me,
knows my needs and well provides me,
loves me ev’ry day the same,
even calls me by my name.**

**Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my staff and stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
into pleasant pastures leads me;
when I thirst, he bids me go
where the quiet waters flow.**

**Who so happy as I am,
even now the shepherd’s lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
by his angel host attended,
he shall fold me to his breast,
there within his arms to rest.**

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: # 870 “O Church, Arise”

**♪ O Church Arise and put your armor on;
hear the call of Christ our Captain.
For now the weak can say that they are strong
in the strength that God has given.
With shield of faith and belt of truth
we'll stand against the devil's lies;
an army bold whose battle cry is love,
reaching out to those in darkness.**

**Our call to war — to love the captive soul,
but to rage against the captor;
and with the sword that makes the wounded whole
we will fight with faith and valor.
When faced with trials on every side,
we know the outcome is secure,
and Christ will have the prize for which he died —
an inheritance of nations.**

**Come see the cross, where love and mercy meet,
as the Son of God is stricken;
then see his foes lie crushed beneath his feet,
for the Conqueror has risen
And as the stone is rolled away,
and Christ emerges from the grave,
this victory march continues till the day
ev'ry eye and heart shall see him.**

So Spirit come, put strength in every stride,
give grace for ev'ry hurdle,
that we may run with faith to win the prize
of a servant good and faithful.
As saints of old still line the way,
retelling triumphs of His grace,
we hear their calls and hunger for the day
when with Christ we stand in glory

WELS CONNECTION



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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, Roberta Gowin, Melinda Brown, Alice Taubman, Monica, Louise Perry, Rylan Downs, Sam Daugherty, Jeff Brown, Aaron Taubman, and Judy Washburn.

“Hi, We’re Your Neighbors at Star”- Big, promotional, fun fellowship, outreach day at Waller Park, Saturday, August 19th. Start thinking about it now.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday ESL (English as a Second Language), 6:00 p.m.
Thursday Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.
ESL, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Sunday Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.
Worship with Holy Communion, 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship Meal & Voters after



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