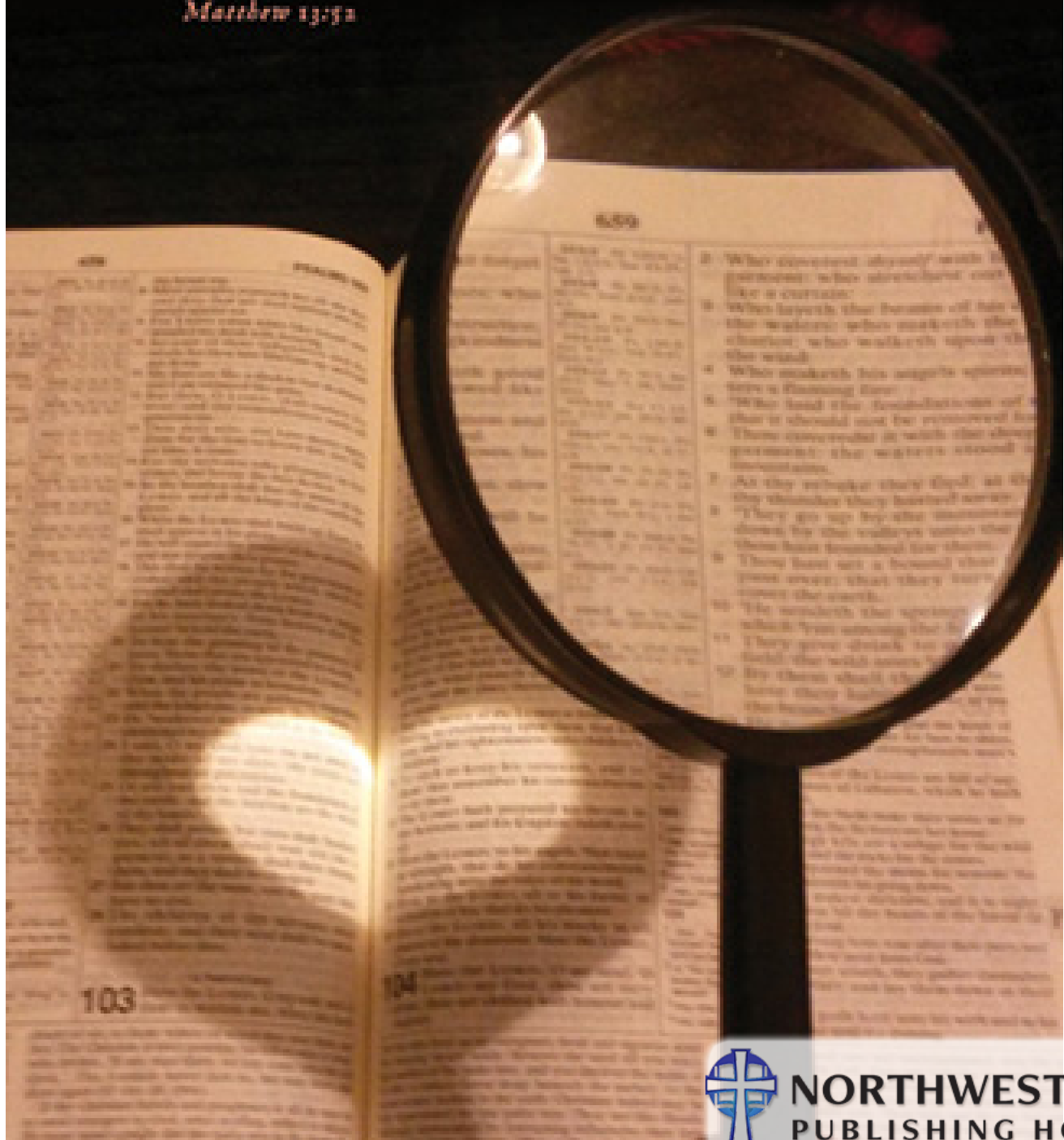




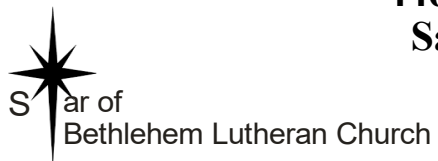
**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

**“Every TEACHER of the LAW
who has become a DISCIPLE . . .
brings out of his storeroom NEW
TREASURES as well as OLD.”**

Matthew 13:52



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Santa Maria, CA 93455
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www.starlutheran.org
Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, July 30, 2023 10:00 a.m.

The Ninth Sunday after PENTECOST

Theme of the day: The Christian seeks *spiritual* wealth. Our lessons today show people who have come into great wealth, but still this earthly wealth only serves to illustrate where true treasure lies. Today we see that true, spiritual wealth can only be found in God and his eternal blessings for us in Christ.

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: # 620 “O Worship the King”

♪ **O worship the King, all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing his pow’r and his love,
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.**

**O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,
whose robe is the light, whose canopy, space;
his chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.**

**This earth, with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow’r has founded of old,
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.**

**Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.**

Please stand for last verse:

**Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!**

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*)

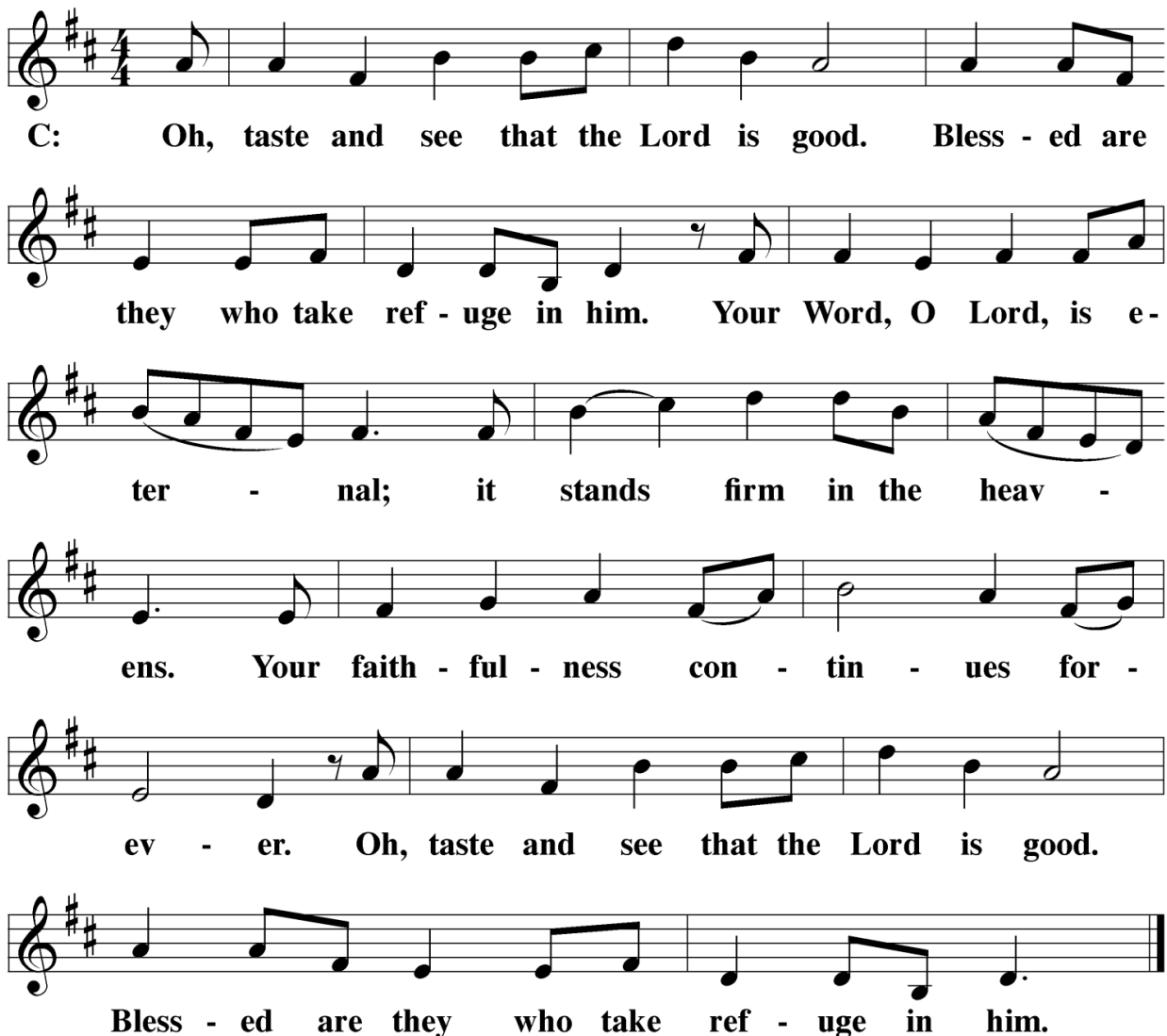
M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

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.



The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of six lines of music. The lyrics are: "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." The music features a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and slurs.

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 God, you reveal your mighty power chiefly in showing mercy and kindness. Grant us the full measure of your grace that we may obtain your promises and become partakers of your heavenly glory; 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: 1 Timothy 6:17-21

¹⁷Instruct those who are rich in this present age not to be arrogant or to put their hope in the uncertainty of riches, but rather in God, who richly supplies us with all things for our enjoyment. ¹⁸Instruct them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and willing to share. ¹⁹In this way they are storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

²⁰O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, turning away from godless, empty talk and the contradictions of what is falsely called “knowledge.” ²¹By professing it, some have veered away from the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.

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. Because you were raised with Christ, set your mind on things above, not on earthly things. Alleluia. (*Colossians 3:1,2*)

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

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 13:44-52

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid again. In his joy, he goes away and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls. ⁴⁶When he found one very valuable pearl, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. ⁴⁸When the net was filled, they pulled it onto the shore. They sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw the bad ones away. ⁴⁹That is how it will be at the end of the world. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous who are among them.

⁵⁰And they will throw the wicked into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” ⁵¹Jesus said to them, “Did you understand all these things?”

They answered him, “Yes.”

⁵²He said to them, “Therefore every expert in the law who has been trained as a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his treasure both new things and old things.”

HYMN: # 717 “What Is the World to Me”

**♪ What is the world to me with all its vaunted pleasure
when you, and you alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord, my soul’s delight shall be;
you are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!**

**The world seeks after wealth and all that money offers,
yet never is content though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good, content with it I’ll be;
my Jesus is my wealth. What is the world to me!**

**The world is like a cloud and like a vapor fleeting,
a shadow that declines, swift to its end retreating.
My Jesus shall remain, though all things fade and flee,
my everlasting rock. What is the world to me!**

**What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,
my life, my health, my wealth,
my friend, my love, my pleasure,
my joy, my crown, my all, my bliss eternally.
Once more then I declare: What is the world to me!**

SERMON: 1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵The LORD appeared to Solomon in Gibeon in a dream at night.

God said, “Ask for whatever you want me to give you.”

⁶Solomon said, “You have shown great mercy and faithfulness to your servant, my father David, just as he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and uprightness of heart toward you. You have shown this great mercy and faithfulness to him and have given him a son who is seated on his throne to this very day. ⁷O LORD my God, now you have made your servant king in the place of my father David, but I am a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in.

⁸And I, your servant, am among your people whom you have chosen, a great people, who cannot be counted or numbered because they are so many. ⁹Now give to your servant a perceptive heart to judge your people, to distinguish between good and evil, for who is able to judge this great people of yours?”

¹⁰In the eyes of the LORD, Solomon’s request was good. ¹¹So God said to him, “Because you have asked for this, and you have not asked for a long life, nor have you asked for riches, nor have you asked for the lives of your enemies, but you have asked for discernment to reach just verdicts, ¹²therefore I will act according to your words. Yes, I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you before you, nor will anyone like you rise up after you.

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: # 770 “God of Grace and God of Glory”

♪ **God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient Church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**Lo, the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways.
From the fears that long have bound us,
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom; grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.**

**Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.**

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.**

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.

CLOSING HYMN: # 807:1,2,6 “All Depends on Our Possessing”

♪ **All depends on our possessing
God’s abundant grace and blessing,
though all earthly wealth depart.
They who trust with faith unshaken
in their God are not forsaken
and will keep a dauntless heart.**

**He who to this day has fed me
and to many joys has led me
is and ever shall be mine.
He who ever gently schools me,
he who daily guides and rules me,
will remain my help divine.**

**If my days on earth he lengthen,
he my weary soul will strengthen;
all my trust in him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding,
like a stream away is gliding;
safe I anchor in his grace.**

WELS CONNECTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FLOWERS for today's service were given to the glory of God by Ryan Moore in memory of his mother, Judy.

PRAYERS: Remember to pray for: Shawn Lozano, John Velasques, little Elias, Dennis Douglas, Bob Ward, George Caravana, 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, Judy Washburn, and Jerry Yonke.

“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.**
Wednesday ESL (Beginners), 6:00 p.m.
Thursday **Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.**
ESL, 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Sunday **Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.**
Worship with Holy Communion, 10:00 a.m.
Ordinations and Installations, Pan de Vida & King of Kings (Vietnamese), Garden Grove, 4:00 p.m.

