



**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

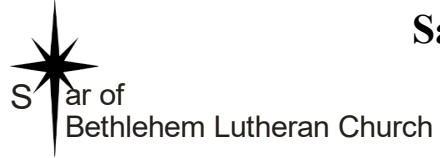
“This is my Son, whom I love.

*Listen to him!*”

Mark 9:7b



**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



4465 South Blosser Road  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
Office: 805-937-0339  
[www.starlutheran.org](http://www.starlutheran.org)  
Pastor Michael Foley

## Worship Service

*Sunday, February 11, 2024*      *10:00 a.m.*

**Last Sunday after the Epiphany**

**TRANSFIGURATION of our LORD**

**Theme of the day:** Jesus Christ, who humbled himself to come into this world to save us, never lost the glory he has as the Son of God. We see his glory shining in his saving message of salvation, and that glory reflects off us and shines to others as we share the Good News.

## 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: # 389 “How Good, Lord, to Be Here”**

♪ **How good, Lord, to be here! Your glory fills the night;  
your face and garments, like the sun,  
shine with unborrowed light.**

**How good, Lord, to be here your beauty to behold,  
where Moses and Elijah stand, your messengers of old.**

**Fulfiller of the past, and hope of things to be,  
we hail your body glorified and our redemption see.**

**Before we taste of death, we see your kingdom come;  
we long to hold the vision bright  
and make this hill our home.**

**But you, Lord, do not stay. With mercy resolute  
you leave this glorious hill to die — our perfect substitute.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;  
but since you bid us leave the mount,  
come with us to the plain.**

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: O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your only-begotten Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice that came from the bright cloud, you foreshadowed our adoption as your sons. In your mercy, make us co-heirs of glory with Jesus our King, and bring us at last to heaven; 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.*

## THE WORD

## FIRST LESSON: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6

<sup>3</sup>But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled among those who are perishing. <sup>4</sup>In the case of those people, the god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from clearly seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is God's image.

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. <sup>6</sup>For the God who said, "Light will shine out of darkness," is the same one who made light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the person of Jesus Christ.

## PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 2

*Refrain*

Great are the works of the Lord. Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le-  
lu - ia! Great are the works of the Lord.

*Psalm tone*

\*

Why do the nations conspire\*  
and the peoples plot in vain?

The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers  
gather together against the LORD\*  
and against his Anointed One.

*Refrain*

The One enthroned in heaven laughs;\*  
the Lord scoffs at them.

Then he rebukes them in his anger  
and terrifies them in his wrath, saying,\*  
“I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

I will proclaim the decree of the LORD:\*  
He said to me, “You are my Son;  
today I have become your Father.”

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. Alleluia. A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him.” Alleluia! (*Mark 9:7*)

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: Mark 9:2-9

<sup>2</sup>After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John with him and led them up a high mountain where they were alone by themselves. There he was transfigured in front of them. <sup>3</sup>His clothes became radiant, dazzling white, whiter than anyone on earth could bleach them. <sup>4</sup>And Elijah appeared to them together with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

<sup>5</sup>Peter said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

<sup>6</sup>He did not know what to say because they were terrified.

<sup>7</sup>A cloud appeared and overshadowed them, and a voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him.”

<sup>8</sup>Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus alone.

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

**HYMN: # 388 “Down from the Mount of Glory”**

♪ Down from the mount of glory came Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Recall the wondrous story, rich gem in sacred Word.  
Again your faith will view him in double glory here;  
the greater homage due him will in your life appear.

Transfigured, Christ, the lowly, stood radiant in the light,  
light found in Godhead solely, for human eyes too bright.  
Then came a voice from heaven, confirmed what here we see;  
the words “my Son” were given to seal his deity.

Yet mark this glory hidden! See him the mount descend  
and, by the Father bidden, his willing footsteps bend  
to seek humiliation in deepest depths of woe,  
to suffer degradation no mind can probe or know.

Strange how his journey ended! In love that is his fame  
our Lord again ascended a mount—the hill of shame.  
Upon the cross he proffered himself to agony;  
his holy soul he offered to set the guilty free.

Then hail the double glory of Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
and let the wondrous story full peace and joy afford!  
The holy mount acclaims him the majesty divine;  
Mount Calvary proclaims him Redeemer—yours and mine.

**SERMON: 2 Kings 2:1-12**

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah was traveling with Elisha from Gilgal. <sup>2</sup>Elijah said to Elisha, “Stay here, for the LORD has sent me to Bethel.”

But Elisha said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

<sup>3</sup>The sons of the prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD is taking your master away from you?”

Then he said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

<sup>4</sup>Then Elijah said to him, “Elisha, stay here because the LORD has sent me to Jericho.”

But he said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So they went to Jericho.

<sup>5</sup>Then the sons of the prophets who were in Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, “Do you know that today the LORD is taking your master away from you?”

He said, “Yes, I know. Be quiet.”

<sup>6</sup>Then Elijah said to him, “Stay here because the LORD has sent me to the Jordan.”

But he said, “As surely as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So the two of them went on.

<sup>7</sup>Then fifty men from the sons of the prophets came and stood and watched them from a distance, while the two of them were standing at the Jordan. <sup>8</sup>Elijah took his cloak, folded it together, and struck the water. The water divided to the right and to the left. Then the two of them crossed on dry land.

<sup>9</sup>When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, “Ask me for whatever I can do for you before I am taken from you.”

Then Elisha said, “Let there be a double portion of your spirit on me.”

<sup>10</sup>He said, “You have asked for a difficult thing. If you see me being taken from you, it will surely be yours. But if not, then it will not.”

<sup>11</sup>While they were walking and talking, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire came and separated them. So Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. <sup>12</sup>Elisha was watching and crying out, “My father! My father! Israel’s chariot and its charioteers!” Then he did not see him anymore.

*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.**

*Please be seated.*

**HYMN: # 522 “Beautiful Savior”**

**♪ Beautiful Savior, King of creation,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee,  
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.**

**Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight,  
bright the sparkling stars on high;  
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer  
than all the angels in the sky.**

**Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,  
Son of God and Son of Man!  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration  
now and forevermore be thine!**

**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.**

M: Brothers and sisters in Christ, when we next gather for worship, it will be Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. On that day we will begin our solemn journey to the Savior's cross. While the joy of faith remains undiminished throughout the year, our rejoicing during Lent is muted and quiet. For centuries, therefore, Christian churches have omitted their most jubilant songs during this season, including the word *alleluia*, which means, "praise the Lord."

Now for a time we say farewell to *alleluia*. We do this to prepare ourselves for the quieter days of Lent. The *alleluias* will return on Easter Sunday as we gather to shout our praise to the risen Lord.

### **CLOSING HYMN: # 977 "Alleluia, Song of Triumph"**

*(sung to melody of CW #499)*

♪ **Alleluia, song of triumph, sound of joy that cannot die;  
alleluia is the anthem ever dear to choirs on high;  
saints adorned in robes of glory join the great angelic cry.**

**Alleluia we are singing, voicing hymns in pure accord;  
with Christ's holy Church united,  
justified, redeemed, restored,  
and with all his faithful people  
raise our songs to praise the Lord.**

**Alleluia cannot always be our song while here below;  
alleluia our transgressions make us for a while forgo.  
For the solemn time is coming  
when our tears for sin must flow.**

**May our hymns be filled with longing —  
hear us, Holy Trinity —  
as we look to your blest Easter, here, and then eternally,  
when we shall once more be singing alleluia joyfully!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWERS** for today's service are given to the glory of God by the Ehingers in celebration of Paula's birthday.

**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, Marlene Washburn, Val Wheelock, and Terry's siblings Linda & Carp.

### **THIS WEEK**

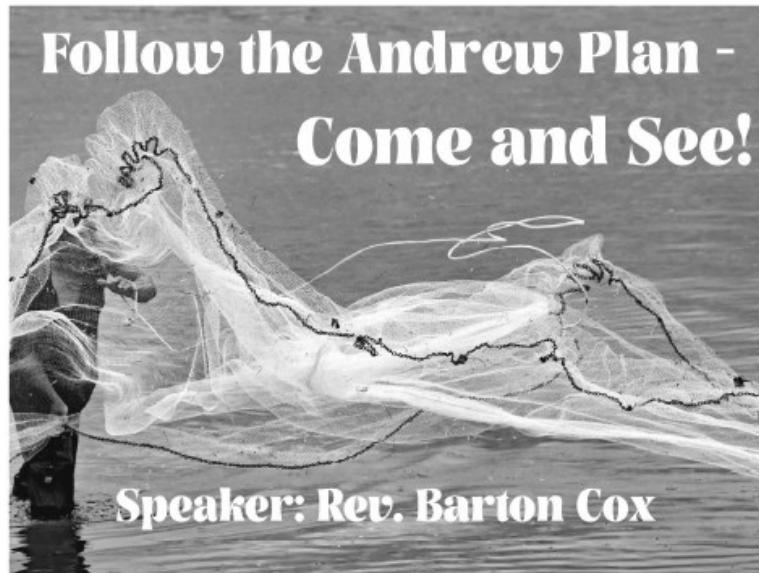
**Tuesday**     **Circuit Meeting (Lancaster)**  
                  **ESL, 6:00 p.m.**

**Wednesday** **ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE, 7:00 p.m.**

**Thursday**    **Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.**  
                  **ESL, 6:00 p.m.**

**Sunday**      **Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.**  
                  **Worship with Holy Communion, 10:00 a.m.**





*LWMS SPRING RALLY*

**March 9, 2024**  
**Calvary Lutheran Church**  
**Canyon Country, CA**

**19553 Calla Way**  
**(661) 252 - 2697**

**Registration starts at 8:30 am**

**\$5 registration fee**

**Ends at 2:30 pm**

**[www.starlutheran.org](http://www.starlutheran.org)**