



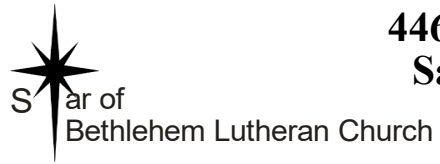
**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

Alleluia!

*Christ
is Risen*



**NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, March 31st, 2024 10:00 a.m.

The RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD EASTER DAY

Theme of the day: Believers gather on Easter to hear the joyous news of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. His resurrection assures us of our own resurrection and calls us to fix our eyes on him who is our life.

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.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation: Amen.

M: Christ is risen!

C: He is risen indeed!

OPENING HYMN: (tune of #927) “Worship Christ, the Risen King”

♪ Rise, O Church, and lift your voices;
Christ has conquered death and hell.
Sing as all the earth rejoices;
resurrection anthems swell.
Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the risen King!

See the tomb where death had laid him;
empty now, its mouth declares:
“Death and I could not contain him,
for the throne of life he shares.”
Come and worship, come and worship;
worship Christ, the risen King!

Doubt may lift its head to murmur,
scoffers mock and sinners jeer;
but the truth proclaims a wonder
thoughtful hearts receive with cheer.
He is risen, he is risen; now receive the risen King!

Please stand for last verse:

We acclaim your life, O Jesus;
now we sing your victory.
Sin and death may seek to seize us,
but your conquest keeps us free.
Stand in triumph, stand in triumph;
worship Christ, the risen King!

M: We pray. In the name of our God, to whom all hearts are open and from whom no secrets are hidden: purify our hearts through your Holy Spirit so that we may love you as you deserve and be worthy of magnifying your holy name through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

M: Jesus commanded us: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and, love your neighbor as yourself.” If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence to reflect on the Word of God and to examine ourselves.

M: Let us confess our sins against God and against our neighbors:

C: God of mercy, we confess that we have been enslaved by sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and action, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. By the love of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and direct us by your Holy Spirit, so that your will may be our joy and we may walk in your ways forever, to the glory of your name. Amen.

M: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, in his great mercy has given us his Son. By his life and death, God cleansed us from all sin. By his resurrection we have eternal life as Jesus said, “Because I live, you also will live.” For this reason, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. You are a dearly loved child of God. May God give you the strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

M: In the peace of forgiveness let us praise the Lord!

HYMN: # 606 (verses 1,2) “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

**♪ Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation has redeemed us by his blood.”**

**Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food, our stay;
 Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to you from day to day.
 Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's Redeemer, hear our plea
 where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty God, by the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you conquered death and opened the gate to eternal life. Grant that we, who have been raised with him through Baptism, may walk in newness of life and ever rejoice in the hope of sharing his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be dominion and praise now and forever.

C: Amen.

Please be seated.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 118

Refrain

This is the day the Lord has made, let us re-
 joice and be glad! This is the day the
 Lord has made, let us re-joice and be glad!

Psalm tone *

**The LORD is my strength and my song;*
 he has become my salvation.**

**The LORD'S right hand is lifted high;*
 the LORD'S right hand has done mighty things!**

**I will not die but live,*
and will proclaim what the LORD has done.**

Refrain

**I will give you thanks, for you answered me;*
you have become my salvation.**

**The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone;*
the LORD has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

**This is the day the LORD has made;*
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

**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***

FIRST LESSON: Job 19:23-27

- ²³Oh how I wish that my words were written down.
Oh how I wish that they were inscribed in bronze,
²⁴that they would be engraved in rock forever
with an iron tool and letters filled with lead.
²⁵As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives,
and that at the end of time he will stand over the dust.
²⁶Then, even after my skin has been destroyed,
nevertheless, in my own flesh I will see God.
²⁷I myself will see him.
My own eyes will see him, and not as a stranger.
My emotions are in turmoil within me.

HYMN: # 441:1,2,5,7 “I Know That My Redeemer Lives”

**♪ I know that my Redeemer lives!
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
he lives my ever-living head!**

**He lives triumphant from the grave;
he lives eternally to save;
he lives all glorious in the sky;
he lives exalted there on high.**

**He lives to silence all my fears;
he lives to wipe away my tears;
he lives to calm my troubled heart;
he lives all blessings to impart.**

**He lives and grants me daily breath;
he lives, and I shall conquer death;
he lives my mansion to prepare;
he lives to bring me safely there**

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

¹⁹If our hope in Christ applies only to this life, we are the most pitiful people of all.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. ²²For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ's people, at his coming. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign "until he has put all his enemies under his feet." ²⁶Death is the last enemy to be done away with.

VERSE OF THE DAY

M: Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia. This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Alleluia!

HYMN: # 438 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

**♪ Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Al—le-lu-ia.
our triumphant holy day, Al—le-lu-ia.
who did once upon the cross, Al—le-lu-ia.
suffer to redeem our loss, Al—le-lu-ia.**

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al—le-lu-ia.
unto Christ our heav'nly King, Al—le-lu-ia.
who endured the cross and grave, Al—le-lu-ia.
sinners to redeem and save. Al—le-lu-ia.

But the pains which he endured, Al—le-lu-ia.
our salvation have procured; Al—le-lu-ia.
now above the sky he's King, Al—le-lu-ia.
where the angels ever sing, Al—le-lu-ia.

Sing we to our God above, Al—le-lu-ia.
praise eternal as his love; Al—le-lu-ia.
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Al—le-lu-ia.
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Al—le-lu-ia.

MESSAGE OF THE DAY: Mark 16:1-8

When the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could go and anoint Jesus. ²Very early on the first day of the week, at sunrise, they went to the tomb. ³They were saying to each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance to the tomb for us?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed. ⁶He said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter, 'He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.' "

⁸They went out and hurried away from the tomb, trembling and perplexed. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.

AUGSBURG CONFESSION: ARTICLE III (The Son of God)

Please stand, as you are able.

M & C: Our churches teach that the Word, that is, the Son of God, assumed the human nature in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. So there are two natures — the divine and the human — inseparably joined in one person. There is one Christ, true God and true man, who was born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, was crucified, died, and was buried. He did this to reconcile the Father to us and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for all actual sins of mankind.

He also descended into hell, and truly rose again on the third day. Afterward, He ascended into heaven to sit at the right hand of the Father. There He forever reigns and has dominion over all creatures. He sanctifies those who believe in Him, by sending the Holy Spirit into their hearts to rule, comfort, and make them alive. He defends them against the devil and the power of sin.

The same Christ will openly come again to judge the living and the dead.

HYMN: # 465 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

**♪ “Christ the Lord is ris’n today!”
saints on earth and angels say.
Raise your joys and triumphs high;
sing, O heav’ns, and earth, reply.**

**Love’s redeeming work is done,
fought the fight, the battle won.
Lo, our sun’s eclipse is o’er;
lo, he sets in blood no more.**

**Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell.
Death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened paradise.**

**Lives again our glorious King!
Where, O death, is now your sting?
Once he died our souls to save;
where your victory, O grave?**

**Soar we now where Christ has led,
foll'wing our exalted head.
Made like him, like him we rise;
ours the cross, the grave, the skies!**

**Hail the Lord of earth and heav'n!
Praise to you by both be giv'n!
God has now fulfilled his Word;
praise the resurrected Lord!**

OFFERING

(The members of Star of Bethlehem have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Visitors, you need not feel obligated to participate in this offering unless you so desire.)

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.

CLOSING BLESSING

**M: 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.

CLOSING HYMN: # 443 "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"

**♪ Awake, my heart, with gladness — see what today is done!
Now, after gloom and sadness, comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid where our bed must be made
when to the realms of light our spirit wings its flight.**

**The foe in triumph shouted when Christ lay in the tomb;
but lo, he now is routed, his boast is turned to gloom.
For Christ again is free; in glorious victory
he who is strong to save has triumphed o'er the grave.**

**This is a sight that gladdens— what peace it does impart!
Now nothing ever saddens the joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake, no foe shall ever take
the hope which God's own Son in love for me has won.**

**Now I will cling forever to Christ, my Savior dear.
My Lord will leave me never; with him I need not fear.
He rends death's iron chain; he breaks through sin and pain.
He shatters hell's dark thrall; I follow him through all.**

**He brings me to the portal that leads to bliss untold,
whereon this rhyme immortal is found in script of gold:
"Who there my cross has shared finds here a crown prepared;
who there with me has died shall here be glorified."**



ANNOUNCEMENTS

EASTER BRUNCH All are invited to remain with us for the Easter Brunch (and egg hunt) after our worship service.

FLOWERS for today's service were given to the glory of the risen Christ by the Evers in celebration of Janetta'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, Melinda Brown, Alice Taubman, Monica, Louise Perry, Rylan Downs, Jeff Brown, Aaron Taubman, Judy Washburn, Marlene Washburn, Terry's siblings Linda & Carp, and Kathryn Pereira.

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.

I know...



...that my Redeemer lives.