



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE

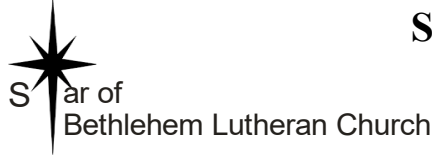
“If you remain
in me and I in
you, you will
bear much
fruit;

apart
from me
you can do
nothing.”

John 15:5b



NORTHWESTERN
PUBLISHING HOUSE



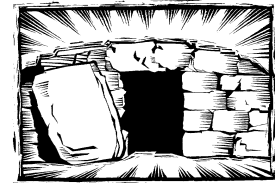
4465 South Blosser Road
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Office: 805-937-0339
www.starlutheran.org
Pastor Michael Foley

Worship Service

Sunday, April 28, 2024 10:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of EASTER

Theme of the day: Faith always believes the promises of God and always produces fruit to thank God for all he has done for us.



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: # 469 “Welcome, Happy Morning”

♪ **“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”
Lo, the dead is living, God forevermore!
Him, their true Creator, all his works adore.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”**

**Maker and Redeemer, life and health of all,
God from heav’n beholding human nature’s fall,
of the Father’s Godhead you, the only Son,
mankind to deliver manhood did put on.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”**

**Source of all things living, you came down to die,
plumbed the depths of hell to raise us up on high.
Come, then, true and faithful, come, fulfill your word;
this is your third morning— rise, O buried Lord.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”**

Please stand for last verse:

**Free the souls long prisoned, bound with Satan’s chain;
all that now is fallen raise to life again.
Show your face in brightness; shine in ev’ry land
as in Eden’s garden when the world began.
“Welcome, happy morning!” age to age shall say;
“Hell today is vanquished; heav’n is won today!”**

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: 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 in treble clef, key of D major (two sharps), and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music with lyrics underneath. 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 score ends with a double bar line.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: O God, you form the minds of your faithful people into a single will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that among the many changes of this world, our hearts may ever yearn for the lasting joys of heaven; through 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: Acts 4:32-27

³²The whole group of believers was one in heart and soul. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they held everything in common. ³³The apostles continued to testify about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ with great power, and abundant grace was on all of them. ³⁴There was not a needy person among them. For from time to time those who were owners of lands or houses sold them, brought the proceeds received from what was sold, ³⁵and laid it at the apostles' feet. It was distributed to each one according to what anyone needed.

³⁶Joseph, who was called Barnabas by the apostles (which is translated "son of encouragement"), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, ³⁷sold a field that belonged to him. He brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 67

Refrain



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.



May God be gracious to us and bless us*
and make his face shine upon us;

may your ways be known on earth,*
your salvation among all nations.

May the nations be glad and sing for joy,*
for you rule the peoples justly
and guide the nations of the earth.

Refrain

Then the land will yield its harvest,*
and God, our God, will bless us.

God will bless us,*
and all the ends of the earth will fear him.

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. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia.
“I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me
and I in him is the one who bears much fruit. Alleluia. (*John 15:5*)

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: 1 John 3:18-24

¹⁸Dear children, let us love not only with word or with our tongue, but also in action and truth.

¹⁹This is how we know that we are of the truth and how we will set our hearts at rest in his presence: ²⁰If our hearts condemn us, God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Dear friends, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence before God. ²²We also receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commands and do what is pleasing in his sight. ²³This then is his command: that we believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and that we love one another just as he commanded us. ²⁴The one who keeps his commands remains in God and God in him. This is how we know that he remains in us: We know it from the Spirit, whom he has given to us.

HYMN: # 631 “Speak, O Savior, I Am Listening”

**♪ Speak, O Savior, I am list'ning, as a servant to his lord.
Let me show respect and honor to your holy, precious Word,
that each day, my whole life through,
I may serve and follow you.
Let your Word e'er be my pleasure
and my heart's most precious treasure.**

**Oh, what blessing to be near you and to listen to your voice;
let me ever love and fear you,
let your Word still be my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord, flee in terror at your Word;
but to all who feel sin's burden
you give peace and words of pardon.**

**Lord, your words are waters living
where I quench my thirsty needs.
Lord, your words are bread life-giving;
on your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, your words will be my light
thro' death's cold and dreary night;
yes, they are my sword prevailing
and my cup of joy unfailing.**

**As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
let your words in me take root.
May your Spirit e'er be near me that I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing your praise,
from my heart glad anthems raise,
till my highest praise is given in the endless joy of heaven.**

SERMON: John 15:1-8

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. ²Every branch in me that does not bear fruit, he is going to cut off. And he prunes every branch that does bear fruit, so that it will bear more fruit.

³“You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. ⁴Remain in me, and I am going to remain in you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Likewise, you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵“I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in me and I in him is the one who bears much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. ⁶If anyone does not remain in me, he is thrown away like a branch and withers. Such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this: that you continue to bear much fruit and prove to be my disciples.

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: # 595 “Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing”

**♪ Fruitful trees, the Spirit’s sowing,
may we ripen and increase,
fruit to life eternal growing,
rich in love and joy and peace.**

**Laden branches freely bearing
gifts the Giver loves to bless;
here is fruit that grows by sharing,
patience, kindness, gentleness.**

**Rooted deep in Christ our Master,
Christ our pattern and our goal,
teach us, as the years fly faster,
goodness, faith, and self-control.**

**Fruitful trees, the Spirit’s tending,
may we grow till harvests cease;
till we taste, in life unending, heaven’s love and joy and peace.**

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: # 681 “Christ Is with Me”

♪ We were buried with him into death,
that as he was raised by God’s glory,
we might walk in life made new by grace;
having died with Christ, we shall live with him.
Christ is with me ev’rywhere I go;
never to leave me, this I know.

I have now been grafted to the vine,
drawing life from roots rich in mercy,
bearing fruit as I abide in him,
fruit forever fresh, glorifying God.
Christ is with me ev’rywhere I go;
never to leave me, this I know.

I have now been crucified with Christ,
I no longer live; Christ lives in me;
now I live by faith in God’s own Son —
one who loved me so, gave himself for me.
Christ is with me ev’rywhere I go;
never to leave me, this I know.

WELS CONNECTION

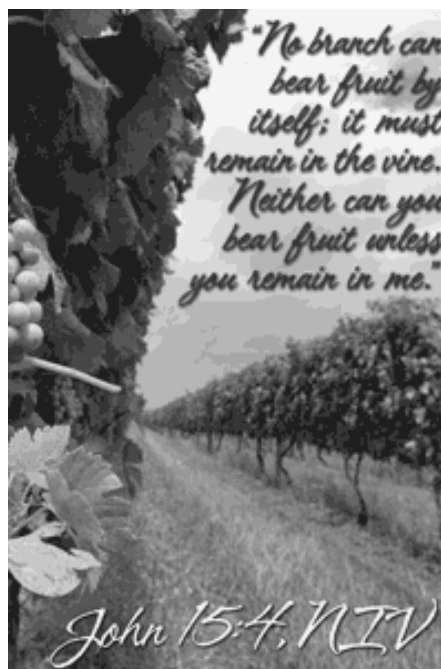
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

“Hi, We’re Your Neighbors at Star”- Big, fun, promotional, fellowship, outreach day at Waller Park, Saturday, August 24th. 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.



www.starlutheran.org