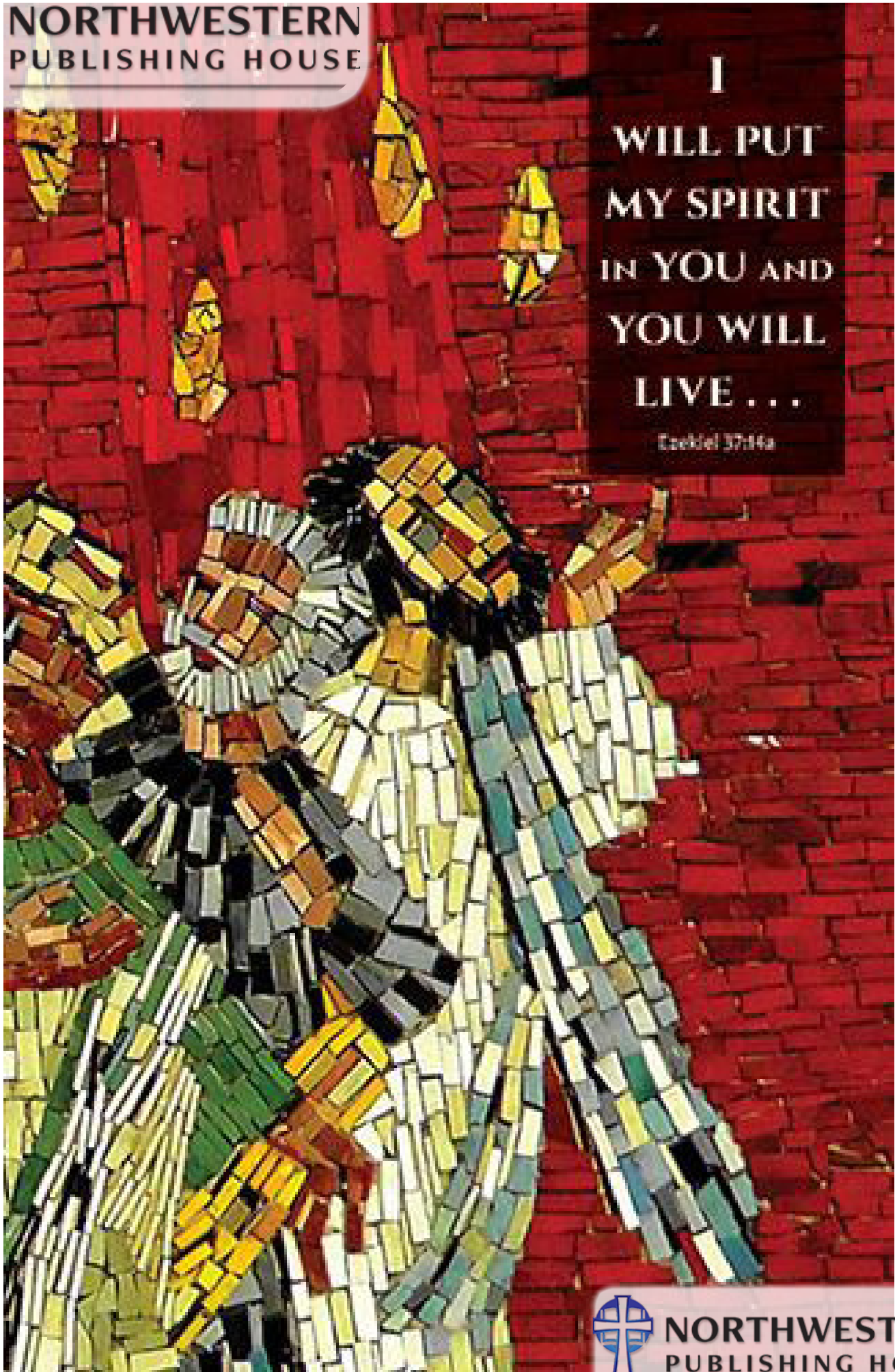




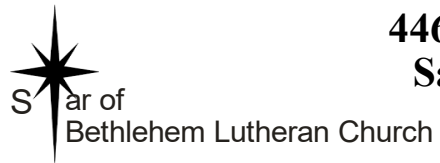
**NORTHWESTERN  
PUBLISHING HOUSE**

**I  
WILL PUT  
MY SPIRIT  
IN YOU AND  
YOU WILL  
LIVE . . .**

*Ezekiel 37:14a*



**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, May 19, 2024 10:00 a.m.*

## The Day of PENTECOST



Pentecost

**Theme of the day:** Come, Holy Spirit! The Spirit is given on the first Christian Pentecost in fulfillment of promise and prophecy, and he continues to come to his faithful through Word and sacrament. Thus the Church never ceases to be renewed and to grow.

## 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: # 589 “Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid”**

♪ **Creator Spirit, by whose aid  
the world’s foundations first were laid,  
come, visit ev’ry humble mind;  
come, pour your joys on humankind.  
From sin and sorrow set us free;  
may we your living temples be.**

**O Source of light, our Counselor,  
the Father’s help to us assure.  
Come down, as promised, with your fire,  
and hearts with heav’nly love inspire.  
Your sacred, healing message bring  
to sanctify us when we sing.**

**Giver of grace, descend from high  
in answer to our earnest cry.  
Help us eternal truths receive  
and practice all that we believe.  
Give us your wisdom that we see  
the glory of the Trinity.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**Immortal honor, endless fame,  
attend th’ almighty Father’s name;  
the Savior-Son be glorified,  
who for all humankind has died;  
and equal adoration rise  
to you, O Spirit, in the skies.**

**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:** God invites us to come into his presence to worship him with  
humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our  
sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

**C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: ♪ Lord, have mercy.**

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

**C: ♪ Christ, have mercy.**

M: For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

**C: ♪ Lord, have mercy.**

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

**C. ♪ Amen.**

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

**♪ O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth. Al-might-y God, mer-ci-ful Father, you crown our life with your love. You take a-way our sin; you com-fort our spir-it; you make us pure and ho-ly in your sight. You did not spare your on-ly Son, but gave him up for us all.**

**O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.**

**O Son of God, e-ter-nal Word of the Fa-ther, you came to live with us; you made your Fa-ther known; you washed us from our sins in your own blood. You are the King of glo-ry; you are the Lord!**

**O Lord, our Lord, how glo-rious is your name in all the earth.**

M: Holy Spirit, God and Lord, come to us this joyful day with your sevenfold gift of grace. Rekindle in our hearts the holy fire of your love that in a true and living faith we may tell abroad the glory of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and forever.

C:  Amen.

*Please be seated.*

#### **FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

**The hand of the LORD was upon me. He brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley, which was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>He had me pass through them and go all over among them. There were very many on the valley floor, and they were very dry.**

**<sup>3</sup>He said to me, “Son of man, can these dry bones live?” I answered, “LORD God, you know.” <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them, ‘Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.’ ”**

**<sup>5</sup>This is what the LORD God says to these bones.**

**I am about to make breath enter you so that you will live. <sup>6</sup>I will attach tendons to you. I will put flesh back on you. I will cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you will live. Then you will know that I am the LORD.**

**<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I was prophesying there was a noise, a rattling, as the bones came together, one bone connecting to another. <sup>8</sup>As I watched, tendons were attached to them, then flesh grew over them, and skin covered them. But there was no breath in them.**


**<sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the wind. Prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind that this is what the LORD God says. From the four winds, come, O wind, and breathe into these slain so that they may live.”**

<sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me. Breath entered them, and they came back to life. They stood on their feet, a very, very large army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They are saying, ‘Our bones are dried up. Our hope is lost. We have been completely cut off.’ <sup>12</sup>Therefore, prophesy and say to them that this is what the LORD God says. My people, I am going to open your graves and raise you up from your graves and bring you back to the soil of Israel. <sup>13</sup>Then you will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and raise you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live. I will settle you on your own land, and you will know that I, the LORD, have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.”


## PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 51b

*Refrain*



Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, re - new our hearts and  
kin - dle in us the fire of your love.

*Psalm tone* \*



O Lord, open my lips,\*  
and my mouth will declare your praise.

You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it;\*  
you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings.

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;\*  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

*Refrain*

Create in me a pure heart, O God,\*  
and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Do not cast me from your presence\*  
or take your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,\*  
and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Then I will teach transgressors your ways,\*  
and sinners will turn back to you.

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. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people,  
and kindle in them the fire of your love. Alleluia.

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: Acts 2:1-21

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>Suddenly a sound like the rushing of a violent wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>They saw divided tongues that were like fire resting on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, since the Spirit was giving them the ability to speak fluently.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were godly Jewish men from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>When this sound was heard, a crowd came together and was confused, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. <sup>7</sup>They were completely baffled and said to each other, “Look, are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>Then how is it that each of us hears them speaking in his own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, and of Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt, and the parts of Libya around Cyrene; visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes; <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring in our own languages the wonderful works of God.” <sup>12</sup>They were all amazed and perplexed. They kept saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup>But others mocked them and said, “They are full of new wine.”

<sup>14</sup>Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice, and spoke loudly and clearly to them: “Men of Judea, and all you residents of Jerusalem, understand this, and listen closely to my words. <sup>15</sup>These men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day. <sup>16</sup>On the contrary, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup>This is what God says will happen in the last days:

I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.

Your sons and your daughters will prophesy.

Your young men will see visions.

Your old men will dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup>Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

<sup>19</sup>I will show wonders in the sky above,

and signs on the earth below,

blood and fire and a rising cloud of smoke.

<sup>20</sup>The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

<sup>21</sup>And this will happen: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

**HYMN: # 862 “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”**

♪ Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;  
curb those who by deceit or sword  
would seek to overthrow your Son  
and to destroy what he has done.



**Lord Jesus Christ, your pow’r make known,  
for you are Lord of lords alone;  
defend your Christendom that we  
may sing your praise eternally.**

**O Comforter of priceless worth,  
send peace and unity on earth;  
support us in our final strife  
and lead us out of death to life.**

**SERMON: John 15:26,27, 16:4b-11**

<sup>26</sup>“When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father—he will testify about me. <sup>27</sup>And you also are going to testify, because you have been with me from the beginning.”

<sup>16</sup> <sup>4</sup> I did not tell you these things from the beginning, because I was with you.

<sup>5</sup>“But now I am going away to him who sent me, and not one of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ <sup>6</sup>Yet because I have told you these things, sorrow has filled your heart. <sup>7</sup>Nevertheless, I am telling you the truth: It is good for you that I go away. For if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

<sup>8</sup>When he comes, he will convict the world about sin, about righteousness, and about judgment: <sup>9</sup>about sin, because they do not believe in me; <sup>10</sup>about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will no longer see me; <sup>11</sup>about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

**APOSTLES’ CREED - Third Article**

**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.**

***What does this mean?***

**I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.**

**In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers. On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ. This is most certainly true.**

## **OFFERING**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**M:** O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

**C:** **We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

**M:** Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

**C:** **Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

**M:** We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

**C:** **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

**M:** Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

**C:** **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

**M:** Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

**C:** **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

**M:** Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

**C:** **Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

**M:** Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

**C:** **Amen.**

**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.**

Holy Communion, will be celebrated in today's service. The Bible teaches us that Jesus offers us his body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins in the Lord's Supper. The Bible also instructs us that receiving the Lord's Supper together is a public expression of our complete "oneness," or unity of faith.

Because the Lord's Supper is an expression of our unity in faith, we invite to the Lord's Supper only those who have expressed that unity with us through membership in our congregation or one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS), or our sister church body, the ELS.

If you are a guest from another Christian church, we kindly ask that you simply refrain from participation in our celebration of the Lord's Supper today. We don't want to be presumptuous and put you in the position of declaring your agreement with our beliefs before you have had a chance to learn more.

## **THE HOLY SACRAMENT**

**M:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And also with you.** (*spoken*)

**M:** Lift up your hearts.

**C:** **We lift them up to the Lord.**

**M:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C:** **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

**M:** Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, he empowered his Church to be witnesses of Christ to the ends of the earth.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory forever and ever.

♪ **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.  
The whole earth is full of your glory.  
You are my God, and I will exalt you.  
I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation.  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts.  
The whole earth is full of your glory.**

### **The Words of Institution**

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: ♪ **Amen.**

♪ **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. Amen.**

### **COMMUNION HYMN: # 592 “Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling”**

♪ **Holy Spirit, ever dwelling in the holiest realms of light,  
Holy Spirit, ever brooding o’er a world of gloom and night,  
Holy Spirit, ever raising those of earth to thrones on high,  
living, life-imparting Spirit, you we praise and magnify.**

**Holy Spirit, ever living as the Church’s very life,  
Holy Spirit, ever striving through us in a ceaseless strife,  
Holy Spirit, ever forming in the Church the mind of Christ,  
you we praise with endless worship  
for your gracious gifts unpriced.**

**Holy Spirit, ever working through the Church’s ministry,  
teaching, strength’ning, and absolving,  
setting captive sinners free,  
Holy Spirit, ever binding age to age and soul to soul  
in communion never ending, you we worship and extol.**

### **THANKSGIVING**

*Please stand.*

**♪ Thank the Lord and sing his praise.  
Tell ev'ryone what he has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name.  
He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**M:** Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **♪ 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: # 593 "Holy Spirit, Light Divine"**

**♪ Holy Spirit, light divine, shine upon this heart of mine;  
chase the gloom of night away, turn the darkness into day.**

**Holy Spirit, love divine, cleanse this guilty heart of mine;  
in your mercy pity me, from sin's bondage set me free.**

**Holy Spirit, joy divine, cheer this saddened heart of mine;  
fill me with your heav'nly peace, let it grow and still increase.**

**Holy Spirit, pow'r divine, dwell within this heart of mine;  
cast down ev'ry idol throne, reign supreme and reign alone.**

**Holy Spirit, fill my heart, cleanse my life in ev'ry part;  
your own temple I would be now and for eternity.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FLOWERS** for today's service were given to the glory of God by the Withers in observance of John'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, Kathryn Pereira, and Merlyn and Helen Cummings .

**“Hi, We're Your Neighbors at Star”**- Big, fun, promotional fellowship / outreach day at Waller Park, Saturday, Aug. 24th. Start planning for 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, 10:00 a.m.**



# PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

(cf. page 156 in the front of Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal)

**Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?**

*A: He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

**Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?**

*A: I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

**Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?**

*A: I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

**Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?**

*A: His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

**Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?**

*A: In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

**Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?**

*A: I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

**Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?**

*A: I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

*Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.*

