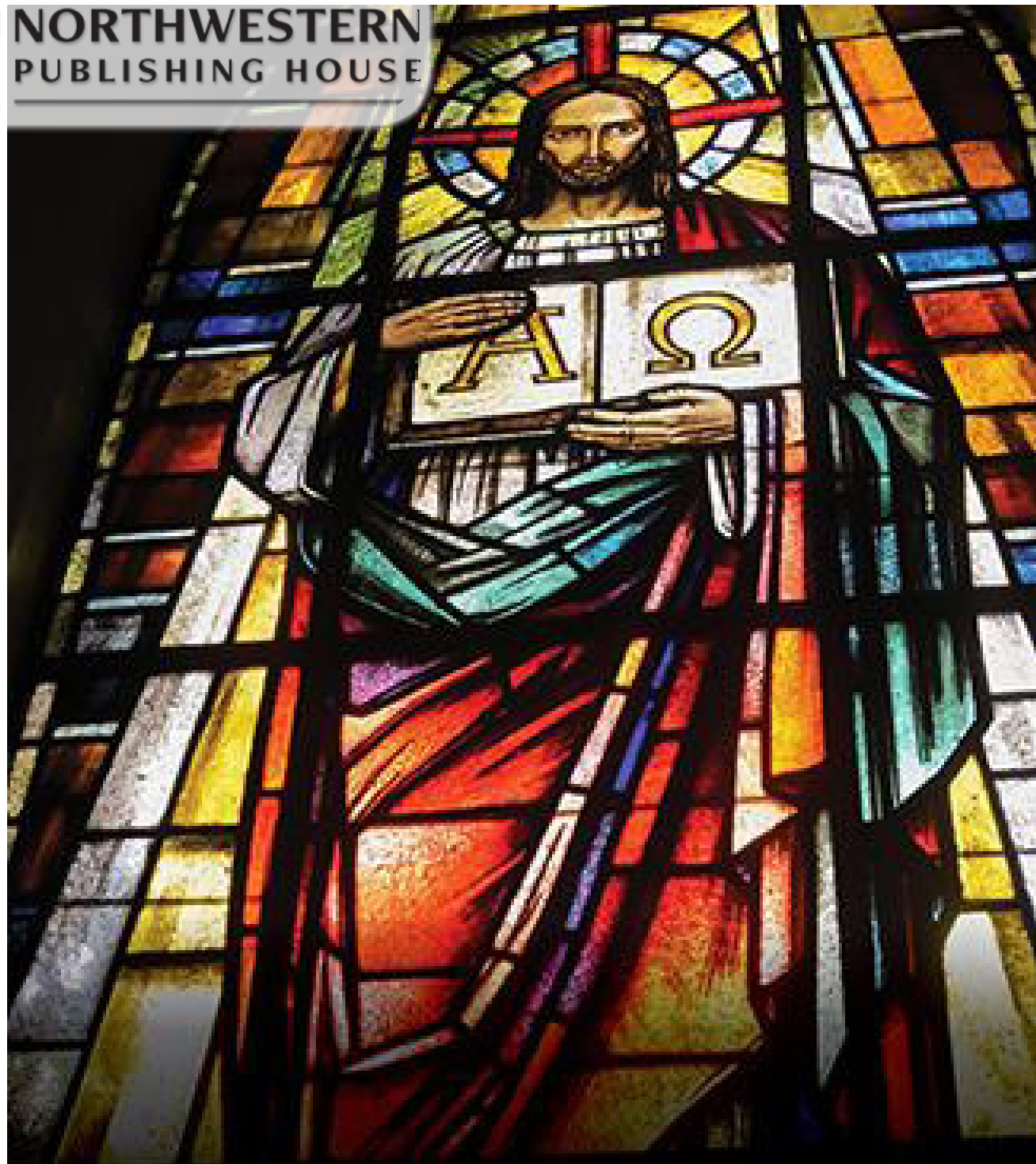




**NORTHWESTERN**  
PUBLISHING HOUSE



**You are the Messiah.**

Mark 8:29b



**NORTHWESTERN**  
PUBLISHING HOUSE



Star of  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

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, September 22, 2024 10:00 a.m.*

## Eighteenth Sunday after PENTECOST

**Theme of the day:** See how deeply the love from God penetrates our heart and soul. We are called to reflect that intense and all-embracing grace in our attitudes toward those around us. Our ambition is to be not the promotion of self, but the imitation of Christ. We learn how fixed we are on that when we face opposition and struggles.



## 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.

**HYMN: # 737 “Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way”**

♪ **Lord, help us walk your servant way  
wherever love may lead  
and, bending low, forgetting self,  
each serve the other’s need.**

**You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord,  
but pow’r you laid aside.  
You lived your years in servanthood,  
in lowliness you died.**

**No golden scepter but a towel  
you place within the hands  
of those who seek to follow you  
and live by your commands.**

**You bid us bend our human pride  
nor count ourselves above  
the lowest place, the meanest task  
that waits the gift of love.**

*Please stand for last verse:*

**Lord, help us walk your servant way  
wherever love may lead  
and, bending low, forgetting self,  
each serve the other’s need.**

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: Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; 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: Numbers 12:1-15**

**Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman he had married (for he had married a Cushite woman).**

**<sup>2</sup>They said, “Has the LORD really spoken only through Moses? Hasn’t he also spoken through us?” The LORD heard this.**

**<sup>3</sup>(Now the man Moses was very humble, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.)**

**<sup>4</sup>Right then the LORD spoke suddenly to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, “You three come out to the Tent of Meeting!”**

**The three of them came out. <sup>5</sup>The LORD came down in a pillar of cloud and stood at the entrance to the tent. He called Aaron and Miriam, and they both came forward. <sup>6</sup>He said, “Now listen to my words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, will make myself known to him in a vision. In a dream I will speak with him.**

**<sup>7</sup>Not so, however, with my servant Moses. He is faithful in my whole household. <sup>8</sup>With him I speak face-to-face, clearly, and not in riddles. He sees the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant, against Moses?” <sup>9</sup>The LORD’s anger burned against them, and he left.**

**<sup>10</sup>The cloud went up from above the tent, and immediately Miriam was leprous, as white as snow. Aaron turned to Miriam and saw that she was leprous.**

**<sup>11</sup>Aaron said to Moses, “My lord, please do not hold this sin against us. We have acted foolishly. We have sinned. <sup>12</sup>Please do not let her be like a stillborn infant that comes out of its mother’s womb with its flesh half-eaten away.”**

**<sup>13</sup>Moses cried out to the LORD, “God, please heal her, please!”**

**<sup>14</sup>The LORD said to Moses, “If her father had merely spit in her face, would she not be disgraced for seven days? Have her confined outside of the camp for seven days, and after that she can be brought back in.”**

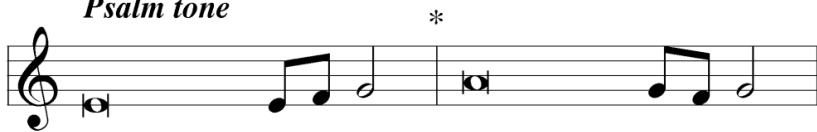
**<sup>15</sup>Miriam was confined outside of the camp for seven days, and the people did not set out until Miriam was brought back in.**

## **PSALM OF THE DAY: Psalm 31**

*Refrain*



*Psalm tone*



**In you, O LORD, I have taken refuge;  
deliver me in your righteousness.**

**Be my rock of refuge,  
a strong fortress to save me.**

**Into your hands I commit my spirit;  
redeem me, O LORD, the God of truth.**

*Refrain*

**My times are in your hands;  
save me in your unfailing love.**

**How great is your goodness,  
which you have stored up for those who fear you.**


**You heard my cry for mercy  
when I called to you for help.**

**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. If anyone wants to be first, he will be the last of all and the servant of all. Alleluia. (*Mark 9:35*)

**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 9:30-37**

<sup>30</sup>They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know this, <sup>31</sup>because he was teaching his disciples. He told them, “The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him. But three days after he is killed, he will rise.”

<sup>32</sup>But they did not understand the statement and were afraid to ask him about it.

<sup>33</sup>They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” <sup>34</sup>But they remained silent, because on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>Jesus sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, he will be the last of all and the servant of all.” <sup>36</sup>Then he took a little child and placed him in their midst. Taking the child in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>“Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me. And whoever welcomes me, welcomes not just me but also him who sent me.”

## **HYMN: # 767 “Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us”**

 **Lord of glory, you have bought us**  
**with your lifeblood as the price,**  
**never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice;**  
**and with that have freely given blessings countless as the sand**  
**to th’ unthankful and the evil with your own unsparing hand.**

**Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you  
gladly, freely, of your own.  
With the sunshine of your goodness  
melt our thankless hearts of stone  
till our cold and selfish natures,  
warmed by you, at length believe  
that more happy and more blessed 'tis to give than to receive.**

**Wondrous honor you have given to our humblest charity  
in your own mysterious sentence,  
“You have done it all for me.”  
Can it be, O gracious Master, that you need what we can do,  
saying by your poor and needy, “Give as I have giv’n to you”?**

**Lord of glory, you have bought us  
with your lifeblood as the price,  
never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust you boldly,  
hope, to stay our souls on you;  
but, oh, best of all your graces, with your love our love renew.**

### **SERMON: James 3:13-18**

**<sup>13</sup>Who among you is wise and intelligent? Let him by his good way of living show that he does things in wise humility. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not boast and lie, contrary to the truth. <sup>15</sup>This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but it is worldly, unspiritual, and demonic. <sup>16</sup>In fact, where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and every bad practice. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom that comes from above is first pure, then also peaceful, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, and sincere. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who practice peace.**

### **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: # 704:1,3,4 “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”**

**♪ Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure,  
flee the world which would deceive us  
and to sin our souls allure.  
Ever in his footsteps treading, body here, yet soul above,  
full of faith and hope and love, let us do the Father’s bidding.  
Faithful Lord, abide with me; Savior, lead; I follow thee.**

**Let us also die with Jesus; his death from the second death,  
from our soul’s destruction, frees us,  
quickens us with life’s glad breath.  
Let us mortify, while living, flesh and blood and die to sin,  
and the grave that shuts us in  
shall but prove the gate to heaven.  
Jesus, here I die to thee, there to live eternally.**

**Let us gladly live with Jesus; since he’s risen from the dead,  
death and grave must soon release us.  
Jesus, thou art now our head.  
We are truly thine own members,  
where thou livest, there live we;  
take and own us constantly,  
faithful Friend, as thy dear brethren.  
Jesus, here I live to thee, also there eternally.**

## **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.**

#### **HYMN: # 718 "Though Thoughtless Thousands Choose the Road"**

**♪ Though thoughtless thousands choose the road  
that leads the soul away from God,  
this happiness, dear Lord, be mine: to live and die entirely thine.**

**In Christ, by faith, I wish to live,  
from him my life, my all, receive,  
to him devote my fleeting hours,  
serve him alone with all my pow'rs.**

**Christ is my everlasting all, to him I look, on him I call;  
he will my ev'ry need supply in time and through eternity.**

**Soon will the Lord, my life, appear;  
soon shall I end my trials here,  
leave sin and sorrow, death and pain.  
To live is Christ; to die is gain.**

**Soon will the saints in glory meet,  
soon walk through ev'ry golden street  
and sing on ev'ry blissful plain,  
"To live is Christ; to die is gain."**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FLOWERS** for today's service were given to the glory of God by the Degners.

**PRAYERS:** Remember to pray for: Shawn Lozano, 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, Helen Cummings, Phil Schaaf, and Joe Wilkinson.

### **THIS WEEK**

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>ESL (English as a Second Language), 6:00 p.m.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Bible Class, 10:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>ESL, 6:00-7:30 p.m.</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Bible Class and Sunday School, 9:00 a.m.</b>
	<b>Worship, 10:00 a.m.</b>

#### **LA Circuit of the AZCA District of the WELS**

**celebrates a**

#### **Joint Reformation Service**



**St Paul's First Lutheran Church**  
**5244 Tujunga Ave**  
**North Hollywood, CA 91601**

**Sunday, October 27 - 4:00 p.m.**

**Speaker: Pastor James Proeber**

**Special Music provided by**  
**Adult Choir & Children's Choir**

**Fellowship Meal to Follow**

LWMS Fall Rally - October 12, 2024



**LWMS Fall Rally - October 12, 2024**

**Zion - 1001 W. 223<sup>rd</sup> Street Torrance, CA**

**Guest speaker: Rev. Steve Degner**

**NEW Rally Format Trial :**

Registration starts at 8:30 - done by 1 pm with to  
-go lunch or stay for lunch

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