



THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 12, 2023
11:00 A.M.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Plain text indicates a part of the liturgy led by a worship leader.
Bold text indicates the congregational response.

Hymn numbers refer to their corresponding pages in the back of the
cranberry-colored *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* hymnal.

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Prelude

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

arr. Mark Sedio

ENTRANCE RITE

We stand as we are able.

Litany

P Arise! Shine! The light for which we have waited is here!

C **Darkness has been banished!**

P God's light of hope floods the earth.

C **God's light of hope comes to us all.**

P Lord, make us ready to journey in your Light.

C **Prepare our hearts to receive the light of Christ!**

Hymn 582

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the
Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Standing is the posture of the resurrection. We stand when we sing hymns and for other parts of the service as an expression of resurrection joy. It is a way of proclaiming that Jesus is powerfully alive! Colossians 3:14-18

The Gloria ("Glory to God...") is a continuation of resurrection praise. With the angels we sing God's glory revealed in Je-sus Christ. (Luke 2:14).

Gloria

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

The Prayer of the Day is tied to the overall theme of the scripture lessons or, sometimes, to the theme of day if it is a special occasion in the church calendar.

The tradition of reading sacred scripture in worship is a tie to our roots in Judaism. 1 Timothy 4:13 reminds us of the importance of this practice.

The first lesson is normally from the Old Testament.

A psalm is spoken or sung in response to the first reading.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Sermon

First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

L A reading from Deuteronomy.

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 112:1-6

*We chant the Psalm responsively, with the congregation singing the **bold** verses..*

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,**

³who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.

⁴**You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.**

⁵Oh, that my ways were made | so direct
 that I might | keep your statutes!
⁶**Then I should not be | put to shame,**
when I regard all | your commandments.

⁷I will thank you with | a true heart,
 when I have learned your | righteous judgments.

⁸**I will | keep your statutes;**
do not utter- | ly forsake me.

The second reading, usually from the New Testament letters, bears the witness of the early church.

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
 L A reading from First Corinthians.

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?
⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

L The word of the Lord.
 C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

The Gospel Acclamation is the congregation's response to the announcement and reading of the Holy Gospel. It gives special focus to the Gospel, the principal and climactic biblical reading in the liturgy.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Liturgy of the Word culminates in the reading of the gospel and the sermon by which Christ comes among his people and speaks to us in our own context. Because of this we stand to listen to the good news of our Lord.

The Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell.

³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.

Hymn 603

God When Human Bonds Are Broken

This hymn complements the day's scripture readings and sermon.

The Apostles' Creed (which begins, "I believe...") is traditionally attributed to the first apostles, working under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. It has been known to the church since at least the fourth century.

Creed

P Living together in trust and hope we confess our faith.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

We join our hearts in prayer as we pray for the Church, for the well-being of creation, for peace and justice, for those in need. 1 Timothy 2:1-2

The Prayers



Each petition concludes:

P Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

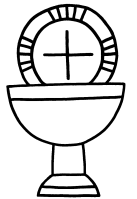
THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

Much more than a pleasant greeting—we do this to proclaim God's promise of peace. 2 Corinthians 13:11

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

We greet one another from our pews, saying "Peace be with you."



The Offering

Our gifts are received and dedicated to our Lord's service. These offerings support the ministries of this congregation, the Virginia Synod, ELCA, and our global mission partners.

Offertory Anthem

Day by Day

Martin How

Day by day, dear Lord, of Thee three things I pray:
to see Thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
follow Thee more nearly, day by day.

- text attr. to Richard of Chichester, 13th cent.

As our gifts of offerings and tithes are brought forward we sing a canticle of thanksgiving for God's generous goodness.

Offertory

Brightest and Best of the Stars

Bright - est and best of the stars of the morn - ing,
Dawn on our dark - ness and lend us Thine aid;
Star of the East, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
Guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.

Our prayer is modeled after the Jewish prayer of thanksgiving and dedicates the giver to a stewardship of all life.

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. Liberating God,
C **you break the bonds of injustice
and let the oppressed go free.
Receive these offerings in thanksgiving
for all your works of merciful power,
and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.
You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen**

The Thanksgiving Dialogue begins the part of our worship called the Great Thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving Dialogue

The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The dialogue and the Proper Preface are ancient parts of the worship which proclaim our thanks for the gifts of God in the meal.

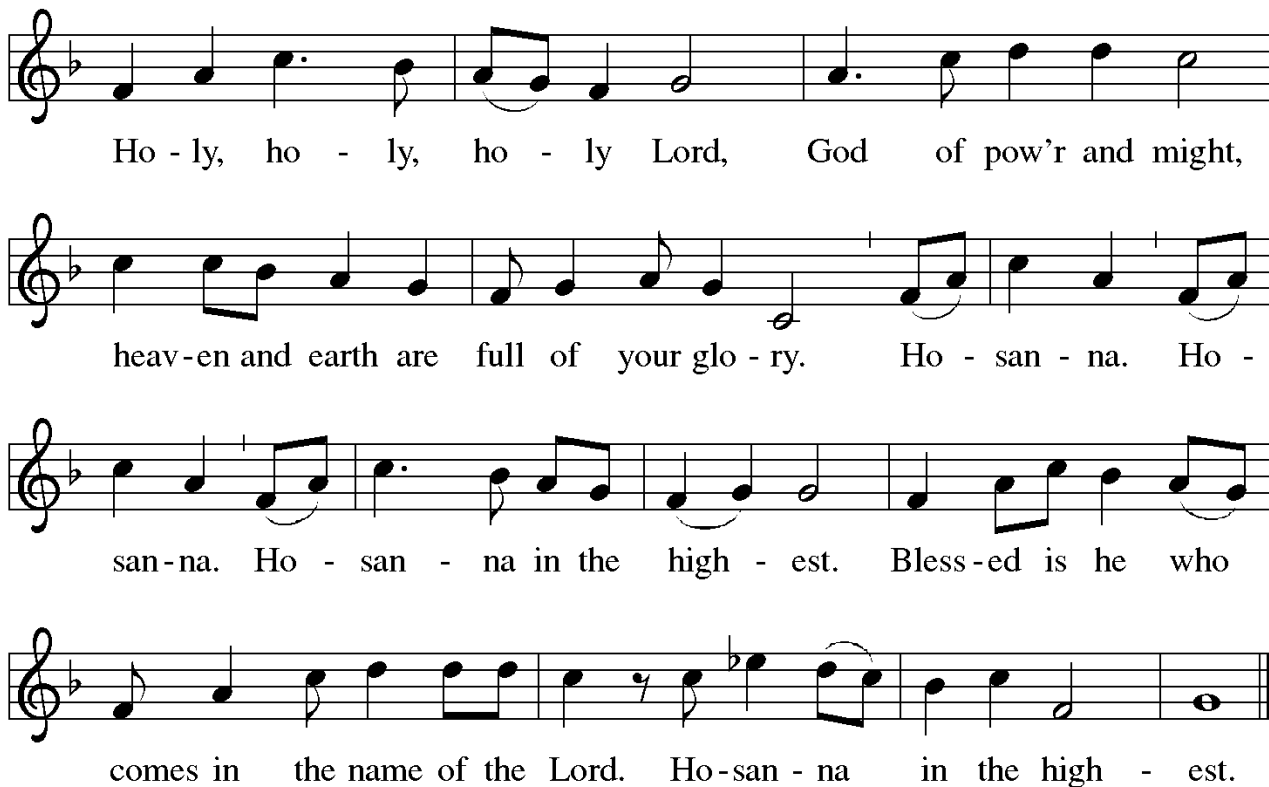
The Sanctus echoes the angels' cry in Isaiah 6:3 and the crowds of Mark 11:9 as Jesus entered Jerusalem. This reminds us that we are in the presence of a God identified both by holiness and humility.

The Proper Preface

The presiding minister continues: "It is indeed right ..."

The proper preface concludes: "we praise your name and join their unending hymn."

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
we await his coming in glory.

The Eucharistic Prayer recalls God's saving acts throughout history and, particularly, the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C Amen

The Lord's Prayer brings the Great Thanksgiving to a conclusion.

Prayed here, this familiar and beloved prayer becomes the table-prayer of the congregation. Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 6:5-15

The Lord's Prayer

P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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,

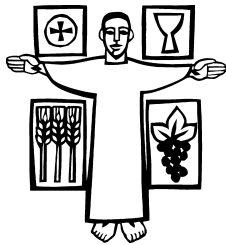
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

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

We are seated.



**COMMUNION WITH OUR RISEN LORD
WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We come forward by way of the center aisle, forming two lines to receive communion in front of the chancel steps. We return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



Once we have all received the sacrament and returned to our seats, we celebrate the personal encounter with the risen Christ through blessing, prayer, and singing.

Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

Nunc dimittis

The Nunc dimittis (lit. "Now let depart") is the Song of Simeon, found in Luke 2:29-32. During the Sundays after Epiphany, we sing this after our encounter with the Light of the world in the bread and wine of communion.



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful- filled.



My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre- pared in the



sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re- veal you to the

na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray. Holy One,

**C we thank you for the healing
 that springs forth abundantly from this table.
 Renew our strength to do justice,
 love kindness,
 and journey humbly with you.
 Amen**

Blessing

P The God of glory dwell in you richly,
 name you beloved,
 and shine brightly on your path;
 and the blessing of almighty God,
 the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be upon you and remain with you always.

C Amen

Hymn 818

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

Dismissal

P Go in peace loving God and loving your neighbor.

C Thanks be to God.

*We are dismissed
 from worship
 knowing that our
 service does not
 end. Rather, hav-
 ing been in the
 presence of the
 risen Lord, we
 leave so that our
 service may truly
 begin.*

Postlude

Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

arr. Benjamin Culli

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, February 12	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, February 13	10AM	Bible Study
	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, February 14		
Wednesday, February 15	6:30PM	Choir rehearsal (Nave)
Thursday, February 16		
Friday, February 17	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
Saturday, February 18	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, February 19	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Greeter		
Lector		
Communion Assistant		
Coffee Hour		



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Loving God, Loving Our Neighbor

Ministers and Staff

Ministers: Congregation of St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Secretary / Financial Administrator: Kathy Bryant

Organist / Choir Director: Jacob Gordon

Pastor: James Armentrout

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Brightest and Best of the Stars—text: Reginald Heber; music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding.