



THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, November 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

Wake, Awake for Night Is Flying

J. S. Bach

We stand as we are able.

Opening Dialog (from Psalm 67)

P Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.

**C Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

P The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.

**C Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.**

Hymn 625

Come, We That Love the Lord

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 apostolic greeting quotes the apostle Paul (2 Cor. 13:14)

The Song of Praise, or 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).

Song of Praise

Glory to God

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It begins with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score is divided into two main sections: 'Song of Praise' and 'Glory to God'. The 'Song of Praise' section includes the lyrics 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.' and '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.' The 'Glory to God' section includes the lyrics 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.' and '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.' The score ends with the lyrics 'Glo - ry to God in the high - est and'.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est and
peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
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.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est and
peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
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.
Glo - ry to God in the high - est and

peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

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.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est and

peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

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.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

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 reading is from the Old Testament.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Sermon

First Lesson: Amos 5:18-24

L A reading from Amos.

¹⁸Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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

Psalm 70

*We sing the psalm responsively, with the congregation singing the verses in **bold**.*

¹Be pleased, O God, to de-^liver me;

O LORD, make^l haste to help me.

²**Let those who seek my life be put to shame^l and confounded;
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and^l be disgraced.**

³Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat^l over me
turn back because^l of their shame.

⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be^l glad in you;
let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great^l is the LORD!"**

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick-^lly, O God.
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD,^l do not tarry.

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

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.

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.

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

L A reading from First Thessalonians.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

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.

The Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went

to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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 436

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

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

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

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.

The Prayers



Each petition concludes:

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

THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

We greet one another, saying “Peace be with you.”

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

*Gloria sei dir gesungen
 Mit Menschen- und englischen Zungen,
 Mit Harfen und mit Zimbeln schon.
 Von zwölf Perlen sind die Pforten,
 An deiner Stadt sind wir Konsorten
 Der Engel hoch um deinen Thron.
 Kein Aug hat je gespürt,
 Kein Ohr hat je gehört
 Solche Freude.
 Des sind wir froh,
 Io, io!
 Ewig in dulci júbilo.*

Gloria sei dir gesungen

J. S. Bach

May gloria be sung to you
 with the tongues of men and angels,
 with harps and with cymbals.
 The gates are made of twelve pearls,
 in your city [where] we are companions
 of the angels on high around your throne.
 No eye has ever perceived,
 no ear has ever heard
 such joy.
 Therefore we are joyful,
 hurray, hurray!
 for ever in sweet rejoicing.

- German text by Philipp Nicolai



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

Offertory

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a
har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer.
Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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

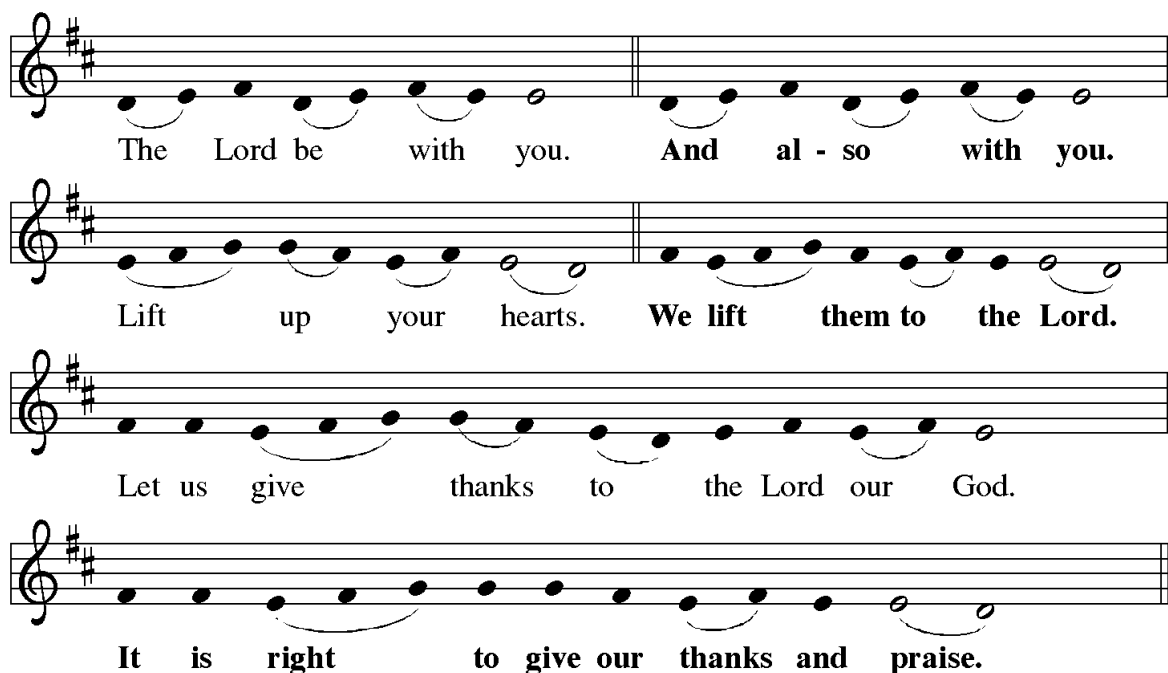
Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty,
C all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen

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

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

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 Proper Preface

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

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

The Sanctus ("holy") 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.

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow - er and might.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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.

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.

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

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.

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.**

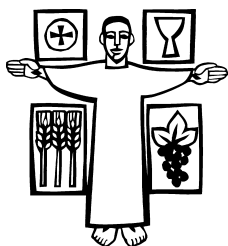
The Lord's Prayer

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.

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.



COMMUNION WITH OUR RISEN LORD
WELCOME TO CHRIST'S TABLE

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

We come forward by way of the center aisle to receive communion at the altar rail. We return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



Post-Communion Blessing

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

C **Amen**

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray. Generous God,

C **we thank you for the refreshment we have received
at your banquet table.**

**Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,
through the one who is our dearest treasure,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen

Blessing

P The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

C **Amen**

Hymn 785

When Peace Like a River

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

Dismissal

P Go in peace loving God and loving your neighbor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Wake, Awake for Night Is Flying

Paul Manz

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

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

SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Greeter	Sandy Anders	Joel & Chisom Ugochukwu
Lector	Eric Mills	Cheryl Gordon
Communion Assistant	Lois Ashby & Donna Abbott	Eric & Patti Mills
Coffee Hour		Pat Gibbs

Attendance Last Sunday	57
Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)	\$3243.00
Budget (Pledges/Loose)	\$3645.00



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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