



# THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 22, 2024  
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 a congregational response.

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

Please leave your offering in the plate at the front of the nave, near the pulpit. If you would like to give online, you may use the QR code to the right.



*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*

Welcome

Prayer Requests

Prelude

*Children of the Heavenly Father*

Robert Hobby

*We stand as we are able.*

Opening Dialog (from Psalm 95)

P O come, let us sing to the LORD;

**C let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

P Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

**C let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

P O come, let us worship and bow down;

**C let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

Hymn 641

*All Are Welcome*

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

Greeting

- A 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.**

*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 Jesus Christ. (Luke 2:14).*

Song of Praise

*Glory to God*

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.



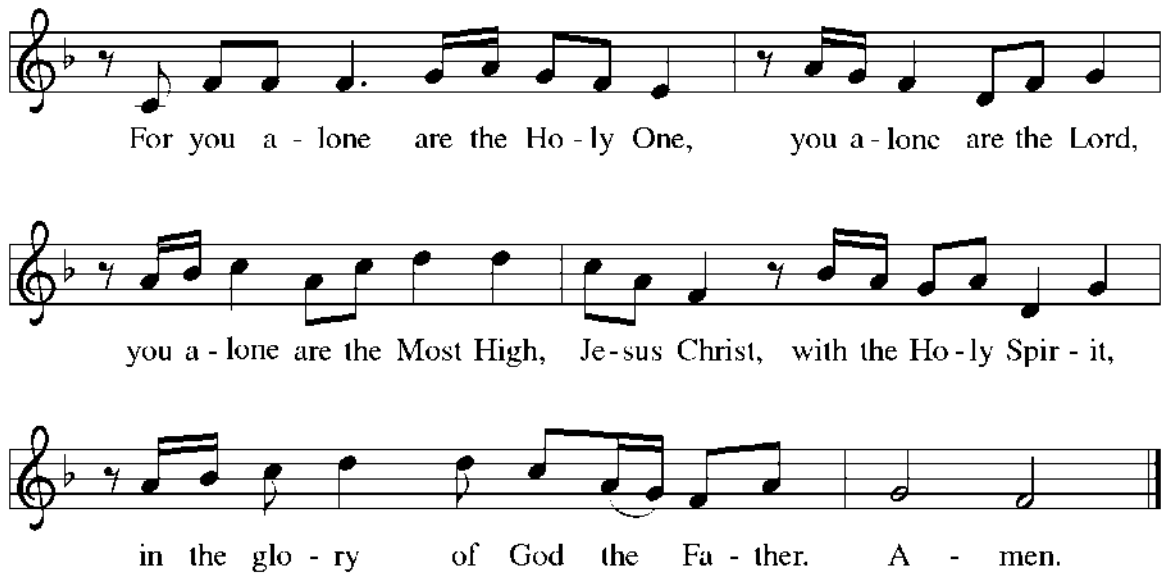
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



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.*

**Prayer of the Day**

**A** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**A** Let us pray.

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen**

*We are seated.*



**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

*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.*

**Children's Sermon**

**First Lesson: Jeremiah 11:18-20**

**L** A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>18</sup>It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;  
 then you showed me their evil deeds.

<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb  
 led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me  
 that they devised schemes, saying,  
 "Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
 let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
 so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

<sup>20</sup>But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,  
 who try the heart and the mind,  
 let me see your retribution upon them,  
 for to you I have committed my cause.

**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 54

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

<sup>1</sup>Save me, O God, | by your name;  
in your might, de- | fend my cause.

<sup>2</sup>**Hear my | prayer, O God;**  
**give ear to the words | of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have | sought my life,  
those who have no re- | gard for God.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, God | is my helper;**  
**it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life.**

<sup>5</sup>Render evil to those who | spy on me;  
in your faithful- | ness, destroy them.

<sup>6</sup>**I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice**  
**and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued me from | every trouble,  
and my eye looks down | on my enemies.

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

Second Lesson: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

L A reading from James.

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.<sup>4:</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*The Gospel Acclamation gives special focus to the Gospel, the principal and climactic biblical reading in the liturgy.*

*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. 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: Mark 9:30-37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it,<sup>31</sup> for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.”<sup>32</sup> But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?”<sup>34</sup> But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.<sup>35</sup> He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.”<sup>36</sup> Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,<sup>37</sup> “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*We sit.*

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

*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.*

*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.*

*We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.*

## Hymn 781

*Children of the Heavenly Father*

### Creed

A 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**

### The Prayers



*Each petition concludes:*

A 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

#### *Whoever Would Be Great among You*



Ronald Nelson

*Whoever would be great among you,  
must become your servant,  
and whoever would be first among you,  
must be a slave of all.*

*For the Son of Man came not to be served, but to serve.  
And to give his life, as a ransom for many.*

- text from Matthew 20:26-28,  
adapt. Ronald Nelson

*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 the dreams of all; u -  
 nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. 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. Blessed are you, O God,  
**C** **source of every gift of your creation.**  
**By these gifts and with our lives,**  
**help us to serve one another and all in need,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen**

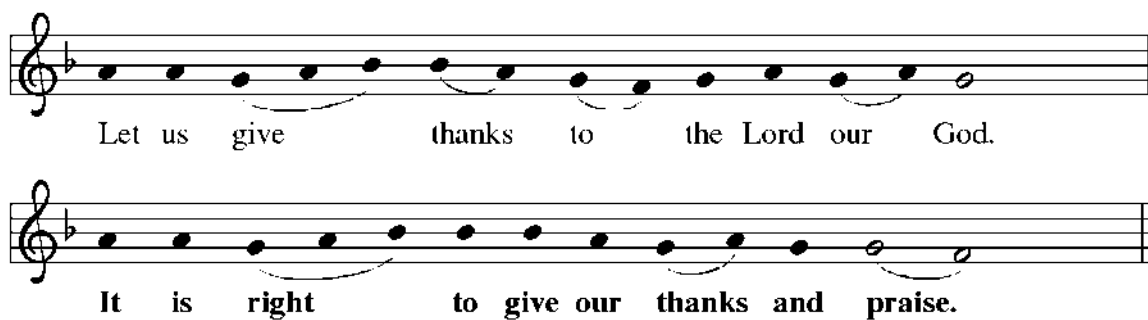
*The Thanksgiving Dialogue begins the part of our worship called the Great Thanksgiving.*

## Thanksgiving Dialogue

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*The dialogue and the Proper Preface are ancient parts of the worship which proclaim our thanks for the*

gifts of God in  
the meal.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

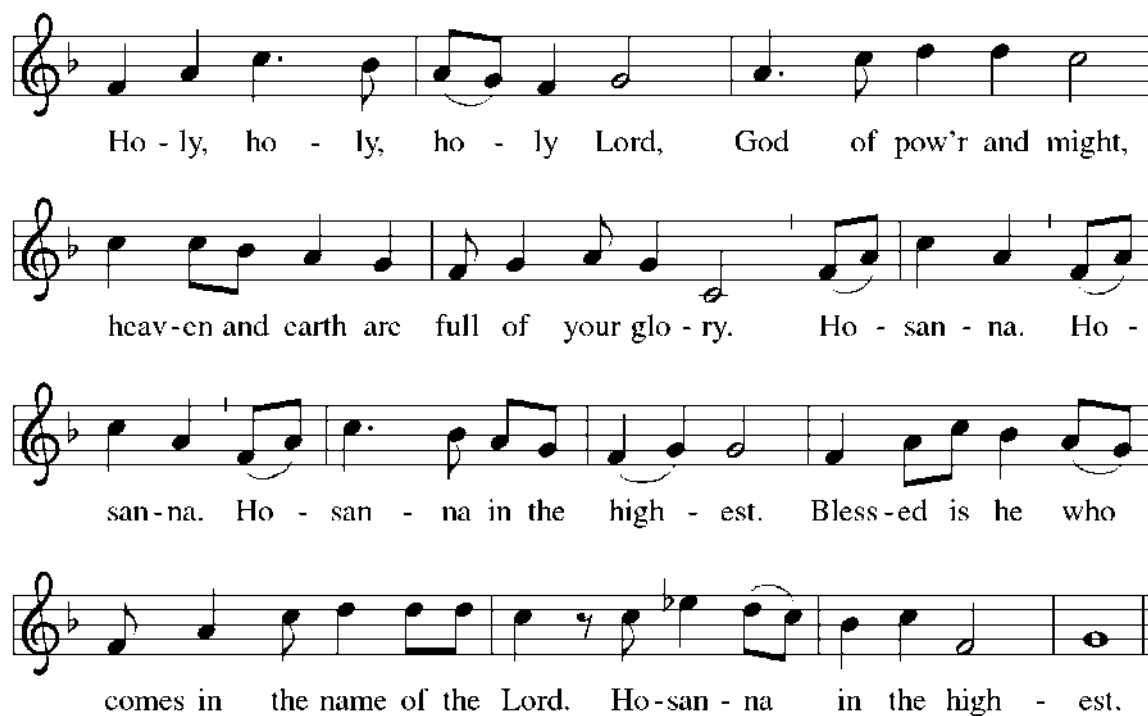
### The Proper Preface

*The presiding minister continues:* “It is indeed right ...”

*The proper preface concludes:* “we praise your name and join their unending hymn.”

### Sanctus

*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.*



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.

*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.*

### 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 brings  
the Great  
Thanksgiving to  
a conclusion.  
Prayed here,  
this familiar and  
beloved prayer  
becomes the  
table-prayer of  
the congrega-  
tion. 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,**

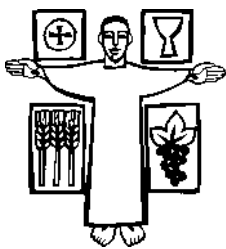
**as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**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 to receive communion at  
the altar rail. We return to our pews by way of the side aisles.



*Once we have  
all received the  
sacrament and  
returned to our  
seats, we cele-  
brate the per-  
sonal 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**

Post-Communion Prayer

P Let us pray. Holy God,  
C **you have welcomed us to this meal  
and fed us with dignity at your table.  
Send us now to welcome others  
and to be at peace with one another,  
through Jesus Christ our 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 843

*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

*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

A Go in peace loving God and loving your neighbor.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

Emily Maxson Porter

**WELCOME SEMINARIAN, CAROLINE WILSON**

We are excited to welcome Caroline Wilson and her family to St. Mark's. Caroline is a second-year student at the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC (soon moving to the campus of Lenoir Rhyne University in Hickory, NC), and will be with us this academic year on most Sunday mornings getting practical experience in the areas of worship leadership, Christian education, preaching, etc.

Caroline is married to Cedric, and together they are the parents of Chloe and Claire.

Welcome Caroline, Cedric, Chloe, and Claire!

## THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, September 22	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion
	12PM	Library Committee
Monday, September 23	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, September 24		
Wednesday, September 25	6:30PM—8PM	Choir rehearsal (Nave)
Thursday, September 26		
Friday, September 27	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Library)
Saturday, September 28	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
	12:30PM	Roanoke Valley Lutheran Youth Golf Tournament
Sunday, September 29	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

## SERVING IN WORSHIP

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Greeter</b>	Susan Ware	Harry Brewbaker & Connie Watkins
<b>Lector</b>	Jennifer Armentrout	Andy Stowasser
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Mary Ann Snider & Jerry McDaniel	Nan Keenan & Eric Mills
<b>Coffee Hour</b>		

Attendance Last Sunday	80
Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)	\$3,229.00
Budget (Pledges/Loose)	\$3,531.00



# 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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