



THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 21, 2025
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, please use the QR code to the right.



The prelude marks the beginning of our preparation for worship. We use it as a time of silent meditation and prayer.

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)

Welcome
Prayer Requests

Prelude

Adoro te devote

Gerald Near

ENTRANCE RITE

Children's Sermon

We stand as we are able.

Hymn 695

As Saints of Old

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.**

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

Refrain



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



1 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.

Refrain



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



2 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

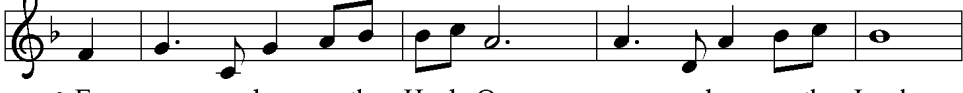


seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

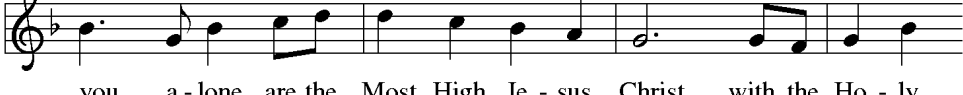
Refrain



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



3 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.

Refrain



We are

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.

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.

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Amos 8:4-7

L A reading from Amos.

⁴Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
⁵saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,

so that we may offer wheat for sale?

We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,

⁶buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."

⁷The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 113

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

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants [|] of the LORD;
praise the name [|] of the LORD.

²**Let the name of the [|] LORD be blessed,**
from this time forth for- [|] evermore.

³From the rising of the sun to its [|] going down
let the name of the [|] LORD be praised.

⁴**The LORD is high a- [|] bove all nations;**
God's glory a- [|] bove the heavens.

⁵Who is like the [|] LORD our God,
who sits en- [|] throned on high,

⁶**but stoops [|] to behold**
the heavens [|] and the earth?

⁷The LORD takes up the weak out ¹ of the dust
and lifts up the poor ¹ from the ashes,
⁸**enthroning them ¹ with the rulers,**
with the rulers ¹ of the people.

⁹The LORD makes the woman of a ¹ childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. ¹ Hallelujah!

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

Second Lesson: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

L A reading from First Timothy.

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia

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

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.

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.

The Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 16th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' ³Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' ⁵So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' ⁷Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

We sit.

Sermon

Pastor James Armentrout

We stand as we are able and sing the hymn.

Hymn 710

Let Streams of Living Justice

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.

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

The Prayers

Prayer concludes:



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

THE EUCHARISTIC LITURGY

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

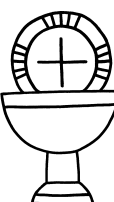
C **And also with you.**

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

The Offering

Offertory Anthem

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me



K. Lee Scott

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
And, with actions bold and meek, For Christ, my Savior, speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;
Help me now thy truth to see, I would be like thee;
And with wisdom to kind and clear, thy life in mine appear;
And, with actions brotherly, Speak Christ’s sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;
Show they mercy tenderly, Make me more like thee;
Separate from sin, I would And cherish all things good,
And whatever I can be Give him who gave me thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
Help me now thy pow’r to see, I would be like thee;
‘Gainst all weapons hell can wield by thou my strength and shield’
Let thy word my weapon be, Lord, Thine the victory.

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

- Stanzas 1-3, Thomas T. Lynch, alt.
Stanza 4, K. Lee Scott

Offertory



Breathe on us, Spir - it, strength - en us in grace,
help us to serve in this and ev' - ry place,
in - crease our faith, as we your work pur - sue;
lov - ing our neigh - bor, God, and lov - ing you.

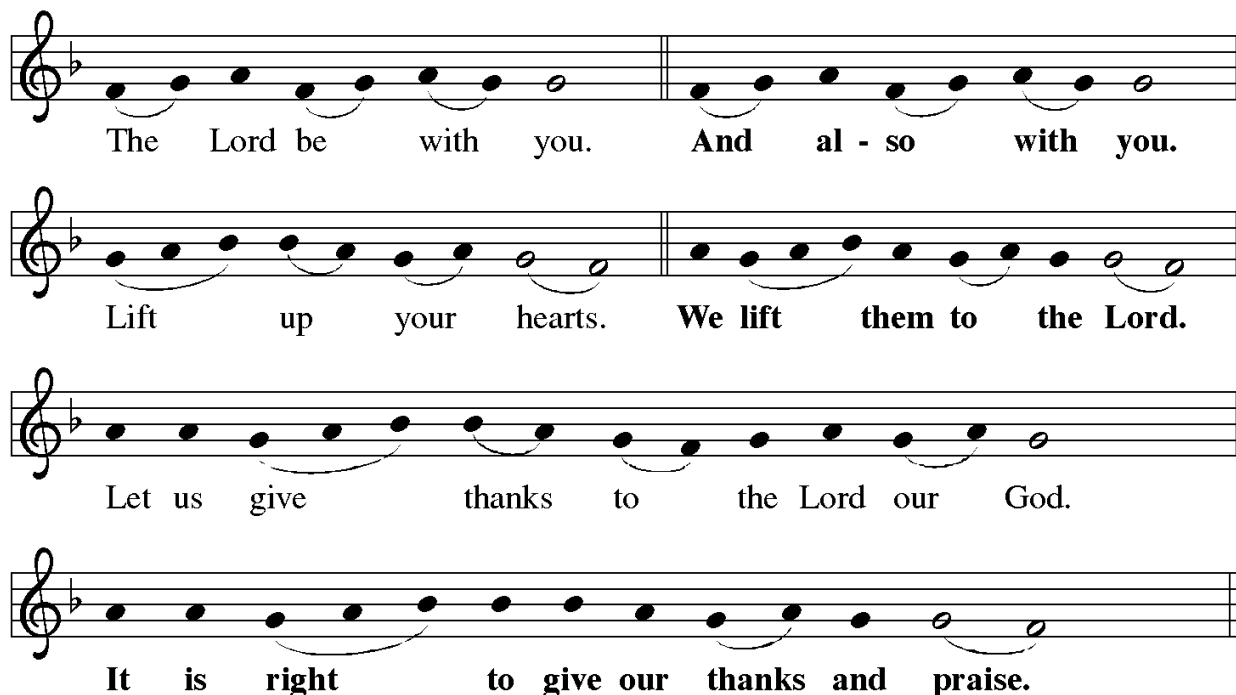
Our prayer is modeled after the Jewish prayer of thanksgiving and dedicates the giver to a stewardship of all life.

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. Lord of the harvest,
C we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our 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.
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.

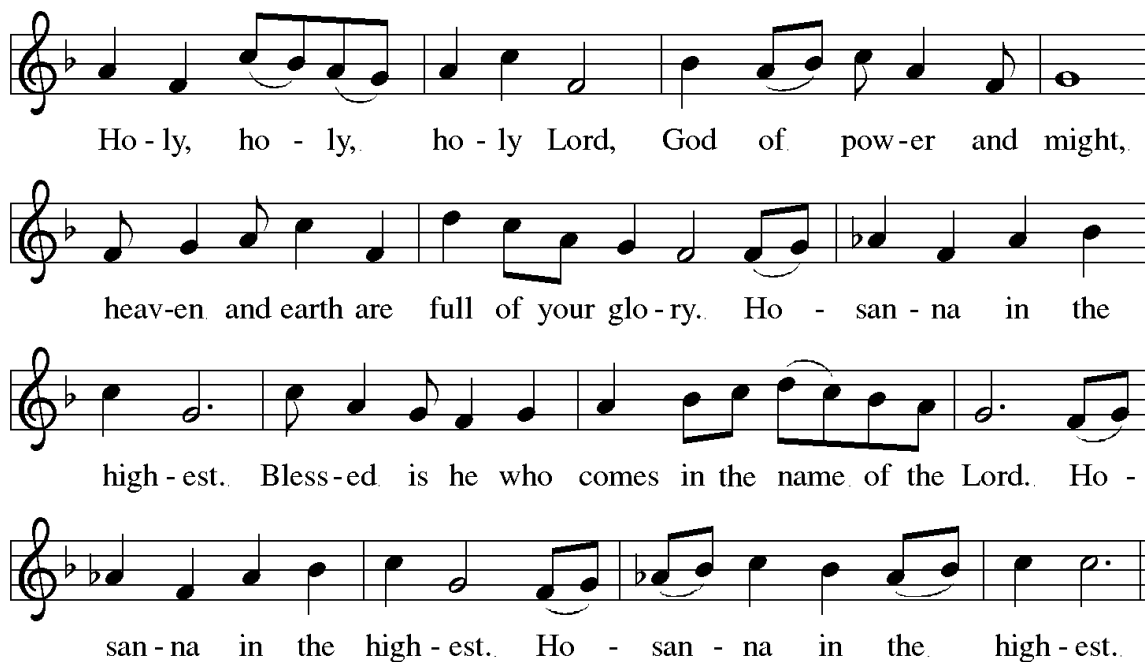
The Eucharistic Prayer recalls God's saving acts throughout history and, particularly, the words and actions, the commands and promises of Jesus at the last supper with his disciples as recorded in scripture.

The 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-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. 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.

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 to
the Great
Thanksgiving to
a conclusion.
Prayed here, this
familiar and be-
loved prayer
becomes the ta-
ble-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,

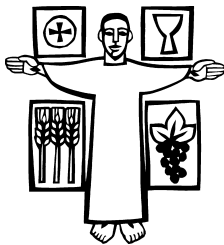
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

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

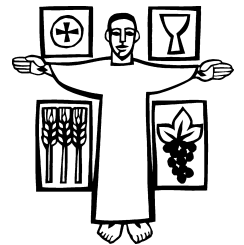
We are seated.



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



*Once we have all
received the sac-
rament and re-
turned to our
seats, we cele-
brate the person-
al 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. O God,

C through this meal you have strengthened us

and appointed us to be your servants.

**Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.**

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen

Blessing

P The blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.

C Amen

Hymn

Founded on Faith



1. Found - ed on faith, the church— a - live by grace—
2. Your cross, O Christ, re - news our life each day.
3. E - quipped by prayer, we live the Spir - it's call.
4. Grow - ing in grace for God's cre - at - ed earth,
5. Found - ed on faith, called forth, em - pow'ed to serve,
pro - claims the gos - pel here and ev - 'ry place.
Bap - tized in you, we learn and teach and pray.
Em - pow'ed to serve with gifts, both great and small,
we yearn for jus - tice, peace, and hu - man worth;
we share God's end - less love with - out re - serve.
The word of God re - sounds through time and space:
Fed by your love, with thank - ful hearts, we say:
we bring the liv - ing hope of God to all.
a world re - stored; a faith - ful, car - ing church.
Then let us shout a - loud the liv - ing Word!
Al - le - lu - ia!

*We are dis-
missed from
worship know-
ing that our
service does
not end. Ra-
ther, 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

Founded on Faith

Charles Callahan

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Sunday, September 21	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion
Monday, September 22	5PM—7PM	The Lion's Share open
Tuesday, September 23		
Wednesday, September 24	6:30PM-8PM	Choir Rehearsal (Nave)
Thursday, September 25		
Friday, September 26	10AM—noon	The Lion's Share open
	6:30PM	NA meeting (Library)
Saturday, September 27	8PM	NA meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday, September 28	11AM	Worship with Holy Communion

SERVING IN WORSHIP

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

Attendance Last Sunday

Offering Received (Pledges/Loose)

Budget (Pledges/Loose) \$3173.00



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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Breathe on Us, Spirit—text and music by Jacob Gordon. Written for the 150th anniversary of St. Mark's in 2019.

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