



THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, October 11, 2026
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.



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

Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele

Johannes Brahms

Children's Sermon

We stand as we are able.

Hymn 553

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

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 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.

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.

Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson: Isaiah 25:1-9

L A reading from Isaiah.

¹O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

²For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.
³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
⁸he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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 23

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

¹The LORD[|] is my shepherd;
I shall not[|] be in want.
²**The LORD makes me lie down[|] in green pastures
and leads me be-[|]side still waters.**

³You restore my[|] soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways[|] for your name's sake.
⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall[|] fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they[|] comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence[|] of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is[|] running over.
⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days[|] of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the[|] LORD forever.**

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: Philippians 4:1-9

L A reading from Philippians.

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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 22:1-4

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it

and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

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 462

Now We Join in Celebration

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

The Lord’s My Shepherd

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want,
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of blessedness,
E’en for his own name’s sake,

Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
For thou art with me,
And thy rod and staff me comfort still.

My table thou has furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me;
And in my God’s house forevermore
My dwelling place shall be.

- Psalm 23,
vers. Francis Rowe



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.

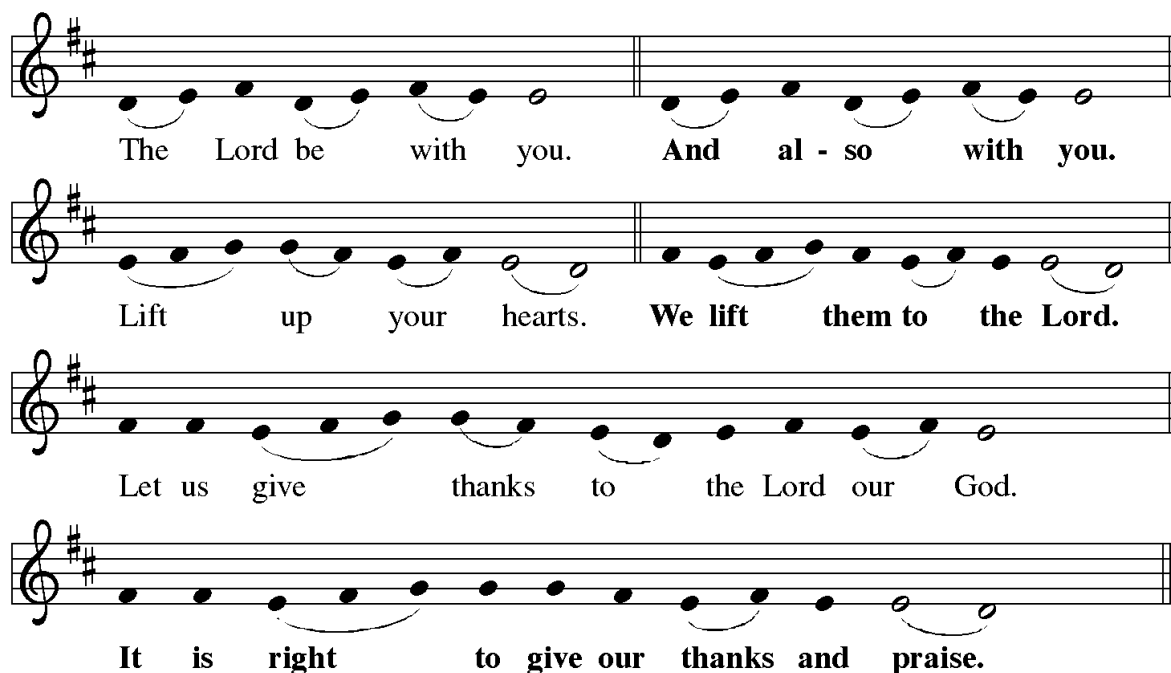
Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray. God of creation,
C you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
 All blessings are from you;
 make us generous with what we have.
 Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
 in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
 today and always.
 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.

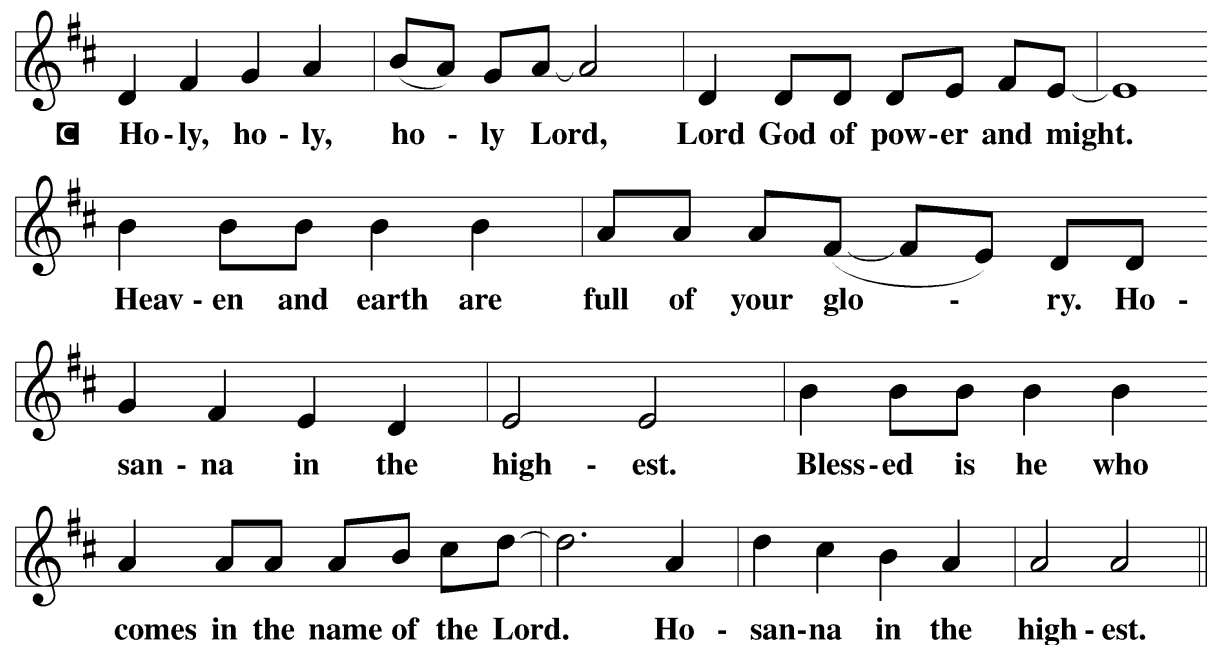
The Proper Preface

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.**

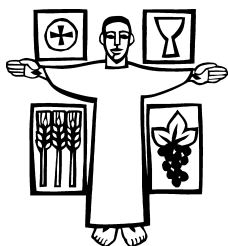
The Lord's Prayer

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. Sustaining God,

C **with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
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**

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.

Hymn 873

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Dismissal

P Go in peace loving God and loving your neighbor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

David Cherwien

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

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