

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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The Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity

13 November A✠D 2022
Divine Service, Setting IV

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we remember how the mercy of God changes us. All around us we see a world that is by nature unmerciful, filled with those who seek their own good at the expense of others. But God has had mercy on us all by giving His Son into death for our sins. And we, having received that divine mercy through faith, are now transformed by it to have mercy on others.

If you are a VISITOR here, we'd like to offer you our warmest welcome! We pray that your experience among us is blessed, and that you depart filled with God's peace and life.

Also, toward the end of our service today we will be celebrating Holy Communion, in which we will eat and drink Jesus' body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:26-28). Therefore, we ask that you would please see the statement titled "On the Sacrament of Holy Communion," printed below, which describes our beliefs and practices regarding this sacred gift.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter,
as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth,
I humbly pray that You would open my heart
to the preaching of Your Word so that I may
repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my
only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness.
Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

ON THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: We believe that when we receive Holy Communion together, we are publicly declaring both our unity in Christ and our agreement in doctrine (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:10). We also believe that if we receive this sacrament in unbelief, we risk God's judgment (1 Cor. 11:27-30).

Therefore, communion at this altar is reserved for those who believe and confess the teachings of our church body, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Those who have not been formally instructed in our teachings should wait to commune until completing a course of instruction with us.

If you are a VISITOR and would like to commune with us today, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you will not be communing, you are welcome to kneel at the altar with your arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing, or you may remain in your pew.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: 606 I Lay My Sins on Jesus



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.
Like fra-grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89

Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen

Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 130:1–2, 7–8; antiphon: vv. 3–4

P If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.**

P Out of the depths
I cry to you, O LORD!

C **O Lord, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

P O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is plentiful redemption.

C **And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.**

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart-felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Micah 6:6–8

⁶“With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

⁸He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 133:1, 3b

P Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!

C For the LORD has commanded the blessing,
life forevermore.

Epistle

Philippians 1:3–11

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, ⁴always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, ⁵because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:21–35

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” ²²Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. ²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers,

until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 611 Chief of Sinners Though I Be



1 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Je - sus shed His
2 Oh, the height of Je - sus' love, High - er than the
3 On - ly Je - sus can im - part Balm to heal the
4 Chief of sin - ners though I be, Christ is all in
5 O my Sav - ior, help af - ford By Your Spir - it



blood for me, Died that I might live on high,
heav'n's a - bove, Deep - er than the depths of sea,
wound - ed heart, Peace that flows from sin for - giv'n,
all to me; All my wants to Him are known,
and Your Word! When my way - ward heart would stray,



Lives that I might nev - er die. As the branch is
Last - ing as e - ter - ni - ty! Love that found me—
Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n, Faith and hope to
All my sor - rows are His own. He sus - tains the
Keep me in the nar - row way; Grace in time of



to the vine, I am His, and He is mine.
won - drous thought! Found me when I sought Him not.
walk with God In the way that E - noch trod.
hid - den life Safe with Him from earth - ly strife.
need sup - ply While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.

Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820–1901

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P That we may forgive our brother from the heart, living in joyful fear and gratitude toward God for the great mercy shown to us in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the pastors of the Church, that they would be strengthened in faithfulness, knowledge, discernment and love as they proclaim God's Word of judgment and forgiveness, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all God's people, that His Word may accomplish its work within us and bear abundant fruit to the glory and praise of God, especially for Ziah Town Lutheran Church in Liberia, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For husbands and wives, parents and children, and all brothers and sisters in Christ, that they may dwell together in forgiveness, love and purity, walking blamelessly before their heavenly Father in the guidance of His Word, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the leaders of the nations, that they would be given wisdom to govern among us in justice, impartiality and humility according to God's will; and for the blessing of those under their authority, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those suffering affliction, [*including _____,*] that God would strengthen their hope, show them His steadfast love, redeem them from all their iniquities, and grant healing and relief according to His will, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who come to the Lord's holy table, that none would come bearing bitterness or a grudge, but come in repentance, desiring the forgiveness of sins, and in the unity of a true confession, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P O almighty God, we confess that we are poor sinners and could not give an answer if You should contend with us. Yet do we thank You with all our hearts that You have taken our guilt from us and laid it upon Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, who has atoned for it. Graciously sustain us in this faith. Govern us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may live according to Your will in love and service to our neighbors. Do not let us give way to wrath or revenge, and so incur Your wrath, but let us always find in You a gracious Father; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Offering

During the Offering, we ask that you please sign a black attendance book located in your pew.

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

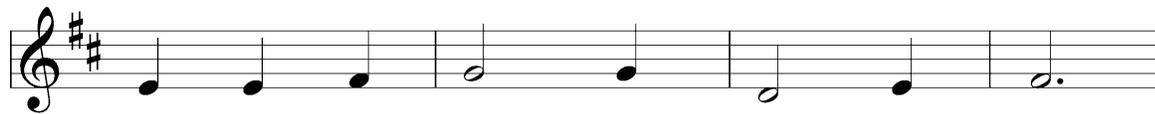
John 1:29



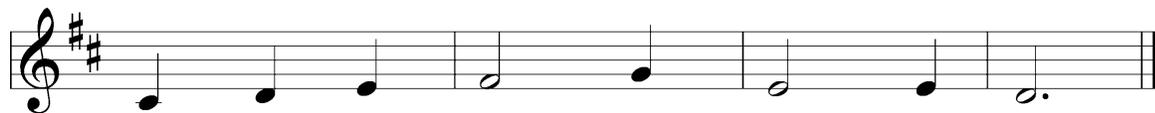
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

Visitors – Please see the note on the inside, front cover of this service folder regarding our Holy Communion policy.

Distribution Hymn: 822 Alleluia! Let Praises Ring



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! To God the Fa -
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Lamb
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to the Ho -
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! Let prais - es ring! Un - to our tri -



ther let us bring Our songs of ad - o - ra - tion.
 of God we sing, In whom we are e - lect - ed.
 ly Ghost we sing For our re - gen - er - a - tion.
 une God we sing; Blest be His name for - ev - er!



To Him through ev - er - last - ing days Be wor - ship, hon -
 He bought His Church with His own blood, He cleansed her in
 The sav - ing faith in us He wrought And us un - to
 With an - gel hosts let us a - dore And sing His prais -



or, pow'r, and praise, Whose hand sus - tains cre - a - tion.
 that bless - ed flood, And as His bride se - lect - ed.
 the Bride-groom brought, Made us His cho - sen na - tion.
 es ev - er - more For all His grace and fa - vor!



Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;
 Ho - ly, ho - ly Is our u - nion And com - mu - nion.
 Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Joy e - ter - nal, Bliss su - per - nal;
 Sing - ing, ring - ing: Ho - ly, ho - ly, God is ho - ly;



Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry.
 His be - friend - ing Gives us joy and peace un - end - ing.
 There is man - na And an end - less, glad ho - san - na.
 Spread the sto - ry Of our God, the Lord of glo - ry!

Text: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, 1698, Darmstadt; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 687 Thine Forever, God of Love



- 1 Thine for - ev - er, God of love! Hear us from Thy throne a - bove;
- 2 Thine for - ev - er! Oh, how blest They who find in Thee their rest!
- 3 Thine for - ev - er, Lord of Life! Shield us through our earth - ly strife.
- 4 Thine for - ev - er! Shep-herd, keep These Thy frail and trem-bling sheep;
- 5 Thine for - ev - er! Thou our guide, All our wants by Thee sup - plied,



Thine for - ev - er may we be Here and in e - ter - ni - ty!
Sav - ior, guard - ian, heav'n-ly friend, O de - fend us to the end!
Thou, the life, the truth, the way, Guide us to the realms of day.
Safe a - lone be - neath Thy care, Let us all Thy good-ness share.
All our sins by Thee for-giv'n; Lead us, Lord, from earth to heav'n.

Text: Mary F. Maude, 1819–1913

Tune: Justin H. Knecht, 1752–1817

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand
Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

The Benediction marks the end of the Divine Service. Following the Announcements, the congregation will sing the Closing Hymn below and depart in joy.

Closing Hymn: 851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us



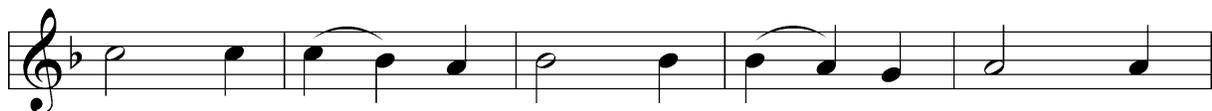
1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,
3 Won - drous hon - or You have giv - en To our
4 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your



life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your
hum - blest char - i - ty In Your own mys - te - rious
life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the



lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;
good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
sen - tence, "You have done it all to Me."
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice.



And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by
Can it be, O gra - cious Mas - ter, That You
Give us faith to trust You bold - ly, Hope, to



count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful
You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py
deign for alms to sue, Say - ing by Your
stay our souls on You; But, oh, best of



and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.
and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.
poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you?"
all Your grac - es, With Your love our love re - new.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818–89, alt.

Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. 11/13 Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Mon. 11/14 Pastor's Day Off

Wed. 11/16 Wed. Nights in Christ Program

- Dinner starts at 5:15 p.m.
- Bible Lesson for kids from 5:45 – 6:15 p.m.
- Craft/Games/Life Skills for kids from 6:15 – 6:45 p.m.

Thu. 11/17 Quilting Bee 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Pastor out of the office in the p.m.

Fri. 11/18 Deadline to submit December newsletter articles

Sun. 11/20 The Last Sunday of the Church Year

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **2nd Fall Clean-Up (leaves & sticks)** 10:45 a.m.

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS – All adults, as well as high school and middle school students, are invited to attend St. Mark's weekly Sunday morning Adult Bible Class. The class meets in the Fellowship Hall starting **at 10:45 a.m.** Pastor Vergin will continue teaching on the book of Genesis, the first book of the Bible. We hope you will join us for this study! This is a great opportunity to fill your week with God's Word and to grow in knowledge and faith!

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN CHRIST – All kids, age 4 through those in 5th Grade, are invited to join us this Wednesday, **November 16**, for our *Wednesday Nights in Christ (W.N.I.C.)* program! The program will always begin with a simple dinner at 5:15 p.m., followed by a Bible lesson at 5:45 p.m., and conclude with a craft, game, or "Life Skills" speaker at 6:15 p.m. The program will end each Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. If you haven't registered your child or grandkids yet, please do! Also, any child who brings a friend will get to choose a cool prize! Just visit our website at www.stmarkwb.org, hover over the "Contact/Registration tab," and you'll see the Wed. Nights in Christ Registration form that you can then complete.

SECOND FALL CLEAN-UP AT ST. MARK'S – St. Mark's Board of Properties is seeking volunteers to help with a second Fall Clean-Up on our church grounds on **Sunday, November 20** right after the Divine Service. The church property has a lot of leaves, sticks and branches that need to be picked up/bundled. Can we count on you to help?

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE - For us Christians, the holiday of Thanksgiving is all about returning thanks to God for every blessing that He graciously pours down upon us in Christ; blessings both temporal and eternal. And so, it is fitting for us to gather together in the Lord's house on this holiday to offer Him our thanks and praise as we meditate upon His goodness as proclaimed in His Word. Therefore, we invite you to join us for our annual Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service at St. Mark's. The service will be held at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, November 23** and will include Scripture readings and familiar hymns of praise. We hope you will plan to make this service a part of your Thanksgiving celebrations!

LET'S DECORATE ST. MARKS FOR CHRISTMAS - On **Saturday, November 26**, we will gather at St. Mark's to decorate our church for Christmas. Can we count on you to help? Decorating will start at 10:00 a.m. and many hands make for light work. We'll need to erect our large Christmas tree, hang giant wreaths on the walls in the altar area, place greenery and candles on the window ledges, put up the nativity scene and more! We hope to see you there!

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES BEGIN ON NOVEMBER 30 - Beginning on **Wednesday, November 30**, St. Mark's will begin holding our annual Advent Midweek Services. Here, we will gather on Wednesday evenings during this special season of repentance to receive the Lord's Word and to wait for His salvation. These services will begin at 7:00 p.m. and will follow a series titled "In the Beginning Was the Word: An Advent Series on Genesis." Just like last year, circuit pastors will be rotating between churches for these services, so we hope you will welcome the visiting pastors! Please make these services a part of your yearly Advent preparations! We look forward to seeing you!

SEMI-ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING IS COMING UP – On **Sunday, December 4**, right after the Divine Service, all voters ages 18+ are encouraged to meet in the Fellowship Hall for St. Mark's Semi-annual Voters' Meeting. The Agenda will include financial and attendance updates, board reports (as needed), the election of some new board members and officers, and approval of a budget for 2023. If you are a voting member of St. Mark's, your attendance at this meeting is essential, so please make plans now to attend.

BOTTLE AND CAN DRIVE FOR ZIAH TOWN LUTHERAN SCHOOL - If you would like to donate your returnable cans and bottles, the Board of Human Care will now be accepting them **EVERY week!** Just bring your bag to church and an usher will let you know where you can set them. A member of the Human Care Board will collect them and make the return. All money will then go into the fund for the Ziah Town Liberian school to be used for catechisms and/ or school supplies. You may also make donations at any time by either putting your check/cash in a green envelope and writing Liberian School on the front (checks made payable to St. Mark's), or visiting the St. Mark's website, clicking on the online giving button and selecting the fund titled Joe Boway/Liberian School. Thank you for your continued support of this important ministry!

ACCEPTING ORDERS FOR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS - During November and part of December, we will be accepting orders for Christmas poinsettias that will adorn our altar area for Christmas. Each poinsettia plant costs \$10 and you may take your plant home with you (if you wish) in early January. You may order one or more plant in honor, or in memory, of a loved one, or just to help beautify the sanctuary for Christmas. Either complete a pink flower order form found in our Sunday bulletins, place it and your payment (cash or a check made payable to St. Mark's Lutheran Church) inside a pink flower envelope (located in the pew racks), write "Poinsettia" on the envelope, and then place it into an offering plate, OR mail the correct amount to St. Mark's church office and include any honorarium or memorial information. The names of those being honored or remembered will be included in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day worship folders.

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 2022! Our Board of Elders is leading a reading program where we will be going through the entire Bible in the year 2022. We hope you will participate! Yearly reading plans are available on the back table in the sanctuary. You can start at any time!

The readings for Week 46 (November 13 – November 19) are:

Sun	13-Nov	Acts 6-7
Mon	14-Nov	Acts 8-9
Tue	15-Nov	Acts 10-11
Wed	16-Nov	Acts 12-13
Thu	17-Nov	Acts 14-15
Fri	18-Nov	Acts 16-17
Sat	19-Nov	Acts 18-19

WE ARE ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2023 CHURCH POSITIONS - Would you like to serve at St. Mark's in an official capacity? Do you know of anyone whom you think would be well-suited to serve? We are now accepting nominations for our elected positions. This year, we are accepting nominations for the following Officers:

- Human Resources Director
- Public Relations Director

Additionally, we're accepting nominations for all six congregational Boards:

- Human Care
- Gospel Outreach
- Parish Fellowship & Support
- Assimilation & Stewardship
- Family & Youth
- Properties

Each elected term is for three years. Responsibilities for each Board/Position can be found in our Bylaws. Please call the church office with any questions. Nomination forms are now located on the back table in the sanctuary. You can nominate yourself, or someone else! Please consider serving the Lord in this special way! May He bless our congregation in the year ahead!

TOILETRY/HYGIENE DONATIONS FOR THE OPEN DOOR OUTREACH CENTER – We continue to receive hygiene & toiletry products year around for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford. There are two bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs where you can place product donations. The Open Door is a non-profit organization that assists needy families in the Lakes Area. They are ALWAYS in need of toiletry and hygiene items, so **if you can provide any of these throughout the year, it would be appreciated.**

IF YOU SHOP AT A KROGER STORE, please consider participating in their Community Rewards program and **link your shopper's bonus card to St. Mark's** so that our congregation will receive free cash each quarter! There is no cost to you! Kroger will send a percentage of what you spend to our congregation as a way of supporting the community. If interested (and we hope you will be!), please click on this URL below to see how you can link your Shopper's Bonus Card to our congregation: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. In order to locate St. Mark's Lutheran Church, search for business # 82449. Thanks so much!

SEEKING A VOLUNTEER TO BE LWML PRESIDENT AT ST. MARK'S - St. Mark's Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) board is seeking someone to fill the role of president. The LWML is the leading group for Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod's women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness. As Lutheran Women in Mission, these ladies joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. Some of the duties St. Mark's LWML president would perform include being the liaison between the LWML office in St. Louis, Missouri and St. Mark's LWML board, attending a few LWML Zone Rallies in our local area, overseeing some small mission fundraising events here in order to help support the work of missionaries, and assist with St. Mark's Quilting Group. If you have any questions about the LWML, or the duties of the LWML president, please talk to Jennie Kaufman.

KEITH ELEMENTARY "INVISIBLE DAD" LUNCH PROGRAM DONATIONS – Keith Elementary's Invisible Dad Lunch Program was started a few years ago by a dad of one of the students so that if a child forgot to bring a lunch, or if their personal lunch fund balance was short, the school could offer them a full lunch at no cost instead of the free, state-sponsored "tiny lunch" that doesn't contain enough food and isn't the healthiest. St. Mark's has placed our Invisible Dad Lunch donation jar back on the table in the back of the sanctuary so that we can receive any extra change you'd like to donate for next year's lunch program at Keith. We hope you will participate by donating any loose change you have!

WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT used postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translation Ministries, and used eyeglasses for MOST Ministries in the two plastic bins on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Wycliffe sells the stamps to stamp collectors and then uses the proceeds to fund Bible translation projects throughout the world. MOST Ministries repairs/refurbishes used eyeglasses and distributes them via eyeglass clinics to the needy around the world. If you donate postage stamps, please be sure to leave ¼" of the envelope paper around the stamp.



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Jennie Kaufman

Elder on Duty

Darryl Swainson

Greeter(s)

Mary Ann Lockwood

Offering Counters

Jennie & Karen Kaufman

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

Trent Johnson

Video Technician

Karen Kaufman