

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

4 September A✠D 2022

Divine Service, Setting IV

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Twelfth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we rejoice to receive true spiritual healing through the Word of Christ. By nature, we are dead in sin. Our ears are closed to the good news of Jesus, and our tongues cannot proclaim it rightly. However, through His powerful Word, Jesus sets us free, so that we might believe the Gospel and proclaim it with joy. Today, we gather before Him to receive this true healing once again.

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.

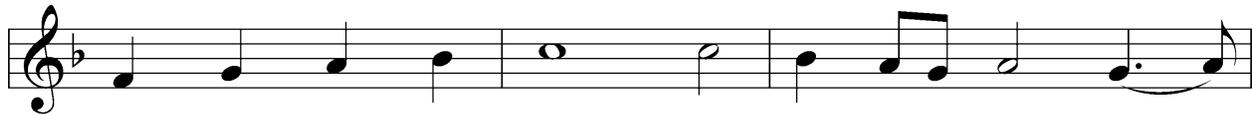
C Amen.

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: 841 O Son of God, in Galilee



1 O Son of God, in Gal - i - lee You
2 O lis - ten to the si - lent prayer Of
3 The speech - less tongue, the life - less ear You
4 Mean - while to them the lis - t'ning ear Of
5 Then in Your prom - ised hap - py land Each



made the deaf to hear, The mute to speak, the
Your af - flict - ed ones. O bid them cast on
can re - store, O Lord; Your "Eph - pha - tha," O
stead - fast faith im - part, And let Your Word bring
loss will prove a gain; All mys - t'ries we shall



blind to see; O bless - ed Lord, be near.
You their care; Your grace to them make known.
Sav - ior dear, Can in - stant help af - ford.
light and cheer To ev - 'ry trou - bled heart.
un - der - stand, For You will make them plain.

Text: Anna B. D. Hoppe, 1889–1941, alt.

Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

Tune: Public domain

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.

Almighty and merciful God, by Your gift alone Your faithful people render true and laudable service. Help us steadfastly to live in this life according to Your promises and finally attain Your heavenly glory; 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

Isaiah 29:17–24

¹⁷Is it not yet a very little while
until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,
and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

¹⁸In that day the deaf shall hear

the words of a book,
and out of their gloom and darkness
the eyes of the blind shall see.

¹⁹The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD,
and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

²⁰For the ruthless shall come to nothing
and the scoffer cease,
and all who watch to do evil shall be cut off,

²¹who by a word make a man out to be an offender,
and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate,
and with an empty plea turn aside him who is in the right.

²²Therefore thus says the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob:

“Jacob shall no more be ashamed,
no more shall his face grow pale.

²³For when he sees his children,
the work of my hands, in his midst,
they will sanctify my name;

they will sanctify the Holy One of Jacob
and will stand in awe of the God of Israel.

²⁴And those who go astray in spirit will come to understanding,
and those who murmur will accept instruction.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 34:1–2

P I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

C **My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.**

Epistle

Romans 10:9–17

⁹[If] you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶But they have not all

obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?”
¹⁷So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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

Mark 7:31–37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**☩ 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: 545 Word of God, Come Down on Earth



1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our
4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



Faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the
Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.
world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.
pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, 1919–2010

Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73, alt.

Text: © 1969 OCP Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this congregation, that Christ would open our ears to the Good News of the Kingdom, and that our lips would continually show forth our thanks and praise; and also for all our sister congregations, especially Ziah Town Lutheran Church in Liberia, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all pastors, that God would give them boldness to speak the truth in love, so that they would not break the bruised reed, but rather lovingly care for all sinners in need of God's mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all in authority by whose service God provides for us the gift of order, including parents and family, our government, our police and firemen, our military, and our schools, that God would give them strength and endurance to carry out their duties for the good of those entrusted to their care, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the sick, the frail, the dying, and all in need [*especially _____,*] that God would care for them in their troubles and deliver them. And also for doctors, nurses, therapists and all who tend our brothers and sisters in need, that God would bless them as they put the talents He has given them to good use, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who will partake this day of Christ's most precious body and blood in the Sacrament of the Altar, that they may discern His body and come to His table in humility and faith to receive the forgiveness of sins and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the faith to confess and believe in Christ, that having been redeemed by Christ, we may gaze on God's glory in heaven, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P O Lord, our loving Father, we entrust all these petitions to Your care for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is worshiped together 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

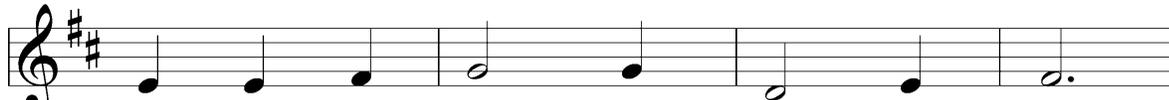
John 1:29



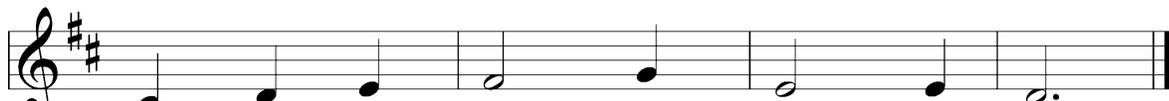
C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



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 of this service folder regarding our Holy Communion policy.

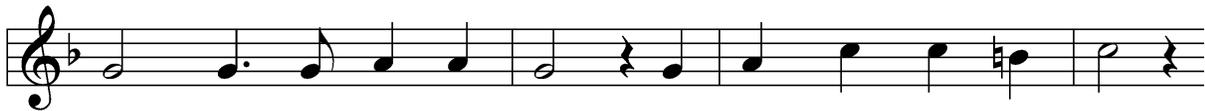
Distribution Hymn: 794 The Lord, My God, Be Praised



1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heav - en;
2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heav - en,
3 The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heav - en,
△ 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ev - er - liv - ing,



My mak - er, who to me Has soul and bod - y giv - en;
The Fa - ther's own dear Son, Whose life for me was giv - en,
The Spir - it, whom the Son In love to me has giv - en.
To whom the heav'n - ly host Their laud and praise are giv - ing.



My Fa - ther, who will shield And keep me day by day
Who for my sin a - toned With His most pre - cious blood
His grace re - vives my heart And gives my spir - it pow'r,
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,



And make each mo - ment yield New bless - ings on my way.
And gives to me by faith The high - est heav'n - ly good.
Help, com - fort, and sup - port In sor - row's gloom - y hour.
God Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

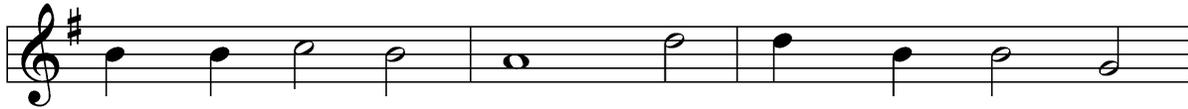
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -
3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That
4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He



great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the
sets the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!
earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.
sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for me.

- 5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own
Your God, ye fallen race.
Look and be saved through faith alone,
Be justified by grace.
- 6 See all your sins on Jesus laid;
The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made
For ev'ry soul of man.
- 7 To God all glory, praise, and love
Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above,
The Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-88, alt.

Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784-1829

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.

Closing Hymn: 923 Almighty Father, Bless the Word



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward
△ 3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!
wor - shiped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text (sts. 1–2): Church Poetry, 1823, Philadelphia, alt.; (st. 3): Thomas Ken, 1637–1711
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sun. 9/4 The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- Mon. 9/5 Labor Day – Church Office closed**
- Tue. 9/6 Board of Elders' Mtg.** 7:00 p.m.
- Thu. 9/8 Pastor out of the office in the p.m.**
Quilting Bee 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- Sun. 9/11 The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**
PATRIOT DAY
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – All are invited to attend **this morning's** Adult Bible Class with Pastor Vergin starting **at 10:45 a.m.** in the basement Fellowship Hall. He will be continuing the study of the book of Genesis. The book of Genesis is the first book of the Bible, and it tells the story of God's salvation from the very beginning. It starts with the creation of the world and the fall into sin, and from there it traces the promise of the Savior from generation to generation, beginning with Adam and culminating with Jacob's twelve children. It includes the account of Noah and the Flood, the Tower of Babel, the Call of Abraham, and Joseph's rise in Egypt. At every place it proclaims the steadfast love of God and His faithfulness in redeeming mankind from the guilt of our sin. 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!

SERVING DINNER AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN, PONTIAC – On **Wednesday, September 21**, St. Mark's will be serving dinner to those in the Pontiac area at our sister congregation, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pontiac. If you can help serve at the event, or donate food, please sign up on the chart in the lobby posted on the easel. Volunteers should arrive at 5:00 p.m. to start serving dinner around 6:00 p.m. Feel free to contact Karen Kaufman with any questions you might have.

MISSION PLANNING WORKSHOP – Calling all church leaders! We hope you will make plans now to attend St. Mark’s Mission Planning Workshop on **Saturday, September 24** in the Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. This is the once-a-year meeting where we plan all church events for the subsequent year (2023). This includes outreach events, service events, and internal congregational fellowship events. Please plan on attending, if you can!

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 2022! Our Board of Elders is leading a reading program in which 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 pick up at any time!

The readings for Week 36 (September 4 - September 10) are:

Sun	4-Sep	Ezekiel 33-35
Mon	5-Sep	Ezekiel 36-38
Tue	6-Sep	Ezekiel 39-40
Wed	7-Sep	Ezekiel 41-43
Thu	8-Sep	Ezekiel 44-46
Fri	9-Sep	Ezekiel 47-48
Sat	10-Sep	Daniel 1-3

QUILTING BEE – St. Mark’s Quilting Bee group continues to meet on **Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m.** to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). LWR provides quilts to needy people around the world. If you’d like to learn how to quilt, or would like to volunteer some time helping to assemble quilts, just show up on Thursday mornings! No quilting experience is necessary! Feel free to contact Jennie Kaufman or Lynn Thomas if you have any questions.

ST. JOHN, FRASER, HOSTS REV. BRYAN WOLFMUELLER – Everyone is invited to attend a conference featuring Rev. Bryan Wolfmeuller as guest speaker on **Saturday, September 17** from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church (16339 14 Mile Road) in Fraser. Pastor Wolfmueller will be teaching on a topic called “The Prodigal Son: Three Slaverys, Three Freedoms”. The cost is \$15 per person and includes a continental breakfast starting at 8:00 a.m., as well as lunch. To purchase tickets, go to: <http://stjconference.givesmart.com>. Questions can be emailed to: outreach@stjohnfraser.org.

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.

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.**

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.

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!

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!



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Karen Kaufman

Elder on Duty

Tom LoCascio

Greeter(s)

Jennie & Karen Kaufman

Offering Counters

Mary Ann Lockwood & Jean Swainson

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

Matt Maier

Video Technician

Charlie Powell