

# ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
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## The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

23 October A✠D 2022  
*Divine Service, Setting IV*

## ✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we consider what it means for us to enter into the house of God. As we come into His house, we come as those who are weary, troubled by the hardships of life, and weighed down by our own sin and guilt. But here, at His house, God graciously welcomes us in, that He might forgive us our sins through Christ and strengthen us by His Spirit for our journey ahead.

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: 916 Only-Begotten, Word of God Eternal



1 On - ly - be - got - ten, Word of God e - ter - nal, Lord of cre -  
2 Ho - ly this tem - ple where our Lord is dwell - ing; This is none  
3 Hear us, O Fa - ther, as we throng Your tem - ple. By Your past  
△ 4 God in three per - sons, Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing, Son co - e -



a - tion, mer - ci - ful and might - y: Hear us, Your ser - vants,  
oth - er than the gate of heav - en. Ev - er Your chil - dren,  
bless - ings, by Your pres - ent boun - ty, Smile on Your chil - dren,  
ter - nal, ev - er bless - ed Spir - it: To You be prais - es,



as our tune - ful voic - es Rise in Your pres - ence.  
year by year re - joic - ing, Chant in Your tem - ple.  
and in grace and mer - cy Hear our pe - ti - tion.  
thanks, and ad - o - ra - tion, Glo - ry for - ev - er.

Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Maxwell J. Blacker, 1822–88, alt.

Tune: Antiphoner, 1746, Poitiers

Text and tune: Public domain

# Service of the Word

## Introit (spoken responsively)

*Psalm 78:1-3, 4b; antiphon: Psalm 35:3b; 34:17a, 6b; 48:14a*

**P** Say to my soul, "I am your salvation!"

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears.

**C** [The Lord] saved him out of all his troubles;  
this is God, our God forever and ever.

**P** Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;  
incline your ears to the words of my mouth!

**C** I will open my mouth in a parable;  
I will utter dark sayings from of old,

**P** things that we have heard and known,  
that our fathers have told us.

**C** We will tell the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,  
and the wonders that he has done.

**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** Say to my soul, "I am your salvation!"

When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears.

**C** [The Lord] saved him out of all his troubles;  
this is God, our God forever and ever.

## 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.

Almighty and merciful God, of Your bountiful goodness keep from us all things that may hurt us that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish whatever You would have us do; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Old Testament Reading**

*Genesis 28:10–17*

<sup>10</sup>Jacob left Beersheba and went toward Haran. <sup>11</sup>And he came to a certain place and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. <sup>12</sup>And he dreamed, and behold, there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven. And behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it! <sup>13</sup>And behold, the LORD stood above it and said, “I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. The land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring. <sup>14</sup>Your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed. <sup>15</sup>Behold, I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land. For I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” <sup>16</sup>Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, “Surely the LORD is in this place, and I did not know it.” <sup>17</sup>And he was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual (*spoken responsively*)**

*Psalm 141:1–2*

**P** O LORD, I call upon you; hasten to me!

Give ear to my voice when I call to you!

**C** **Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,  
and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice!**

**Epistle**

*Ephesians 4:22–28*

<sup>22</sup>Put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup>and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup>and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

<sup>25</sup>Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. <sup>26</sup>Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup>and give no opportunity to the devil. <sup>28</sup>Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

**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 9:1–8*

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

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

<sup>1</sup>Getting into a boat [Jesus] crossed over and came to his own city. <sup>2</sup>And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, “Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.” <sup>3</sup>And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves, “This man is blaspheming.” <sup>4</sup>But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts? <sup>5</sup>For which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? <sup>6</sup>But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he then said to the paralytic—“Rise, pick up your bed and go home.” <sup>7</sup>And he rose and went home. <sup>8</sup>When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to men.

**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: 708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from  
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and  
3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth  
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,  
bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were  
grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy  
in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



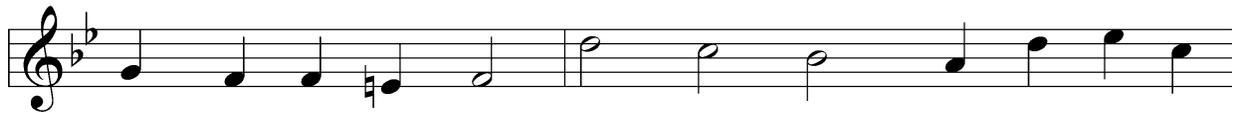
void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my  
lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false  
peace - ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.  
doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.  
death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious  
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my  
O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.  
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.  
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

## Sermon

### Rite of Confirmation

LSB p. 272

*Candidate - Nancy Hewson*

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** To our God forever and ever, our Savior who delivers us out of all our troubles, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the ministers of the Church, that our God who has given such authority to men to forgive sins in Christ would focus their every word and deed toward this Office of the Keys; that the Gospel may predominate in our worship and life together; and that all congregations may be blessed through the Gospel of Christ, especially Ziah Town Lutheran Church in Liberia, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For husbands, wives, children and all Christians, that we would be eager to hear the voice of the Gospel in the forgiveness of sins and, in turn, speak the truth with our neighbors, forgiving one another as Christ has forgiven us, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For Joseph, our president; Gretchen, our governor; and all our leaders, that even as God rules the world by His mighty power, He would be pleased to give our nation wisdom, peace and success in accordance with His commandments, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the sick, broken and needy among us, [*especially \_\_\_\_\_,*] that Christ who has authority over sin and death would grant them healing now, and resurrection at the Last Day, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who come to the altar this day, that they would see this as the very house of God and gate of heaven, where Christ is bodily present in His Sacrament to forgive, heal and renew us in true righteousness and holiness, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the bereaved, that in their grief their hope would be fixed on Christ, His forgiveness of sins, His Holy Communion and His everlasting life, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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."

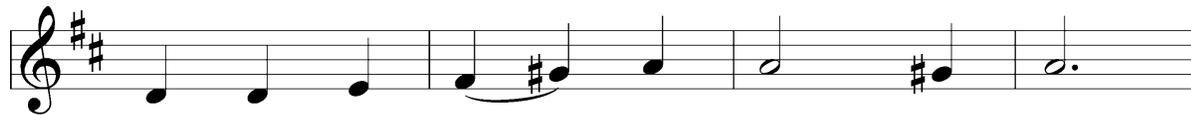
### Pax Domini

**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: 533 Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure



1 Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal,  
 2 Je - sus has come! Now see bonds rent a - sun - der!  
 3 Je - sus has come as the might - y Re - deem - er.  
 4 Je - sus has come as the King of all glo - ry!



Al - pha, O - me - ga, Be - gin - ning and End;  
 Fet - ters of death now dis - solve, dis - ap - pear.  
 See now the threat - en - ing strong one dis - armed!  
 Heav - en and earth, O de - clare His great pow'r,



God - head, hu - man - i - ty, u - nion su - per - nal,  
 See Him burst through with a voice as of thun - der!  
 Je - sus breaks down all the walls of death's for - tress,  
 Cap - tur - ing hearts with the heav - en - ly sto - ry;



O great Re - deem - er, You come as our friend!  
 He sets us free from our guilt and our fear,  
 Brings forth the pris - 'ners tri - um - phant, un - harmed.  
 Wel - come Him now in this fast - fleet - ing hour!



Heav - en and earth, now pro - claim this great won - der:  
 Lifts us from shame to the place of His hon - or.  
 Sa - tan, you wick - ed one, own now your mas - ter!  
 Pon - der His love! Take the crown He has for you!



Je - sus has come and brings plea - sure e - ter - nal!  
 Je - sus has come! Hear the roll of God's thun - der!  
 Je - sus has come! He, the might - y Re - deem - er!  
 Je - sus has come! He, the King of all glo - ry!

Text: Johann Ludwig Conrad Allendorf, 1693–1773; tr. Oliver C. Rupprecht, 1903–2000, alt.  
 Tune: Cöthen, c. 1733

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 Tune: Public domain

## Distribution Hymn: 829 Christ the Eternal Lord



1 Christ the e - ter - nal Lord, Whose prom - ise here we claim,  
2 Christ the un - chang - ing Word To ev - 'ry pass - ing age,  
3 Christ the re - deem - ing Son, Who shares our hu - man birth,  
4 Christ the un - fad - ing Light Of ev - er - last - ing day,  
5 Christ the as - cend - ed King Ex - alt - ed high a - bove,



Whose gifts of grace are free - ly poured On all who name Your name;  
Whose time - less teach - ings still are heard Set forth on Scrip - ture's page;  
And by His death sal - va - tion won For ev - 'ry child of earth;  
Our Morn - ing Star in splen - dor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
Whose praise un - end - ing a - ges sing, Whom yet un - seen we love;



With thank - ful - ness and praise We stand be - fore Your throne,  
Trans - form our thought and mind, En - light - en all who read,  
In - spire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love a - broad,  
That light of truth You give To ser - vants as to friends,  
When mor - tal life is past Your voice from heav - en's throne



In - tent to serve You all our days And make Your glo - ry known.  
With - in Your Word by faith to find The bread of life in - deed.  
That all may hon - or Christ to - day And fol - low Him as Lord.  
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief jour - ney ends.  
Shall call Your chil - dren home at last To know as we are known.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-93

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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.



## THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sun. 10/23 The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**

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

**Mon. 10/24 Pastor's Day Off**

**Wed. 10/26 Wed. Nights in Christ Dinner** 5:15 p.m.  
**Trunk-or-Treat** 6:00-7:00 p.m.

**Thu. 10/27 Quilting Bee** 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall  
**Pastor out of the office in the p.m.**

**Fri. 10/28 Distribute November's Newsletter**  
**Young Adult Meeting** 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

**Sun. 10/30 Reformation Day (observed)**

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Fall Harvest Potluck** 11:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall

## TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ADULT BIBLE CLASS** – All adults (and youth in middle or high school) are welcome to join Pastor Vergin in the basement Fellowship Hall after worship today (10:45 a.m.) for Bible Study. Pastor will continue teaching on the book of Genesis as 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!

NEXT SUNDAY WE'LL OBSERVE REFORMATION DAY- Next **Sunday, October 30**, St. Mark's will observe the Festival of Reformation Day. On this day, we remember how God restored the Gospel to His Church in the 16th century through the work of Martin Luther and the other Reformers, and how God has preserved this Gospel for us unto the present day. It is a day of celebration, as we rejoice to hear that we are saved by Grace Alone, through Faith Alone, as taught in Scripture Alone. Our Divine Service this day will be held at the normal time, 9:30 a.m., and will include many of your favorite Reformation hymns. You are invited to wear red in honor of the day. **Also, following the service, we will be holding our annual Fall Harvest Potluck.** If you plan to attend the Potluck, and can bring a dish, it would be greatly appreciated. The sign-up sheet is now located on an easel in the entryway.

### **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN CHRIST PROGRAM**

St. Mark's Board of Family & Youth continues to work on the new *Wednesday Nights in Christ* (WNIC) program. To kick it off, we'll have a fun, Celebration Launch on Wednesday, **October 26** starting at 5:15 p.m. Here, all youth and their families are welcome to partake of a simple dinner from 5:15 – 5:45 p.m. Then, Pastor will spend about 15 minutes giving attendees a warm welcome and briefly discussing the *Wednesday Nights in Christ* program and how parents can register their children, if they haven't already. From 6-7 p.m., we'll host our Trunk-or-Treat event (no registration necessary for this) in St. Mark's parking lot where the kids can trunk-or-treat, going from vehicle to vehicle. **We need more decorated vehicles for the Trunk-or-Treat!** If you'd like to participate, a sign-up sheet is now located on an easel in the lobby.

The following Wednesday, **November 2**, will mark the official start of the WNIC program. It will always begin with a simple dinner at 5:15 p.m., followed by a Bible lesson at 5:45 p.m., and concluding with a craft, game, or "Life Skills" speaker/teacher at 6:15 p.m. The program will end each Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. While the kids are doing their thing, **Pastor Vergin will also lead an Adult Bible Class for any adults that wish to attend** from 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. Your kids don't have to be part of the WNIC program in order for you to attend Pastor's Bible Class! All older youth and adults are welcome to attend his class!

The Life Skills portion of the program will help kids learn how to do things like sew, cook, perform first aid, provide proper care for cats and dogs, garden, etc. Speakers on these topics are already being lined up for the months of November 2022 through May 2023--one Wednesday each month.

A sign-up sheet showing specific areas where help is needed is now posted on the table at the back of the sanctuary. The Bible lessons will all be pre-written, and teachers will have the use of large, felt "scene" boards, along with 12" felt figures and a teacher's lesson book in order to bring each simple Bible lesson to life for the kids.

We also encourage youth in grades 6 and higher to get involved as teacher helpers/assistants. Again, please see the sign-up sheets to discover where you can help.

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 43 (October 23 – October 29) are:**

Sun	23-Oct	Luke 5-6
Mon	24-Oct	Luke 7-8
Tue	25-Oct	Luke 9-10
Wed	26-Oct	Luke 11-12
Thu	27-Oct	Luke 13-15
Fri	28-Oct	Luke 16-18
Sat	29-Oct	Luke 19-20

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY ON NOVEMBER 5 – Attention Men of St. Mark's! Our next Men's Bible Study will be held on **Saturday, November 5**. We will gather from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. in St. Mark's fellowship hall. Breakfast will be provided, and we will continue our study of the book of Revelation. We hope to see you there! This is a great opportunity to be formed together as men of God in the image of Christ!

CIRCUIT ELDERS' CONFERENCE HERE ON NOVEMBER 5 – In order to continue to deepen the relationships between our sister circuit congregations, St. Mark's will be hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Elders' Circuit Conference here on **Saturday, November 5** from 2 – 6 p.m. During the Conference, attendees will pray together, learn together, and get to know one another better while discovering ways they might work together in sharing the Good News of Jesus. May God bless this work in Christ!

ALL SAINTS' DAY ON NOVEMBER 6 – We hope you will make plans now to join us for worship on **Sunday, November 6**, as we celebrate All Saints' Day. During the service, we will toll a bell once for each of our members who went to be with Jesus within the previous 12 months. Please join us as we celebrate all of the saints who have gone before us to be with their Lord!

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.

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:

- Congregational Treasurer
- Congregational Financial Secretary
- 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!

THOUGHTS ON PROPOSAL 3 - During this year's midterm elections, a proposal will be appearing on the ballot called Proposal 3. This proposal was written by supporters of abortion as a result of the overturning of Roe vs. Wade, and it seeks to amend the state constitution to include a right to abortion. Please be aware that this proposal would radically limit our state's ability to regulate and restrict abortion. Specifically, according to the text of the proposal, the state legislature would no longer be able to prohibit abortion if deemed necessary at any stage in the pregnancy, even for the mental health of the mother. It also would invalidate many other laws already on the books regarding abortion. In effect, this would mean abortion on demand in Michigan up until the point of birth. The Bible teaches that every human life is precious to God and deserving of our protection, from conception until natural death. This is especially true for the smallest and most vulnerable among us, such as babies in the womb. While we Christians devote ourselves to caring compassionately for women facing unexpected pregnancies, let us also step up in defense of the unborn and vote on this proposal in accordance with God's Word. "For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb" (Psalm 139:13).

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!

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!

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

Cathy & Gail Fitzgerald

Elder on Duty

Tom LoCascio

Greeter(s)

Jennie & Karen Kaufman

Offering Counters

Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

John Reardon

Video Technician

Karen Kaufman