

# ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

25 September A✠D 2022  
*Divine Service, Setting IV*

## ✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we rejoice in God's promise to care perfectly for all our needs. As we know, our tendency as sinful human beings is to worry. We worry about our health. We worry about our finances. We worry about our family. But our Lord Jesus makes a promise to us, by virtue of His cross: If we seek first His Kingdom, He will care for us perfectly and we never need to worry.

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: 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



*Refrain*  
Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Tune: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

# Service of the Word

## Introit (*spoken responsively*)

*Psalm 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: vv. 1a, 2b, 3*

- P** Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,  
save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.
- C** **Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
for to you do I cry all the day.**
- P** Gladden the soul of your servant,  
for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
- C** **Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;  
listen to my plea for grace.**
- P** But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious;  
turn to me and be gracious to me;
- C** **give your strength to your servant,  
and save the son of your maidservant.**

**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** Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,  
save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.
- C** **Be gracious to me, O Lord,  
for to you do I cry all the day.**

## 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 - shipped 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 Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; 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

*1 Kings 17:8–16*

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to [Elijah], <sup>9</sup>“Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup>So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup>And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and

said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.”<sup>12</sup> And she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.”<sup>13</sup> And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son.”<sup>14</sup> For thus says the LORD the God of Israel, “The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.”<sup>15</sup> And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days.<sup>16</sup> The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

*Psalm 118:8–9*

**P** It is better to take refuge in the LORD  
than to trust in man.

**C** It is better to take refuge in the LORD  
than to trust in princes.

### Epistle

*Galatians 5:25—6:10*

<sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. <sup>26</sup>Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

<sup>1</sup>Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

<sup>2</sup>Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup>For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup>But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. <sup>5</sup>For each will have to bear his own load.

<sup>6</sup>One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches. <sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. <sup>8</sup>For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup>And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**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 6:24–34*

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

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

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus said:] “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

<sup>25</sup>“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? <sup>27</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? <sup>31</sup>Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup>For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup>But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

<sup>34</sup>“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

**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: 760 What God Ordains Is Always Good



1 What God or - dains is al - ways good: His will is  
 2 What God or - dains is al - ways good: He nev - er  
 3 What God or - dains is al - ways good: His lov - ing  
 4 What God or - dains is al - ways good: He is my



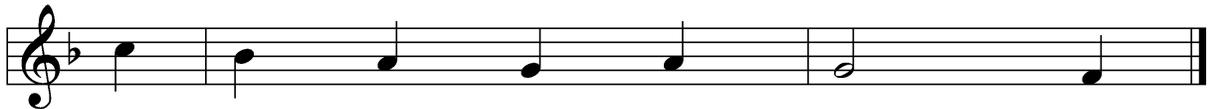
just and ho - ly. As He di - rects my life for me,  
 will de - ceive me; He leads me in His righ - teous way,  
 thought at - tends me; No poi - son can be in the cup  
 friend and Fa - ther; He suf - fers naught to do me harm



I fol - low meek and low - ly. My God in - deed  
 And nev - er will He leave me. I take con - tent  
 That my phy - si - cian sends me. My God is true;  
 Though man - y storms may gath - er. Now I may know



In ev - 'ry need Knows well how He will shield me;  
 What He has sent; His hand that sends me sad - ness  
 Each morn - ing new I trust His grace un - end - ing,  
 Both joy and woe; Some - day I shall see clear - ly



To Him, then, I will yield - me.  
 Will turn my tears to glad - ness.  
 My life to Him com - mend - ing.  
 That He has loved me dear - ly.

5 What God ordains is always good:  
 Though I the cup am drinking  
 Which savors now of bitterness,  
 I take it without shrinking.  
 For after grief  
 God gives relief,  
 My heart with comfort filling  
 And all my sorrow stilling.

6 What God ordains is always good:  
 This truth remains unshaken.  
 Though sorrow, need, or death be  
 mine,  
 I shall not be forsaken.  
 I fear no harm,  
 For with His arm  
 He shall embrace and shield me;  
 So to my God I yield me.

Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Severus Gastorius, 1646–82, alt.

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** For faith to seek first the kingdom of God in Christ and His righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For all pastors and missionaries, especially Joe Boway, that by the Holy Spirit the Gospel of God's kingdom would be heard and believed throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For the families of all Christians, that the heavenly Father would bless them with His promises; for parents, that they would be diligent and take delight in their work; for children, that by God's favor they would grow in strength and wisdom; and for all widows, orphans and broken families, that God would comfort them with His mercy and give them joy in the redemption of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For our nation, that it would walk in the Lord's ways; for our leaders, that they would have the fortitude to govern in His wisdom with humility; and for our citizens, that they would be brought to love God and one another, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For the sick and suffering, and for those who long to be with us but cannot, [*especially \_\_\_\_\_,*] that they would know God's comfort and consolation, and that God would heal and restore them according to His good pleasure, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For all who receive the body and blood of Christ this day, that they may have the peace that surpasses understanding, the gladness that no man can take from them, and the hope that does not fade away, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** For help in every anxiety and worry, that our loving Father, who clothed creation in glorious dress and all the more provides for our every need of body and soul, would lead us to look to Him for every good thing, let us pray to the Lord:

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

**P** Almighty God, You have forgiven our sins and delivered us from death through our Lord, Jesus Christ. Continue to pour out Your mercy upon us, grant to us all good things needful to this body and life, and keep from us all things harmful. From You, through You and to You are all things, O Lord, holy Father, mighty God; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit is one Lord and one God, both now and forevermore.

**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 of this service folder regarding our Holy Communion policy.*

## Distribution Hymn: 729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;  
2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,  
3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;  
4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.  
For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.  
Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.  
Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

5 I am trusting Thee for power;  
Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me  
Must prevail.

6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;  
Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever  
And for all.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-79

Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77

Text and tune: Public domain

# Distribution Hymn: 710 The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me  
2 My soul He doth re - store a - gain And me to  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I  
4 My ta - ble Thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence  
5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly



down to lie In pas - tures green; He  
walk doth make With - in the paths of  
fear no ill; For Thou art with me,  
of my foes; My head Thou dost with  
fol - low me; And in God's house for -



lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.  
righ - teous - ness, E'en for His own name's sake.  
and Thy rod And staff me com - fort still.  
oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.  
ev - er - more My dwell - ing place shall be.

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, 1650, Edinburgh

Tune: William Gardiner, 1770-1853

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand  
Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

**C** 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: 738 Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:  
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:  
Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–53

Tune: Irish

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Tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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## THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sun. 9/25 The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- **Circuit Forum for Pastors** 3:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

**Mon. 9/26 Pastor's Day Off**

**Tue. 9/27 Council Meeting** 7:00 p.m.

**Thu. 9/29 St. Michael & All Angels' Day**  
**Quilting Bee** 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall  
**Pastor out of the office in the p.m.**

**Sat. 10/1 Men's Bible Study** 9:00 – 10:30. a.m., Fellowship Hall

**Sun. 10/2 The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Fall Clean-Up** 11:00 a.m. to approx. 1:00 p.m.

## 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!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – The next Men's Bible Study will take place this **Saturday, October 1** from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast will be provided, and Pastor and attendees will continue to study the book of Revelation. Please join them!

FALL CLEAN-UP OF THE CHURCH IS NEXT SUNDAY – It's that time again! St. Mark's needs to be gotten ready for the colder temperatures and so we are seeking volunteers to stay after church next **Sunday, October 2**, to help with our Fall Clean-Up event. The sanctuary window screens will need to be replaced with storm windows, and other Fall chores need to be done too. Lunch will be served to participants around noon or so. Please help if you can!

THE COST TO SHIP THE QUILTS HAS BEEN COVERED – Last Sunday, we had a free-will door offering with proceeds going to cover the cost to ship 35 quilts that our ladies made to Lutheran World Relief. We were surprised, but very pleased to report, that we received enough donations last Sunday to cover the entire shipping costs! Wow! Thanks so much to those of you who gave toward this need. It is truly appreciated. Pastor Vergin will be blessing the quilts during the Divine Service on **Sunday, October 9**, before they are shipped overseas. 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). 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!

JOE BOWAY WILL BE VISITING HERE ON OCTOBER 16! Our good friend, and missionary to Liberia, Joe Boway, will be coming by for a visit with us on **Sunday, October 16**, in order to give us some updates on Ziah Town Lutheran School. He and his family will be worshipping with us during the Divine Service, then all are invited to join him afterward in the Fellowship Hall for the update. We are so excited to have him here with us again! Please attend if you can!

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 39 (September 25 – October 1) are:**

Sun	25-Sep	Habakkuk 1-3
Mon	26-Sep	Zephaniah 1-3
Tue	27-Sep	Haggai 1-2
Wed	28-Sep	Zechariah 1-5
Thu	29-Sep	Zechariah 6-10
Fri	30-Sep	Zechariah 11-14
Sat	1-Oct	Malachi 1-4

REFORMATION DAY IS COMING UP - On **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. We would love to see you there!

**NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHTS IN CHRIST PROGRAM** – St. Mark’s Board of Family & Youth, conferring with Pastor Vergin, has been meeting lately to discuss the lack of children attending our Sunday School program, and brainstorming for ways we can get more children to attend Bible-based classes and events here at St. Mark’s. In making phone calls to church member parents who have elementary-aged school children, it was suggested that we go back to having a Wednesday evening youth Christian education class, as that might be easier for kids to attend than a class after church on Sundays. The board discussed this further and has decided to work toward implementing a Wednesday evening *Nights in Christ* program. The program would start at 5:15 p.m. with the serving of a very simple meal for attendees and any parents that stick around (30 minutes), then move into a Bible lesson for the kids (Pastor would teach any adults that decide to stick around) for 30 minutes, and then finish up with some games, crafts, or a once-a-month special guest speaker (for the last 30 minutes) who can help teach the kids about things like sewing, gardening, cooking, animal caretaking, how to deal with peer pressure and bullying at school, etc. The evening would end by 6:45 p.m. The board has also decided that our Trunk-or-Treat and Easter Egg Hunt & Fun programs will be wrapped into the *Wednesday Nights in Christ* program too. It is hoped that the first Wednesday class will start on **October 26 at 5:15 p.m.**, and our Trunk-or-Treat event will take place that night, as well. We won’t offer games in the fellowship hall for Trunk-or-Treat as in years past, but we will still have the decorated trunks in our parking lot where the kids can trunk-or-treat. In order to get this program off the ground, we will be needing volunteers to help, so watch for a sign-up sheet to appear in October. Pastor has also discovered that there might be grant money available through Thrivent, and also from our Michigan District, to help cover the costs of this program. Our Board of Family & Youth will be investigating these possibilities too. Stay tuned for more news coming up!

**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!

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN, PONTIAC IS OFFERING VACCINATIONS – Our sister congregation, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pontiac, will be offering a variety of vaccinations at their congregation, administered by CVS, on **Wednesday, October 5** between 1:00 & 6:00 p.m. Participants can pre-order the following vaccinations by calling (248) 906-5204: Influenza, Pneumonia, Moderna Covid, Chicken Pox, MMR, TDAP/Whooping Cough, Hepatitis A, B and B’, Human Papilloma Virus. When registering, leave your phone number, age, and the vaccinations you’d like. Please bring your medical insurance card and vaccination card (if you have one). A free, meatloaf dinner will be served starting at 6:00 p.m. for those who would like to have dinner there too.

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!



## SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Karen Kaufman

Elder on Duty

John Sidelinker

Greeter(s)

Mary Ann Lockwood

Offering Counters

Mary Ann Lockwood & Jean Swainson

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

John Reardon

Video Technician

Debbie Sidelinker