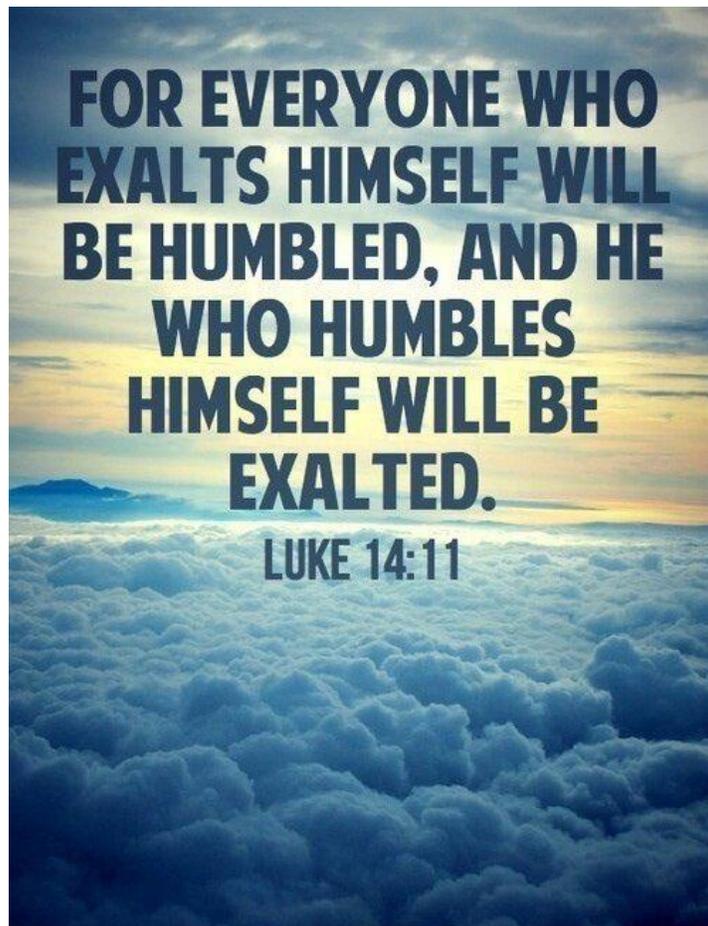


ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

9 October A✠D 2022
Divine Service, Setting IV

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we consider how we should live together as the Church, especially as we come together at the Feast of the Lord. Because of our sin, we are tempted to exalt ourselves over others. However, today we remember the humility of Christ, who took on the form of a servant for us. Following Him, we too should humble ourselves before others, trusting that God will exalt us.

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: 850 God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, On Your peo - ple
2 Lo, the hosts of e - vil round us Scorn the Christ, as -
3 Cure Your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; Bend our pride to
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion To the e - vils



pour Your pow'r; Crown Your an - cient Church's sto - ry;
sail His ways! From the fears that long have bound us
Your con - trol; Shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
we de - plore; Let the gift of Your sal - va - tion



Bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom,
Free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom,
Rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
Be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,



grant us cour - age For the fac - ing of this
grant us cour - age For the liv - ing of these
grant us cour - age Lest we miss Your king - dom's
grant us cour - age, Serv - ing You whom we a -



hour, For the fac - ing of this hour.
days, For the liv - ing of these days.
goal, Lest we miss Your king - dom's goal.
dore, Serv - ing You whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878-1969

Tune: John Hughes, 1873-1932

Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 119:1–2, 5–6; antiphon: vv. 137, 124

- P** Righteous are you, O LORD,
and right are your just decrees.
- C** Deal with your servant according to your steadfast love,
and teach me your statutes.
- P** Blessèd are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!
- C** Blessèd are those who keep his testimonies,
who seek him with their whole heart.
- P** Oh that my ways may be steadfast
in keeping your statutes!
- C** Then I shall not be put to shame,
having my eyes fixed on all your commandments.

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** Righteous are you, O LORD,
and right are your just decrees.
- C** Deal with your servant according to your steadfast love,
and teach me your statutes.

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.

Lord, we implore You, grant Your people grace to withstand the temptations of the devil and with pure hearts and minds to follow You, the only God; 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

Proverbs 25:6–14

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,
⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen
 ⁸do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
 when your neighbor puts you to shame?
⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
 and do not reveal another's secret,
¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
 and your ill repute have no end.
¹¹A word fitly spoken
 is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.
¹²Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold
 is a wise reprover to a listening ear.
¹³Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest
 is a faithful messenger to those who send him;
 he refreshes the soul of his masters.
¹⁴Like clouds and wind without rain
 is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 33:12, 6

P Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
 the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

C **By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
 and by the breath of his mouth all their host.**

Epistle

Ephesians 4:1–6

¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

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

Luke 14:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?” ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, “Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?” ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

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: 857 Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way



1 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -
2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, But
3 No gold - en scep - ter but a towel You
4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride Nor
5 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -



ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
pow'r You laid a - side. You lived Your years in
place with - in the hands Of those who seek to
count our - selves a - bove The low - est place, the
ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -



get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.
ser - vant - hood; In low - li - ness You died.
fol - low You And live by Your com - mands.
mean - est task That waits the gift of love.
get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London

Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, through the humiliation of Your Son, You have called us to Your heavenly table. Teach us to treasure this place of honor, and so to spurn the foolish honors of this world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P O Lord, bless this congregation, its mission and all its people. Grant us the ability to accomplish the work You have given us to do. Most especially, grant us the unity of Your Holy Spirit in the bond of peace. And bless likewise the saints of Ziah Town Lutheran Church in Liberia. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Holy Lord, You have given Your gift of holy marriage, and You preserve this estate against the forces of sin and Satan. Bless all married couples. Keep them faithful to each other in their vows and ready to welcome Your gift of children in their union, according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Almighty God, You have ordered the nations and brought up their rulers for the punishment of wickedness and the praise of goodness. Pour out a spirit of wisdom, that all those mired in disputes among us would pursue justice, godliness and the common good. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Lord, be with those who are ill and afflicted, [*especially _____,*] and with all who grieve the loss of loved ones [*especially _____*]. Be with the dying; grant them peace at the last and hope to anticipate with joy the blessed reunion of those who have gone before at the marriage supper of the Lamb in His kingdom without end. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gracious Father, we thank you for the service of all the faithful women of Your Church. Especially today do we thank you for the service of the women of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Bless their work this year, fill them with Your Spirit, and carry them forward in love. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Merciful God, bless all who will receive the Lord's Supper today to eat and drink in repentance and faith. Strengthen all believers through the forgiveness of sins promised in the Holy Scriptures, until at last we are welcomed together at Your eternal marriage feast. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Remember us, Your people, O Lord, as we await the glory of Christ's appearing. Enable us by Your grace to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, living self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Blessing of the Quilts

P O Lord God, dear Father in heaven, we thank you that you have blessed the saints of Your Church with the skills needed to make these quilts. Now, as they are sent off to nations around the world, we pray that You would work through them to bring glory to Your name, to reveal Your saving love in Christ, and to bless those in need.

Continue to bear fruit through us, that by the power of Your Holy Spirit the light of Christ might shine brightly in every place; through the same 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.

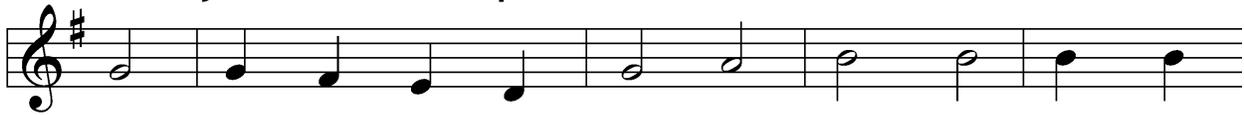
Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

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

Distribution Hymn: 791 All People That on Earth Do Dwell



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, Sing to the
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; With - out our
3 O en - ter then His gates with praise; Ap - proach with
4 For why? The Lord our God is good: His mer - cy
△ 5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, The God whom



Lord with cheer - ful voice. Him serve with mirth, His
aid He did us make. We are His folk, He
joy His courts un - to. Praise, laud, and bless His
is for - ev - er sure. His truth at all times
heav'n and earth a - dore, From us and from the



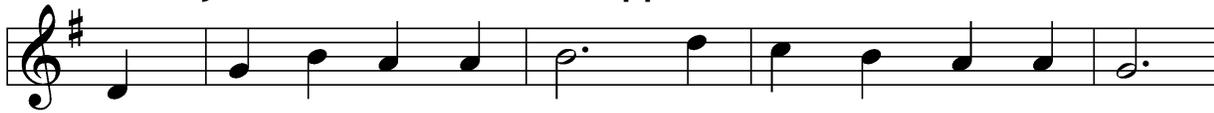
praise forth - tell; Come ye be - fore Him and re - jice.
doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.
name al - ways, For it is seem - ly so to do.
firm - ly stood And shall from age to age en - dure.
an - gel host Be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1593, alt.

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 628 Your Table I Approach



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633–1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
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: Take My Life and Let It Be



- 1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



- Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sun. 10/9** **The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**
LWML Sunday
Blessing of the Quilts
• **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
• **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m.
- Mon. 10/10** **Pastor attending the All-Pastor's Conference**
- Tue. 10/11** **Pastor attending the All-Pastor's Conference**
- Wed. 10/12** **Pastor attending the All-Pastor's Conference**
- Thu. 10/13** **Quilting Bee** 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Pastor out of the office in the p.m.
- Fri. 10/14** **Pastor out of the office**
- Sun. 10/16** **The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**
JOE BOWAY'S VISIT
• **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
• **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m.

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADULT BIBLE CLASS – All are welcome to join Pastor Vergin **after church today** in the basement Fellowship Hall (at 10:45 a.m.) as he leads the Adult Bible Study class. During the month of October, he will continue the study on 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. Please, come! This is a great opportunity to fill your week with God's Word and to grow in knowledge and faith!

JOE BOWAY WILL BE VISITING HERE NEXT SUNDAY! Our good friend, and missionary to Liberia, Joe Boway, will be coming by for a visit with us next **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!

WE ARE ACCEPTING NOMATIONS 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!

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 41 (October 9 – October 15) are:

Sun	9-Oct	Matthew 21-22
Mon	10-Oct	Matthew 23-24
Tue	11-Oct	Matthew 25-26
Wed	12-Oct	Matthew 27-28
Thu	13-Oct	Mark 1-3
Fri	14-Oct	Mark 4-5
Sat	15-Oct	Mark 6-7

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!

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 encouraging parents to register any children who aren't already registered. 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.

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 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.

In order to get this program off the ground, we will need several volunteers. A sign-up sheet showing specific areas where help is needed is now posted in the lobby. 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.

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).

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.**

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

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

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

Gail Fitzgerald

Elder on Duty

Tom LoCascio

Greeter(s)

Sue Ingram & Judy Schassberger

Offering Counters

Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

Trent Johnson

Video Technician

TBD