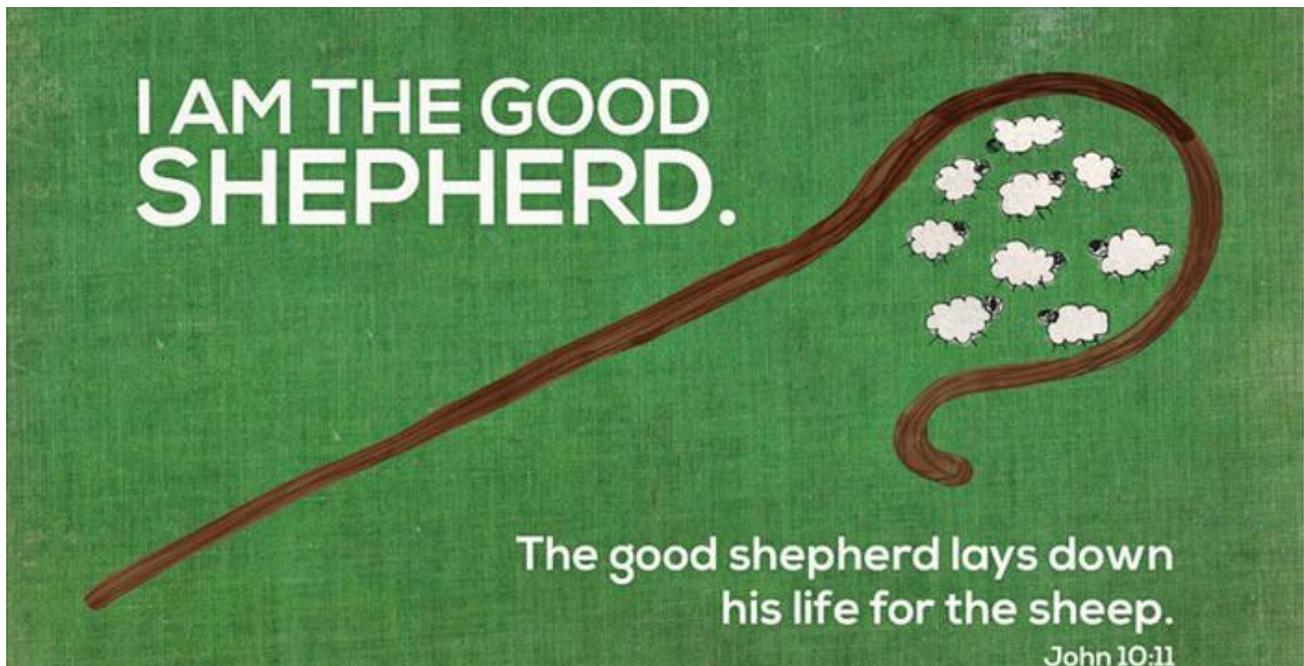


ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
7979 Commerce Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48324
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The Third Sunday of Easter (Misericordias Domini)

1 May A✠D 2022

Divine Service, Setting I

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Third Sunday of Easter. On this day, as we continue our Easter celebration, we consider how Jesus, risen from the dead, stands by our side as our Good Shepherd. Indeed, on the cross He laid down his life to save us from the enemy. And now, having taken life back up again, He lives to defend us, to care for us, and to provide for all our needs. As Christians, we can be sure: We are not alone; our Good Shepherd is with 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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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: 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

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 33:1, 18–20; antiphon: vv. 5b, 6a

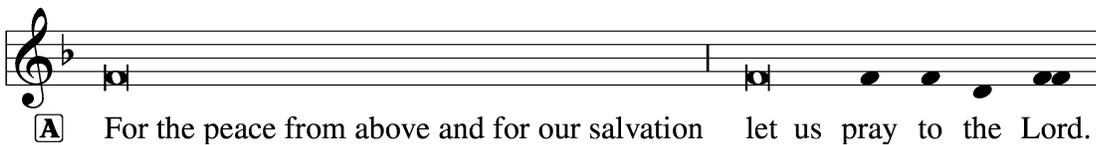
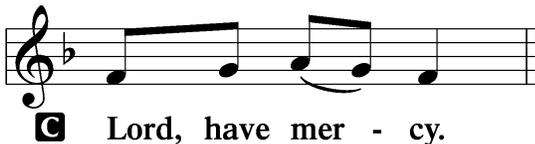
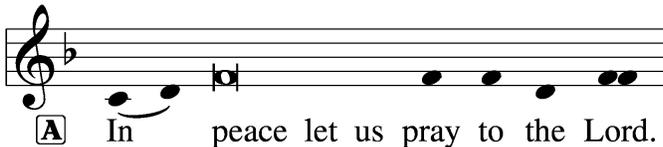
- P** The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alleluia.
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alleluia.
- P** Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!
Praise befits the upright.
- C** **Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,**
- P** that he may deliver their soul from death
and keep them alive in famine.
- C** **Our soul waits for the LORD;
he is our help and our shield.**

**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** The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD. Alleluia.
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made. Alleluia.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47





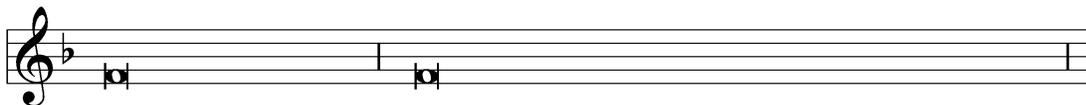
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



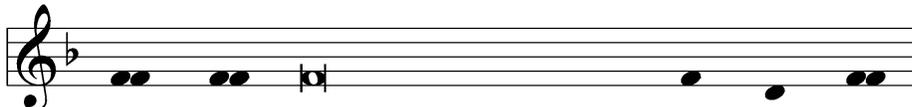
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9

Refrain



☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

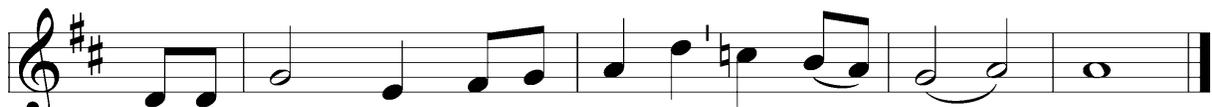


blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11–16

¹¹“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse (spoken responsively)

Luke 24:35b; John 10:14

During the Sundays of Easter, the Gradual is omitted and the Verse is expanded.

- P** Alleluia. [The Lord] was known to them in the breaking of the bread. Alleluia.
- C** **I am the good shepherd.**
I know my own and my own know me. Alleluia.

Epistle

1 Peter 2:21–25

²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. ²²He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. ²³When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia

John 6:68

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 10:11–16

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹¹[Jesus said:] “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have

other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, Whose good - ness
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, My ran - somed
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, But yet in
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With Thee, dear



fail - eth nev - er; I noth - ing lack if
soul He lead - eth And, where the ver - dant
love He sought me And on His shoul - der
Lord, be - side me, Thy rod and staff my



I am His And He is mine for - ev - er.
pas - tures grow, With food ce - les - tial feed - eth.
gent - ly laid And home re - joic - ing brought me.
com - fort still, Thy cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight;
Thine unction grace bestoweth;
And, oh, what transport of delight
From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- 6 And so through all the length of days
Thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
Within Thy house forever!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77

Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

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.

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
C Lord, have mercy.

- P** That the Shepherd of Israel, who has sought out His sheep and has gathered us with them into one flock, would keep us always in His fold and guard us from every wolf and every snare, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all pastors, that God would bestow Christ's own wisdom and tenderness upon them, that they might shepherd well the souls of His people; and for all believers, that they might receive their pastors as a gift from the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For our homes, that Christ would fill them with peace and enliven them with His resurrected life; that He would cause the forgiveness of sins to reign among husband and wives, parents and children; and that He would assure all the lonely that they, too, are His children, upheld by His right hand, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the gift of good government, that as the Paschal Lamb has made peace between man and God, so He would grant peace and good days also to our citizens and to the nations of the world; and also that God would bring an end to war and violence, especially in Ukraine, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the sick and dying, [*especially _____,*] that God would grant healing, relief, peace, comfort and grace sufficient for all our needs, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who come to the Lord's Supper this day, that our Good Shepherd would calm all fears in this valley of the shadow of death through the holy table here prepared in the presence of our enemies; that He would give us repentance and an increase of faith; and that in every tribulation or besetting sin, He would lead us to find comfort and strength in the overflowing mercy given to us in this Sacrament, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Lord God, out of Your fatherly goodness You have remembered us poor, miserable sinners and given Your beloved Son to be our Shepherd — not only to nourish us by His Word, but also to defend us from sin, death and the devil. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, that even as this Shepherd knows us and helps in every affliction, we also may know Him, trust Him, seek help and comfort in Him, heartily obey His voice, and obtain eternal salvation; 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.**

Offering

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

Stand Offertory

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19



C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

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



P The Lord be with you.



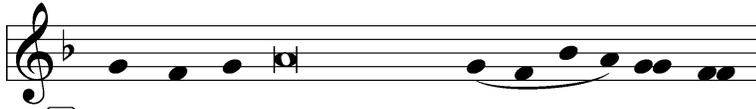
C And al - so with you.



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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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 pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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."

Distribution Hymn: 711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us



1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
 2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and
 4 Ear - ly let us seek Your fa - vor, Ear - ly



need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -
 let us do Your will; Bless - ed Lord and on - ly



feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
 fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.
 Sav - ior, With Your love our spir - its fill.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have



bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 loved us, love us still. Bless - ed Je - sus,



bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.
 bless - ed Je - sus, You have loved us, love us still.

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.

Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816-68

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 740 I Am Jesus' Little Lamb



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry
In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

Text: Henrietta L. von Hayn, 1724–82; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

Tune: Choral-Buch . . . Brüder-Gemeinen, 1784, Leipzig

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank the Lord

[Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8–10]



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy

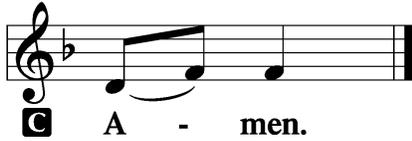


with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

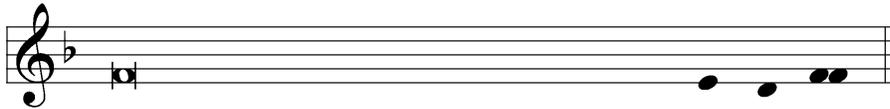
P Let us pray.

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.



Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



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.



Closing Hymn: 666 O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe



1 O lit - tle flock, fear not the foe Who mad - ly
2 Be of good cheer; your cause be - longs To Him who
3 As true as God's own Word is true, Not earth nor
4 A - men, Lord Je - sus, grant our prayer; Great Cap - tain,



seeks your o - ver - throw; Dread not his rage and pow'r.
can a - venge your wrongs; Leave it to Him, our Lord.
hell's sa - tan - ic crew A - gainst us shall pre - vail.
now Thine arm make bare, Fight for us once a - gain!



And though your cour - age some-times faints, His seem - ing
Though hid - den yet from mor - tal eyes, His Gid - eon
Their might? A joke, a mere fa - cade! God is with
So shall Thy saints and mar - tyrs raise A might - y



tri - umph o'er God's saints Lasts but a lit - tle hour.
shall for you a - rise, Up - hold you and His Word.
us and we with God— Our vic - t'ry can - not fail.
cho - rus to Thy praise For - ev - er - more. A - men.

Text: Jacob Fabricius, 1593–1654; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: German, 1534, Nürnberg

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sun. 5/1 The Third Sunday of Easter**
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Sunday School** 10:45 a.m., Upstairs Youth Room
 - **Church Spring Clean-Up** 11:00 a.m.
- Mon. 5/2 Pastor's Day Off**
- Tue. 5/3 Pastor attending Pastor's Conference**
- Wed. 5/4 Handbell Practice** 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.
- Thu. 5/5 Pastor Out of the Office in the afternoon**
Quilting Bee 10:00 a.m.
- Fri. 5/6 Office Manager, Debbie, Off Today**
- Sun. 5/8 The Fourth Sunday of Easter**
MOTHER'S DAY
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Sunday School** 10:45 a.m., Upstairs Youth Room
 - **Adult Bible Study** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY – Preschool through Elementary-age school kids are welcome to join Mrs. Kaufman in the upstairs youth room (behind the choir loft) right after the Divine Service for Sunday School **today from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m.** Kids will hear a different Bible story each week; what a great way for them to learn about Jesus! And kids are certainly welcome to bring friends and/or family with them also!

ST. MARK'S SPRING CLEAN-UP IS **TODAY** – Following this morning's Divine Service, we ask those who can to stick around and help out with St. Mark's Spring Clean-Up event. A list of chores we hope to accomplish is located on the table in the lobby. Many hands make for light work, so we hope you'll be able to participate!

BOTTLE/CAN DRIVE TODAY – St. Mark's Board of Human Care is sponsoring another Can/Bottle Drive here at church **today**. Proceeds will go toward buying additional catechisms for the children at Ziah Town Lutheran School in Liberia, Africa. See Karen Kaufman to donate your returnables or with any questions you might have.

BRING YOUR MOM TO CHURCH ON MAY 8 – We will celebrate Mothers' Day at St. Mark's in a special way. All moms that attend that church day will receive a carnation in honor of their role as a mother. You may also choose to make a donation to St. Mark's Altar Flower Fund in honor, or in memory, of your mom, and these names will be included in the Mothers' Day bulletin. See today's pink insert for more information or to donate.

NEXT YOUNG ADULT EVENT – All young adults are welcome to attend the next Young Adult Event on **Friday, May 13** from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. This will be another Game Night and should be a lot of fun for both adults and any kids that attend. Hope to see you there! Any questions can be directed to St. Marks' Vice President, Trent Johnson.

LWML ZONE MEETING – Calling all ladies of St. Mark's! The Lutheran Women's Missionary League will be holding their Spring Rally here at St. Mark's on **Saturday, May 14** from 9:00 a.m. – Noon, and you are invited to attend! Come, learn about their mission work, hear a special speaker, and enjoy lunch with other ladies. No reservation is needed; just show up!

HELP SERVE DINNER AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN, PONTIAC – St. Mark's will be packing dinners to serve to the members and friends of St. Paul, Pontiac, on **Wednesday, May 18**. If you'd like to help assemble the meals, please join us at 3:00 p.m. If you'd like to help serve the pre-packaged meals, meet at St. Paul, Pontiac, at 6:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet has been posted in the lobby for those who'd like to donate food items for the dinners.

“EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS” WORKSHOP ON MAY 21 - God calls each of us to witness to Christ in our daily lives, so others also might share in His salvation. But how do we do this in a loving, respectful, and Biblically-faithful way, especially in a world that has fallen so far away from the Truth of God? On **Saturday, May 21**, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Pastor Vergin will be leading a workshop titled “Every One His Witness” in which we will learn exactly that. Please consider attending! The workshop will be held in St. Mark's Fellowship Hall and will last all day (lunch will be provided). Cost to attend is \$15 (no cost for those who have previously attended). A sign-up sheet can be found on the back table in the sanctuary. Space is limited so sign up now!

ALL-CIRCUIT ASCENSION DIVINE SERVICE TO BE HELD ON MAY 26 – St. Mark's will be hosting a **circuit-wide** Ascension Thursday Divine Service here on **Thursday, May 26** at 7:00 p.m. Prior to the service, there will be a potluck dinner from 5:30 – 6:30. We are the only LCMS congregation out of the six churches in our circuit to regularly hold Ascension Thursday services, so we thought it would be nice to invite our nearby sister LCMS congregations to worship with us. Please mark this special service on your calendars and plan to attend!

SEEKING HANDBELL RINGERS FOR ASCENSION THURSDAY –We are looking to put together a circuit-wide handbell choir to play for our Ascension Thursday Divine Service on May 26 at 7:00 p.m. The beautiful handbell piece titled “This Is My Father's World” requires at least 8 ringers total from within the 6 churches in our circuit. If you'd like to help ring handbells on May 26, please let Lexi Powell know **ASAP** by emailing her at: Lexi.Michel@gmail.com. **Practices will be on Wednesday evenings, May 4, 18 & 25, from 6-7 p.m.**

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY DATE CHANGE – Calling all men! You are invited and encouraged to attend our Men's Bible Study on **Saturday, May 28** (*please note the date change*) from 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Bring your Bibles with you. And bring a friend or two also! A free breakfast will be available during the event for those who wish to partake of it. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather as men in Christ to enjoy the scriptures and fellowship!

ALREADY PREPARING FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL! Even though St. Mark's Vacation Bible School won't take place until **July 18 – 22**, preparations have already begun! This is such a wonderful Christian outreach program to kids in our community. Last year, we had 62 kids attend VBS! From mid-May until July 10, we will also be receiving free-will door offerings to help offset the expenses of VBS. Watch for more news as our Board of Family & Youth continues planning and VBS week gets closer!

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 2022! The Board of Elders is leading a reading program in which we will be going through the entire Bible in the year 2022. We hope you will participate! Yearly reading plans are available on the back table in the sanctuary.

The readings for Week 18 (May 1-May 7) are:

Sun	1-May	1 Chronicles 7-9
Mon	2-May	1 Chronicles 10-12
Tue	3-May	1 Chronicles 13-16
Wed	4-May	1 Chronicles 17-19
Thu	5-May	1 Chronicles 20-23
Fri	6-May	1 Chronicles 24-26
Sat	7-May	1 Chronicles 27-29

ST. STEPHEN LUTHERAN IN WATERFORD TO HOST SPECIAL SPEAKER – St. Stephen Lutheran Church located at 3795 Sashabaw Road in Waterford will be hosting the Rev. Bryan Wolfmueller on **Saturday, May 7** from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (doors open at 8:30 a.m.). Rev. Wolfmueller has written a book titled "Has American Christianity Failed?" and has also written for *Portals of Prayer*, *Lutheran Witness*, *Concordia Pulpit Resources* and more! He is the senior pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Austin, TX. The event is free, but seats are limited, so registration is required by **Tuesday, May 3**. If registering, please indicate your intention for ordering lunch (from 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.) and your sandwich choice (ham & cheese, roast beef, or turkey) at a cost of \$11. Payment for lunch may be made the day of the event. Time for questions will be limited and so St. Stephen's encourages participants to read Rev. Wolfmeuller's book ahead of time. Books are available at St. Stephen for \$15 (call ahead to reserve your copy), or can be ordered online at Christianbooks.com (\$12.99 + shipping). Copies will also be for sale on the day of the event. For questions or to register, contact St. Stephen at: (248) 673-6621 (ext. 100), or Email them at: office@ststephenwaterford.org.

SEEKING ADDITIONAL GREETERS FOR SUNDAY MORNINGS – We are currently seeking some additional greeters for Sunday mornings to help welcome those who attend our Divine Service prior to their entering the sanctuary. Being a greeter is easy! You just arrive at church 15-20 early, stand outside the sanctuary doors, and welcome each person with a hand shake and/or or a smile while wishing them a “Good morning!” Greeters only greet once every 6 to 8 Sundays, so it isn’t a huge time commitment. **If interested, please let Debbie LoCascio know.**

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. Jennie Kaufman is the current Treasurer of St. Mark’s LWML board. If you have any questions about the LWML, or the duties of the LWML president, feel free to talk to Jennie for more information. We’d love to find our new LWML president as soon as possible, so **if you’d be interested, please let Pastor Vergin ASAP.**

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.

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!

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!

ANNUAL LUTHERAN ADULT GATHERING – All are invited to attend the annual Lutheran Adult Gathering at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island from **October 14 – 16, 2022**. The theme for the gathering will be: “In His Presence: Throughout All Generations,” based on Psalm 90:1. Nationally renowned speakers will encourage attendees to connect with the next generation of believers with the unchanging message of the Gospel. Registration fee is \$30 a person and includes ferry service to and from the island and conference costs. Once you register, you will receive a link to the hotel reservation system in your confirmation email. Single occupancy for the weekend is \$787.50; double occupancy is \$464.50/person. To register, or for more information, visit: michigandistrict.org/lag22. **The registration deadline is August 15, 2022.**



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Debbie Sidelinker

Elder on Duty

John Sidelinker

Greeter(s)

Gail Fitzgerald

Offering Counters

Nancy Salo & Carolynn Taylor

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

Trent Johnson

Video Technician

Debbie Sidelinker