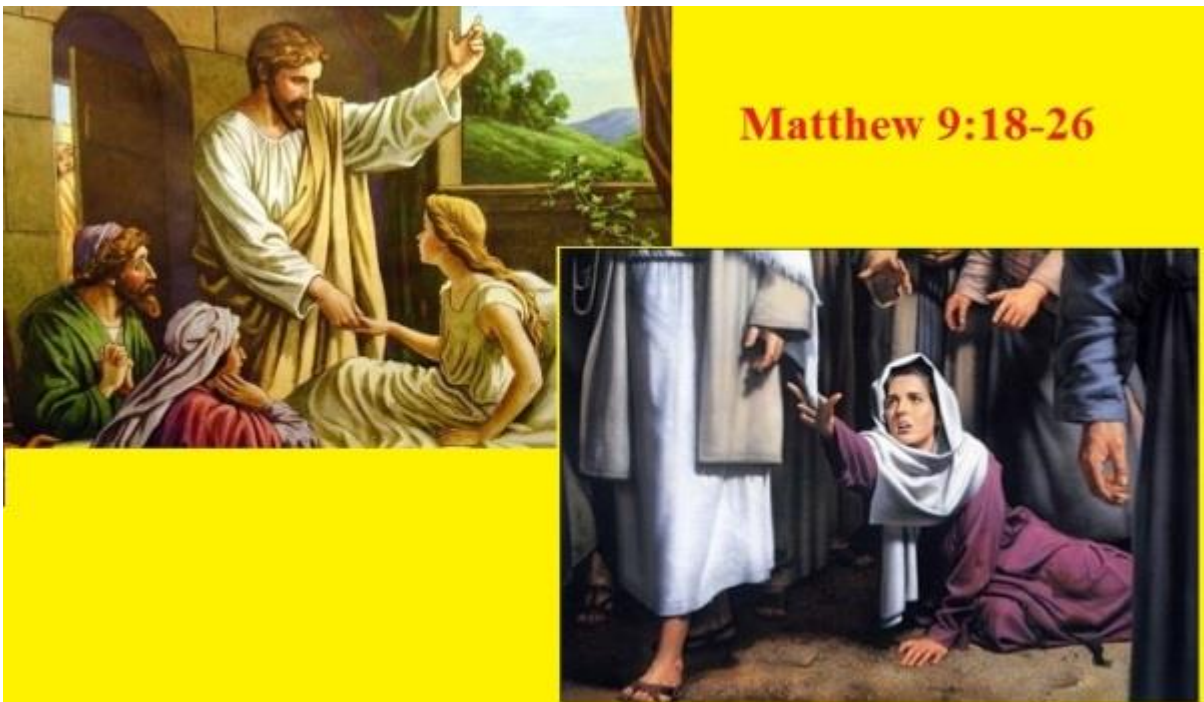


ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity

14 November A✠D 2021

Divine Service, Setting IV

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we consider the great power of the Lord to save. On our own, we are lost, subject to sin and death, hopeless in our condemnation. However, while we are powerless, God is almighty. He sent Jesus to suffer and die in our place and now, having raised Christ from the dead, He powerfully works through His Word and Spirit to raise us with Christ and to save us from every evil.

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 simply 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: 741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Stanzas 1-5



1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense And my Sav - ior, now is
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; Like - wise I to life shall
3 No, too close - ly I am bound By my hope to Christ for -
4 I am flesh and must re - turn To the dust, whence I am
5 Glo - ri - fied, I shall a - new With this flesh then be en -



liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence
wak - en. He will bring me where He is;
ev - er; Faith's strong hand the Rock has found,
tak - en; But by faith I now dis - cern
shroud - ed; In this bod - y I shall view



Rests up - on the hope here giv - en, Though the
Shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I
Grasped it, and will leave it nev - er; E - ven
That from death I shall a - wak - en With my
God, my Lord, with eyes un - cloud - ed; In this



night of death be fraught Still with man - y an anx - ious thought.
fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His mem - bers dead?
death now can - not part From its Lord the trust - ing heart.
Sav - ior to a - bide In His glo - ry, at His side.
flesh I then shall see Je - sus Christ e - ter - nal - ly.

Tune and text: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 95:1–4; antiphon: vv. 6–7a

- P** Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
- C** **For he is our God,**
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.
- P** Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- C** **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;**
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
- P** For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
- C** **In his hand are the depths of the earth;**
the heights of the mountains are his also.

**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** Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
- C** **For he is our God,**
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of Your faithful people that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, may by You be plenteously rewarded; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

⁹Awake, awake, put on strength,
O arm of the LORD;
awake, as in days of old,
the generations of long ago.
Was it not you who cut Rahab in pieces,
that pierced the dragon?
¹⁰Was it not you who dried up the sea,
the waters of the great deep,
who made the depths of the sea a way
for the redeemed to pass over?
¹¹And the ransomed of the LORD shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.
¹²“I, I am he who comforts you;
who are you that you are afraid of man who dies,
of the son of man who is made like grass,
¹³and have forgotten the LORD, your Maker,
who stretched out the heavens
and laid the foundations of the earth,
and you fear continually all the day
because of the wrath of the oppressor,
when he sets himself to destroy?
And where is the wrath of the oppressor?
¹⁴He who is bowed down shall speedily be released;
he shall not die and go down to the pit,
neither shall his bread be lacking.
¹⁵I am the LORD your God,
who stirs up the sea so that its waves roar—
the LORD of hosts is his name.
¹⁶And I have put my words in your mouth
and covered you in the shadow of my hand,
establishing the heavens
and laying the foundations of the earth,
and saying to Zion, ‘You are my people.’”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (spoken responsively)

Psalm 116:8, 1

- P** You have delivered my soul from death,
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.
- C** I love the LORD, because he has heard
my voice and my pleas for mercy.

Epistle

Colossians 1:9–14

⁹And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, ¹⁰so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. ¹¹May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. ¹³He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



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



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

Holy Gospel

Matthew 9:18–26

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

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

¹⁸While [Jesus] was saying these things to them, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” ¹⁹And Jesus rose and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰And behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, ²¹for she said to herself, “If I only touch his garment, I will be made well.” ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well. ²³And when Jesus came to the ruler’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴he said, “Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. ²⁵But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose. ²⁶And the report of this went through all that district.

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

Hymn of the Day: 818 In Thee Is Gladness



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
 2 Since He is ours, _____ We fear no pow - ers, Not of



sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
 earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -



heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
 tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the



wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
 sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
 joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
 glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him



To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
 And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P By His Word and promise, through which God has made us His people, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Praising Christ's death and resurrection, by which He has forgiven our sin and brought us to Himself, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the gift of faith in Christ and for joy in the reconciliation that He brings, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For strength in the Holy Spirit to resist temptation and walk in the good works He has prepared for us beforehand, that believing His Holy Word, we may lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For faithful pastors who preach the whole counsel of God's Word; for Matthew, our Synod president; David, our district president; Terry, our circuit visitor; and all who serve in the Office of the Holy Ministry, that they may proclaim the saving Gospel with boldness and joy; and for all missionaries, especially Joe Boway, that they might serve faithfully as God's instruments to bring the good news of His salvation to all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the weak among us, the sick or injured, the lonely and all in need, [*especially* _____,] that God would protect and relieve them, teaching us to cast every care on Him, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For daily bread, for contentment in His gifts and for thankful hearts to serve our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who commune, that God would give us a heart without deceit, a right confession of our sins and peace in the forgiveness of sins; and that we may come worthily to His table with the eyes of faith, seeing that He is good, forgives our iniquity and shows us His tender pity, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

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

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

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

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

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

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

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

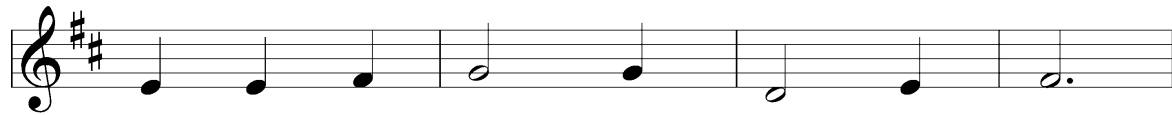
John 1:29



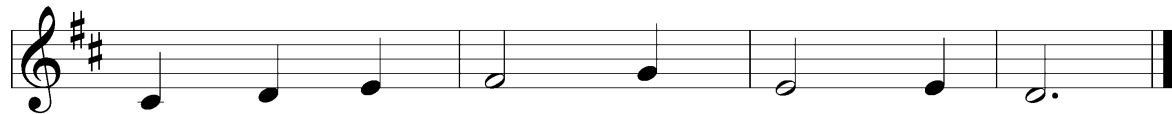
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



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.

Sit

Distribution

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

Distribution Hymn: 731 O God, Forsake Me Not



1 O God, for - sake me not! Your gra - cious pres - ence lend me;
2 O God, for - sake me not! Take not Your Spir - it from me;
3 O God, for - sake me not! Lord, hear my sup - pli - ca - tion!
4 O God, for - sake me not! Lord, I am Yours for - ev - er.



Lord, lead Your help - less child; Your Ho - ly Spir - it send me
Do not per - mit the might Of sin to o - ver - come me.
In ev - 'ry e - vil hour Help me re - sist temp - ta - tion;
O keep me strong in faith That I may leave You nev - er.



That I my course may run. O be my light, my lot,
In - crease my fee - ble faith, Which You a - lone have wrought.
And when the prince of hell My con - science seeks to blot,
Grant me a bless - ed end When my good fight is fought;



My staff, my rock, my shield— O God, for - sake me not!
O be my strength and pow'r— O God, for - sake me not!
Be then not far from me— O God, for - sake me not!
Help me in life and death— O God, for - sake me not!

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good



1 Sing praise to God, the high - est good, The au - thor of cre -
 2 What God's al - might - y pow'r has made, In mer - cy He is
 3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
 4 He nev - er shall for - sake His flock, His cho - sen gen - er -
 5 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, Give God the praise and



a - tion, The God of love who un - der - stood
 keep - ing. By morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
 hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness
 a - tion; He is their ref - uge and their rock,
 glo - ry. Let all who know His pow'r pro - claim



Our need for His sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our
 His eye is nev - er sleep - ing. With - in the king - dom
 And came with peace to cheer us. For this we thank and
 Their peace and their sal - va - tion. As with a moth - er's
 A - loud the won - drous sto - ry. Cast ev - 'ry i - dol



souls He fills And ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stills:
 of His might All things are just and good and right:
 praise the Lord, Who is by one and all a - dored:
 ten - der hand, He leads His own, His cho - sen band:
 from its throne, For God is God, and He a - lone:



To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!
 To God all praise and glo - ry!

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: 741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Stanzas 6-8



6 Then take com - fort and re - joi - ce, For His mem - bers Christ will
7 Laugh to scorn the gloom - y grave And at death no long - er
8 O, then, draw a - way your hearts From all plea - sures base and



cher - ish. Fear not, they will hear His voice;
trem - ble; He, the Lord, who came to save
hol - low; Strive to share what He im - parts



Dy - ing, they will nev - er per - ish; For the
Will at last His own as - sem - ble. They will
While you here His foot - steps fol - low. As you



ver - y grave is stirred When the trum - pet's blast is heard.
go their Lord to meet, Tread - ing death be - neath their feet.
now still wait to rise, Fix your hearts be - yond the skies!

Tune and text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. 11/14 The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Trinity

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Adult Bible Study** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- **Sunday School for Kids** 10:45 a.m.

Mon. 11/15 Pastor out of the Office

Tue. 11/16 Pastor out of the Office

Fri. 11/19 Deadline to submit December's newsletter articles

Sun. 11/21 The Last Sunday of the Church Year

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Adult Bible Study** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- **Sunday School for Kids** 10:45 a.m.

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR EFFORTS TO HELP MITIGATE CORONAVIRUS – Here's what you can expect for our Sunday morning Divine Services:

1. Hand sanitizer and face masks will be available on the table in the entryway if you decide to use them.
2. Those who wish may request a squirt of hand sanitizer from the usher before Holy Communion, and sanitizer will also be sitting on small tables in the side altar rooms for your use following Communion.
3. The "Sharing of the Peace" will be temporarily suspended.

Pastor's sermons will still be posted on St. Mark's Facebook page a day or two after each service. Thank you for your gracious cooperation and your flexibility!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL – Preschool through Elementary-age school kids are welcome to join us for Sunday School this morning right after the Divine Service in the Library. Sunday School takes place at the same time as the Adult Bible Study class **from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. each Sunday**. 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!

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Our Sunday Adult Bible Study takes place **each Sunday morning after the Divine Service (around 10:45 a.m.)** in the basement fellowship hall, and all are welcome to attend! This morning, Pastor Pies will be teaching on the three scripture readings from today, and we hope you will join him!

ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2022 BOARD/OFFICER 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 Vice-President
- 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!

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE – We hope you will join us as we gather to give thanks and praise to our Lord during our Thanksgiving Eve worship service on **Wednesday, November 24** at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you there!

DECORATE ST. MARK'S FOR CHRISTMAS - This year's Decorate the Church event will be held on **Saturday, November 27** starting at 10 a.m. We hope that those of you who will still be in town that weekend will consider volunteering an hour or two of your time to help put up decorations. Thanks in advance for your help!

THE SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS SOON - On **Sunday, November 28**, the Church will once again enter into the season of Advent. This season marks the beginning of a new Church Year, and serves as a time of penitential waiting, in which we prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Christ with joy. The season will also include 4 midweek Wednesday worship services at 7 p.m. on December 1, 8, 15 & 22. We hope you will take this time to devote yourself again to Christ, who comes to save, through the hearing of His Word and through faithful service in His kingdom!

SEMI-ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING – On **Sunday, December 5**, following the Divine Service, we will be holding our Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting in the basement Fellowship Hall. The agenda will include board reports, board/officer elections, and discussion/approval of a budget for 2022. All church members ages 18+ are encouraged to attend! Please mark this important date on your calendars now and plan to attend, if possible.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH THE ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM – St. Mark’s Board of Human Care and the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford are seeking volunteers to help with this year’s Adopt-A-Family for Christmas program. Volunteers will be needed to pick up Christmas gifts from the Open Door and take them to St. Mark’s on **Tuesday, December 7** (on an on-call basis), and also to help distribute gifts on **Thursday, December 9** at St. Mark’s between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Watch for a sign-up sheet to appear in the lobby soon where you can list your name if you’re able to help. Any questions can be directed to Karen Kaufman.

DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS AVAILABLE – Advent daily devotional booklets sponsored by Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) are now located on the table in the back of the sanctuary (blue). They are free, and each day starting November 28 offers a new devotion and Bible verse. Take one home today and let Advent serve as a time of prayer and study of God’s Word!

THE OPEN DOOR HAS AN IMMEDIATE NEED for kids’ pajamas (boys, girls...it doesn’t matter) in sizes Newborn to 3T. They also need kids’ socks in sizes baby, toddler and grade school. If you can help, please place your donations in the Open Door bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Any questions regarding this request can be directed to Leslie Oehring.

FUNDRAISERS TO SUPPORT LIBERIAN LUTHERAN SCHOOL – St. Mark’s Board of Human Care will be hosting several different fundraisers over the next year in an effort to raise the \$3,000 that is needed to install a new well at the Liberian Lutheran School that we support. **The next fundraising opportunity is another Can/Bottle Drive that will take place here on Sunday, December 5.** Bring your cans & bottles to church with you that day and Karen Kaufman will take them. You may also choose to give a cash donation by placing any amount (checks made payable to St. Mark’s Lutheran Church) in a green pew envelope (write “Joe Boway” on the front of the envelope), or you can visit St. Mark’s website and click on our online giving button where you can donate to the fund called “Joe Boway/Liberian School.” Check the fundraising poster at the top of the basement stairs for dollar updates.

ACCEPTING ORDERS FOR THE *LUTHERAN WITNESS* MAGAZINE – This is the time of year when the members of our congregation have the opportunity to order, or renew, subscriptions to the *Lutheran Witness* (LW) magazine, the official periodical of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Published 11 times per year, LW provides laypeople with stories and information that complement congregational life, foster personal growth in faith, and help interpret the contemporary world from a Lutheran Christian perspective. Each issue of LW includes a free copy of the *Michigan In Touch* supplement published by our Michigan District LCMS. Next year’s LW subscriptions will run from March 2022 through February 2023 and a subscription costs \$11.60 per year if ordered through St. Mark’s. If you’d like to start a new subscription, or renew this year’s, please place your check for \$11.60 (made payable to St. Mark’s Lutheran Church) into a green envelope (found in the pew racks), write “Lutheran Witness” on the front of the envelope, and place it into an offering plate no later than December 8, 2021.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO ORDER SOME CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS? We are now accepting orders for Christmas poinsettias that will be used to help decorate St. Mark's altar area for Christmas, after which time you can take yours home with you, if you wish. Each poinsettia plant costs \$10 and will contain 5-6 blooms. For more information, please see the pink insert found in today's service folder.

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 1/4" of the envelope paper around the stamp.



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Rev. Dr. Frank Pies

Pastor Emeritus, Our Savior Evangelical Lutheran Church, Hartland

Acolyte

TBD

Altar Guild

Jennie Kaufman

Elder on Duty

John Sidelinker

Greeter(s)

Julie Kosmalski

Offering Counters

John & Debbie Sidelinker

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Percussionist

David Drake

Trumpeter

Chris Gerard

Usher

Matt Maier

Video Technician

Debbie Sidelinker