

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
7979 Commerce Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48324
Phone: (248) 363-0741; Email: info@stmarkwb.org
Website: www.stmarkwb.org

“You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart and
with all your soul and
with all your mind.

This is the great and first commandment.

And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor
as yourself. On these two commandments depend
all the Law and the Prophets.”



Matthew 22:37-40

The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

16 October A \times D 2022
Divine Service, Setting IV

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we acknowledge Jesus as our one, true Teacher and we rejoice to receive the riches of His instruction. Though the world has much it considers knowledge, only Jesus brings us full and certain Truth, both in the revelation of God's Law and in the good news of salvation in the Gospel. Today, we sit at our Teacher's feet and receive this glorious teaching with joy.

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: 798 The God of Abraham Praise

Stanzas 1-4



1 The God of A - br'ham praise, Who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 The God of A - br'ham praise, At whose su - preme com - mand
3 The God of A - br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace
4 He by Him - self has sworn; I on His oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days And God of love.
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.
Shall guide me all my pil - grim days In all my ways.
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, To heav'n as - cend.



Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;
I all on earth for - sake, Its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r,
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him - self my God.
I shall be - hold His face; I shall His pow'r a - dore



I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er blest.
And Him my on - ly por - tion make, My shield and tow'r.
And He shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.
And sing the won - ders of His grace For - ev - er - more.

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-99, alt.

Tune: Hebrew

Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 122:1, 6, 8–9; antiphon: Liturgical Text

- P** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
and let your prophets be proven faithful.
- C** **Hear the prayer of your servants,**
according to the blessing of Aaron upon your people.
- P** I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”
- C** **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!**
May they be secure who love you!
- P** For my brothers and companions’ sake
I will say, “Peace be within you!”
- C** **For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,**
I will seek your good.

**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** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
and let your prophets be proven faithful.
- C** **Hear the prayer of your servants,**
according to the blessing of Aaron upon your people.

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.

O God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 10:12–21

¹²“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, ¹³and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good? ¹⁴Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. ¹⁵Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. ¹⁶Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn. ¹⁷For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. ¹⁸He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. ¹⁹Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. ²⁰You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. ²¹He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 122:1, 7

P I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

C Peace be within your walls
and security within your towers!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:4–9

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 22:34–46

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁴When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. ³⁵And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” ³⁷And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. ³⁸This is the great and first commandment. ³⁹And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. ⁴⁰On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

⁴¹Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, ⁴²saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” ⁴³He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴“The Lord said to my Lord,
Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet’?

⁴⁵If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” ⁴⁶And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

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: 694 Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower



1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tow - er; Thee will I
2 Thee will I love, my life, my Sav - ior, Who art my
3 I thank Thee, Je - sus, Sun from heav - en, Whose ra - diance
4 O keep me watch - ful, then, and hum - ble; Per - mit me
5 Thee will I love, my crown of glad - ness; Thee will I



love, my hope, my joy. Thee will I love with all my
best and tru - est friend. Thee will I love and praise for -
hath brought light to me; I thank Thee, who hast rich - ly
nev - er - more to stray. Up - hold me when my feet would
love, my God and Lord, A - mid the dark - est depths of



pow - er, With ar - dor time shall ne'er de - stroy. Thee will I
ev - er, For nev - er shall Thy kind - ness end. Thee will I
giv - en All that could make me glad and free; I thank Thee
stum - ble, And keep me on the nar - row way. Fill all my
sad - ness, And not for hope of high re - ward, For Thine own



love, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.
love with all my heart— Thou my Re - deem - er art!
that my soul is healed By what Thy lips re - vealed.
na - ture with Thy light, O Ra - diance strong and bright!
sake, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624–77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738, Frankfurt

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P In thanksgiving for Jesus Christ, David's Son and Lord, on whose love hangs all the Law and the Prophets and in whose discipline we also make our beginning in love, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** For the Church, that her preachers may be proven faithful, and that all Christians would be glad to enter into the house of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the homes of God's people, that husband and wife may honor their vows of love and fidelity to each other, and that parents and children would be united in love and affection, living lives that exemplify the goodness of God, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For our president and all in high positions of authority, that they may be guarded from every evil and kept from using their power for selfish gain, serving always with the common welfare of all in mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the needy, the troubled, the joyful and the expectant, [*especially _____,*] that they may look confidently to Christ, seated at the Father's right hand and subjecting every enemy under His feet, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the work of all missionaries, especially the work of Joe Boway and the Liberian Children's Ministry, that the Lord would protect them from danger, uphold them in the one true faith, fill them with joy in Christ, and grant fruitfulness to their labors for the sake of the Church, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all who commune, that strengthened by the forgiveness of our sins delivered in the body and blood of Christ, we may grow in the fear, love and service of God, who is our praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all who mourn, that they might not grieve as those who have no hope but as those whose hope is the crucified and risen One, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Through Him, with Him and in Him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is Yours, forever and ever.
- 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



C 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: 803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,
△ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow - 'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, Foun - tain - head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt.

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 504 Father Most Holy



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our
2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en, Good - ness un -
3 Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea - tures praise Thee; All for Thy
△ 4 Lord God Al - might - y, un - to Thee be glo - ry, One in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,
bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, Light of the an - gels,
wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; Now, as we al - so
per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;
joy of those for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing,
wor - ship Thee de - vout - ly, Hear Thou our voic - es.
praise Thee and a - dore Thee, Now and for - ev - er.

Text: Latin, c. 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.

Tune: Antiphoner, 1681, Paris

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: 798 The God of Abraham Praise

Stanzas 5-9



5 Though na - ture's strength de - cay, And earth and hell with-stand,
6 The good - ly land I see, With peace and plen - ty blest:
7 There dwells the Lord our king, The Lord our righ - teous-ness,
8 The God who reigns on high The great arch - an - gels sing,
△ 9 The whole tri - um - phant host Give thanks to God on high.



To Ca - naan's bounds I urge my way At His com - mand.
A land of sa - cred lib - er - ty And end - less rest.
Tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, The Prince of Peace.
And "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly!" cry, "Al - might - y King!
"Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" They ev - er cry.



The wa - t'ry deep I pass, With Je - sus in my view,
There milk and hon - ey flow, And oil and wine a - bound,
On Zi - on's sa - cred height His king - dom He main - tains
Who was and is the same And ev - er - more shall be:
Hail, A-br'ham's God and mine! I join the heav'n - ly lays:



And through the howl - ing wil - der - ness My way pur - sue.
And trees of life for - ev - er grow With mer - cy crowned.
And glo - rious with His saints in light For - ev - er reigns.
Je - ho - vah, Fa - ther, great I AM! We wor - ship Thee!"
All might and maj - es - ty are Thine And end - less praise!

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-99, alt.

Tune: Hebrew

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.

THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- 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., Fellowship Hall
- Mon. 10/17** Pastor's Day Off
- Tue. 10/18** Church Council Meeting 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Thu. 10/20** Quilting Bee 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Pastor out of the office in the p.m.
- Fri. 10/21** Deadline to submit November's newsletter articles
- Sun. 10/23** The Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity
- Divine Service 9:30 a.m.
 - Adult Bible Class 10:45 a.m.

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS MORNING WE WELCOME JOE BOWAY! Our good friend, and missionary to Liberia, Joe Boway, and his family, are here worshiping with us this morning! Welcome Boway family! Following the Divine Service, we hope everyone will join them in the basement Fellowship Hall where Joe will share the latest news on the building progress at Ziah Town Lutheran School. We are so excited to have them here with us again! Please attend if you can!

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 how parents can register their children, if interested. From 6-7 p.m., we'll host our Trunk-or-Treat event (no registration necessary for this) in St. Mark's parking lot where the kids can trunk-or-treat, going from vehicle to vehicle. **We need more decorated vehicles for the Trunk-or-Treat!** If you'd like to participate, a sign-up sheet is now located on an easel in the lobby.

The following Wednesday, **November 2**, will mark the official start of the WNIC program. It will always begin with a simple dinner at 5:15 p.m., followed by a Bible lesson at 5:45 p.m., and concluding with a craft, game, or "Life Skills" speaker/teacher at 6:15 p.m. The program will end each Wednesday at 6:45 p.m. While the kids are doing their thing, Pastor Vergin will also lead an Adult Bible Class for any adults that wish to attend from 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. Your kids don't have to be part of the WNIC program in order 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 on the table at the back of the sanctuary. The Bible lessons will all be pre-written, and teachers will have the use of large, felt "scene" boards, along with 12" felt figures and a teacher's lesson book in order to bring each simple Bible lesson to life for the kids.

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

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 2022! Our Board of Elders is leading a reading program where we will be going through the entire Bible in the year 2022. We hope you will participate! Yearly reading plans are available on the back table in the sanctuary. You can start at any time!

The readings for Week 42 (October 16 – October 22) are:

Sun	16-Oct	Mark 8-9
Mon	17-Oct	Mark 10-11
Tue	18-Oct	Mark 12-13
Wed	19-Oct	Mark 14
Thu	20-Oct	Mark 15-16
Fri	21-Oct	Luke 1-2
Sat	22-Oct	Luke 3-4

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

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

WE ARE ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2023 CHURCH POSITIONS - Would you like to serve at St. Mark's in an official capacity? Do you know of anyone whom you think would be well-suited to serve? We are now accepting nominations for our elected positions. This year, we are accepting nominations for the following Officers:

- Congregational Treasurer
- Congregational Financial Secretary
- Human Resources Director
- Public Relations Director

Additionally, we're accepting nominations for all six congregational Boards:

- Human Care
- Gospel Outreach
- Parish Fellowship & Support
- Assimilation & Stewardship
- Family & Youth
- Properties

Each elected term is for three years. Responsibilities for each Board/Position can be found in our Bylaws. Please call the church office with any questions. Nomination forms are now located on the back table in the sanctuary. You can nominate yourself, or someone else! Please consider serving the Lord in this special way! May He bless our congregation in the year ahead!

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.

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

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

TOILETRY/HYGIENE DONATIONS FOR THE OPEN DOOR OUTREACH CENTER – We continue to receive hygiene & toiletry products year around for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford. There are two bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs where you can place product donations. The Open Door is a non-profit organization that assists needy families in the Lakes Area. They are ALWAYS in need of toiletry and hygiene items, so **if you can provide any of these throughout the year, it would be appreciated.**

IF YOU SHOP AT A KROGER STORE, please consider participating in their Community Rewards program and **link your shopper's bonus card to St. Mark's** so that our congregation will receive free cash each quarter! There is no cost to you! Kroger will send a percentage of what you spend to our congregation as a way of supporting the community. If interested (and we hope you will be!), please click on this URL below to see how you can link your Shopper's Bonus Card to our congregation: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. In order to locate St. Mark's Lutheran Church, search for business # 82449. Thanks so much!

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



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Cathy & Gail Fitzgerald

Elder on Duty

Darryl Swainson

Greeter(s)

Carolynn Taylor

Offering Counters

Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

Tom Kaufman

Video Technician

Charlie Powell