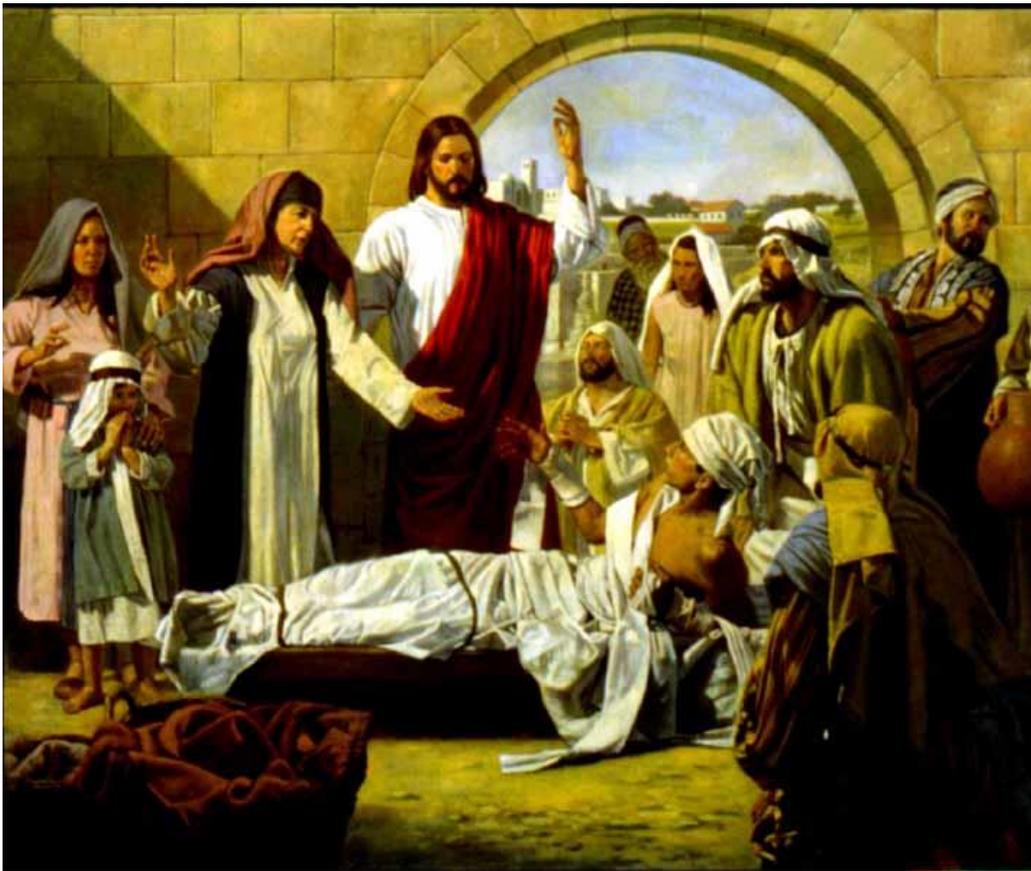


ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

9 October A✠D 2022
Divine Service, Setting IV

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we remember the depth of Jesus' love for us, and how His love alone is the cause of our salvation. In our sin, we were hopelessly lost, condemned to eternal sorrow and death. However, Jesus looked upon us in love and took our place in death, breaking its power through His resurrection. And now, in His perfect love, He comes to us to lift us up and give us life through His Word.

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: 741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Stanzas 1-3



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 -



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,



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



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.

Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616–79; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (spoken responsively)

Psalm 86:1, 7, 12–13; antiphon: vv. 3, 5

- P** Be gracious to me, O Lord,
for to you do I cry all the day.
- C** For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.
- P** Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
- C** In the day of my trouble I call upon you,
for you answer me.
- P** I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.
- C** For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

**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** Be gracious to me, O Lord,
for to you do I cry all the day.
- C** For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

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 Lord, we pray that Your grace may always go before and follow after us, that we may continually be given to all good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 17:17–24

¹⁷After this the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, became ill. And his illness was so severe that there was no breath left in him. ¹⁸And she said to Elijah, “What have you against me, O man of God? You have come to me to bring my sin to remembrance and to cause the death of my son!” ¹⁹And he said to her, “Give me your son.” And he took him from her arms and carried him up into the upper chamber where he lodged, and laid him on his own bed. ²⁰And he cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, have you brought calamity even upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by killing her son?” ²¹Then he stretched himself upon the child three times and cried to the LORD, “O LORD my God, let this child’s life come into him again.” ²²And the LORD listened to the voice of Elijah. And the life of the child came into him again, and he revived. ²³And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper chamber into the house and delivered him to his mother. And Elijah said, “See, your son lives.” ²⁴And the woman said to Elijah, “Now I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the LORD in your mouth is truth.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (spoken responsively)

Psalm 102:15–16

P Nations will fear the name of the LORD,
and all the kings of the earth will fear your glory.

C For the LORD builds up Zion;
he appears in his glory.

Epistle

Ephesians 3:13–21

¹³So I ask you not to lose heart over what I am suffering for you, which is your glory.

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height

and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



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



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



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



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

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:11–17

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹¹Soon afterward [Jesus] went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. ¹²As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. ¹³And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, “Do not weep.” ¹⁴Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, “Young man, I say to you, arise.” ¹⁵And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. ¹⁶Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, “A great prophet has arisen among us!” and

“God has visited his people!” ¹⁷And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

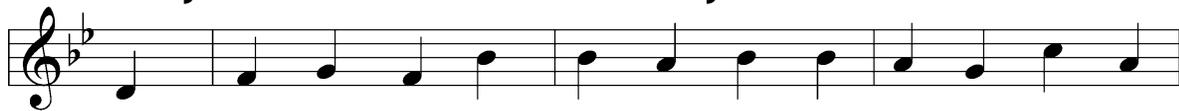
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 758 The Will of God Is Always Best



1 The will of God is al - ways best And shall be done for -
2 God is my com - fort and my trust, My hope and life a -
3 Lord, this I ask, O hear my plea, De - ny me not this
4 When life's brief course on earth is run And I this world am



ev - er; And they who trust in Him are blest;
bid - ing; And to His coun - sel, wise and just,
fa - vor: When Sa - tan sore - ly trou - bles me,
leav - ing, Grant me to say, "Your will be done,"



He will for - sake them nev - er. He helps in - deed In
I yield, in Him con - fid - ing. The ver - y hairs, His
Then do not let me wa - ver. O guard me well, My
Your faith - ful Word be - liev - ing. My dear - est Friend, I



time of need; He chas - tens with for - bear - ing. They who de -
Word de - clares, Up - on my head He num - bers. By night and
fear dis - pel, Ful - fill Your faith - ful say - ing: All who be -
now com - mend My soul in - to Your keep - ing; From sin and



pend On God, their friend, Shall not be left de - spair - ing.
day God is my stay; He nev - er sleeps nor slum - bers.
lieve By grace re - ceive An an - swer to their pray - ing.
hell, And death as well, By You the vic - t'ry reap - ing.

Text: Albrecht von Preussen, 1490–1568; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Claudin de Sermisy, c. 1490–1562

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For confidence in Christ, who is risen to put an end to death, that we would not lose heart in the face of sorrow, but know the perfect love of Christ, by which we are saved, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Holy Church here and scattered throughout the world, that God would send laborers into His harvest; give steadfast faith to Christians by His Word and Sacraments; and quicken us always in the hope of eternal life in Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our homes, that God would provide companionship for those who are alone, strengthen the bonds of marriage, and equip parents to raise their children in love and faith; and that, for Jesus' sake, our homes would be places of joy, reasonableness, peace and prayer, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For our government, especially Joseph, our president; Gretchen, our governor; and all our leaders, that they would work toward the common good of all people – especially to protect the unborn and those who cannot speak for themselves, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who are ill or receiving treatments, [*especially _____,*] that they would be relieved of discomfort and granted healing and recovery according to God's will, and so glorify Him in all things, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those that come to the Lord's altar today, that the God of comfort would grant joy to all communicants as they eat the body and drink the blood of Christ for their forgiveness, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P In thanksgiving for the mighty saints of old and for their witness preserved through the ages, that with them we would faithfully await the day when we are received into God's everlasting presence to the life that death cannot end, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P To Your grace, O Lord, we commend all entrusted to us. Grant that we may live in Your fear, die in Your grace, rest in Your peace, rise through Your power and inherit eternal life. We ask all this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, to whom with You and the Holy Spirit be all praise and honor, glory and majesty, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

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

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

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

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



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



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



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



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

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

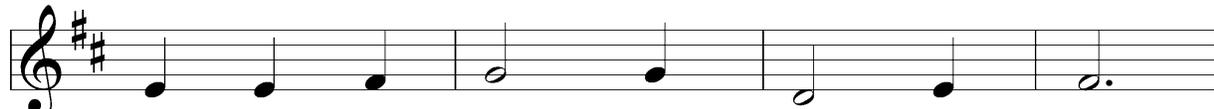
John 1:29



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



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution

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

Distribution Hymn: 763 When Peace, like a River



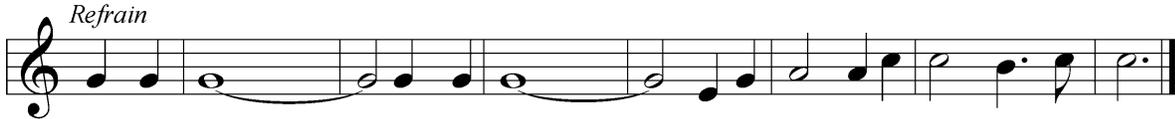
1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My
4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The



sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.



Refrain
It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–88, alt.

Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–76

Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives; What com - fort
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; He lives e -
3 He lives to bless me with His love; He lives to
4 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; He lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, He lives, who
ter - nal - ly to save; He lives all - glo - rious
plead for me a - bove; He lives my hun - gry
guide me with His eye; He lives to com - fort



once was dead; He lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head.
in the sky; He lives ex - alt - ed there on high.
soul to feed; He lives to help in time of need.
me when faint; He lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.

- 5 He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.
- 6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.
- 7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.
- 8 He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr.

Tune: attr. John C. Hatton, d. 1793

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 4-8



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 -
6 Then take com - fort and re - joice, 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



tak - en; But by faith I now dis - cern
shroud - ed; In this bod - y I shall view
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



That from death I shall a - wak - en With my
God, my Lord, with eyes un - cloud - ed; In this
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



Sav - ior to a - bide In His glo - ry, at His side.
flesh I then shall see Je - sus Christ e - ter - nal - ly.
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!

Text: Otto von Schwerin, 1616–79; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Sun. 10/2 The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

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

Mon. 10/3 Pastor's Day Off

Tue. 10/4 Board of Elders' Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Thu. 10/6 Quilting Bee 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall
Pastor out of the office in the p.m.

Sun. 10/9 The Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

LWML Sunday

Blessing of the Quilts

- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
- **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m.

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

FALL CLEAN-UP TODAY – It's that time again! St. Mark's needs to be gotten ready for the colder temperatures, so after worship today, **October 2**, all are invited to help with our Fall Clean-Up event. The sanctuary window screens will need to be replaced with storm windows, and other Fall chores will need to be done too. Watch for a list of chores to appear on the table in the lobby. Lunch will be served to participants around noon or so. Please help if you can!

THE BLESSING OF THE QUILTS WILL BE NEXT SUNDAY – On **Sunday, October 9**, during the Divine Service, Pastor Vergin will be blessing the quilts made by several ladies of St. Mark's before the quilts are shipped overseas. The ladies have made 40 quilts that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief in mid-October for distribution to needy people in different areas of the world. St. Mark's Thanks to everyone who donated toward the quilt shipping cost. This has now been covered! The Quilting Bee group continues to meet on **Thursday mornings at 10:00 a.m.** to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). If you'd like to learn how to quilt, or would like to volunteer some time helping to assemble quilts, just show up on Thursday mornings! No quilting experience is necessary! Quilts are made throughout the year here at St. Mark's.

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

WE ARE ACCEPTING NOMATIONS FOR 2023 CHURCH POSITIONS - Would you like to serve at St. Mark's in an official capacity? Do you know of anyone whom you think would be well-suited to serve?

We are now accepting nominations for our elected positions. This year, we are accepting nominations for the following Officers:

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

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

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

Each elected term is for three years. Responsibilities for each Board/Position can be found in our Bylaws. Please call the church office with any questions.

Nomination forms will soon be placed on the back table in the sanctuary. You can nominate yourself, or someone else!

Please consider serving the Lord in this special way! May He bless our congregation in the year ahead!

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

The readings for Week 40 (October 2 – October 8) are:

Sun	2-Oct	Matthew 1-4
Mon	3-Oct	Matthew 5-6
Tue	4-Oct	Matthew 7-9
Wed	5-Oct	Matthew 10-11
Thu	6-Oct	Matthew 12-13
Fri	7-Oct	Matthew 14-17
Sat	8-Oct	Matthew 18-20

REFORMATION DAY IS COMING UP - On **Sunday, October 30**, St. Mark's will observe the Festival of Reformation Day. On this day, we remember how God restored the Gospel to His Church in the 16th century through the work of Martin Luther and the other Reformers, and how God has preserved this Gospel for us unto the present day. It is a day of celebration, as we rejoice to hear that we are saved by Grace Alone, through Faith Alone, as taught in Scripture Alone. Our Divine Service this day will be held at the normal time, 9:30 a.m., and will include many of your favorite Reformation hymns. You are invited to wear red in honor of the day. Also, following the service, we will be holding our annual Fall Harvest Potluck. We would love to see you there!

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

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

SEEKING A VOLUNTEER TO BE LWML PRESIDENT AT ST. MARK'S - St. Mark's Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) board is seeking someone to fill the role of president. The LWML is the leading group for Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod's women where each woman is welcomed and encouraged to use her unique God-given gifts as she supports global missions and serves the Lord with gladness. As Lutheran Women in Mission, these ladies joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others. Some of the duties St. Mark's LWML president would perform include being the liaison between the LWML office in St. Louis, Missouri and St. Mark's LWML board, attending a few LWML Zone Rallies in our local area, overseeing some small mission fundraising events here in order to help support the work of missionaries, and assist with St. Mark's Quilting Group. If you have any questions about the LWML, or the duties of the LWML president, please talk to Jennie Kaufman.

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

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

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

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

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



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Pastor Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Gail Fitzgerald

Elder on Duty

Darryl Swainson

Greeter(s)

Ellen Rentola

Offering Counters

Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

Matt Maier

Video Technician

Karen Kaufman