

# ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

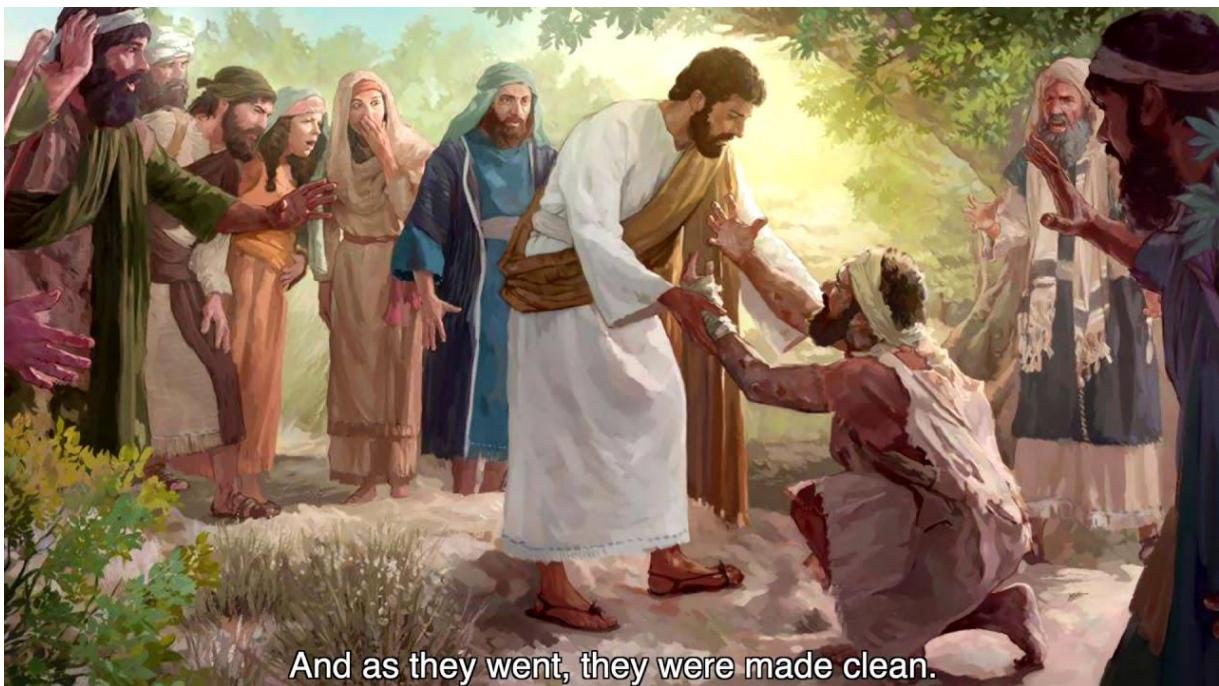
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

7979 Commerce Road

West Bloomfield, MI 48324

Phone: (248) 363-0741; Email: [info@stmarkwb.org](mailto:info@stmarkwb.org)

Website: [www.stmarkwb.org](http://www.stmarkwb.org)



And as they went, they were made clean.

## The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

18 September A.D. 2022

*Divine Service, Setting IV*

## **† Welcome in the name of Jesus! †**

Today we observe the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we hear God's call to thankfulness for all that He has done for us in Christ. As sinners, we often fall into cold ingratitude, even toward God Himself. However, today the Lord calls us to remember the true glory of His salvation and all that it cost Him, that we might joyfully lift up our voices in heartfelt praise to God and live out our thanksgiving every day.

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: 693 O Holy Spirit, Grant Us Grace



1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, grant us grace That we our Lord and Sav - ior  
2 Help us that we Thy sav - ing Word In faith-ful hearts may trea - sure;  
3 And when our earth-ly race is run, Death's bit - ter hour im-pend-ing,



In faith and fer - vent love em-brace And tru - ly serve Him ev - er.  
Let e'er that Bread of Life af - ford New grace in rich - est mea-sure.  
Then may Thy work in us be - gun Con - tin - ue till life's end - ing,



The hour of death can - not bring loss When we are shel - tered  
O make us die to ev - 'ry sin, Each day cre - ate new  
Un - til we glad - ly may com-mend Our souls in - to our



by the cross That can - celed our trans - gres - sions.  
life with - in, That fruits of faith may flour - ish.  
Sav - ior's hand, The crown of life ob - tain - ing.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt.

Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug

Text and tune: Public domain

# Service of the Word

## Introit (*spoken responsively*)

*Psalm 84:1–2a, 4, 10b, 11b; antiphon: vv. 9–10a*

- P** Behold our shield, O God;  
    look on the face of your anointed!
- C** For a day in your courts  
    is better than a thousand elsewhere.
- P** How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!  
    My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD.
- C** Blessed are those who dwell in your house,  
    ever singing your praise!
- P** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
    than dwell in the tents of wickedness.
- C** The LORD bestows favor and honor.  
    No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.

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** Behold our shield, O God;  
    look on the face of your anointed!
- C** For a day in your courts  
    is better than a thousand elsewhere.

## 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, keep Your Church with Your perpetual mercy; and because of our frailty we cannot but fall, keep us ever by Your help from all things hurtful and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 4:10–23

<sup>10</sup>Hear, my son, and accept my words,  
that the years of your life may be many.

<sup>11</sup>I have taught you the way of wisdom;  
I have led you in the paths of uprightness.

<sup>12</sup>When you walk, your step will not be hampered,  
and if you run, you will not stumble.  
<sup>13</sup>Keep hold of instruction; do not let go;  
guard her, for she is your life.  
<sup>14</sup>Do not enter the path of the wicked,  
and do not walk in the way of the evil.  
<sup>15</sup>Avoid it; do not go on it;  
turn away from it and pass on.  
<sup>16</sup>For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong;  
they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.  
<sup>17</sup>For they eat the bread of wickedness  
and drink the wine of violence.  
<sup>18</sup>But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,  
which shines brighter and brighter until full day.  
<sup>19</sup>The way of the wicked is like deep darkness;  
they do not know over what they stumble.  
<sup>20</sup>My son, be attentive to my words;  
incline your ear to my sayings.  
<sup>21</sup>Let them not escape from your sight;  
keep them within your heart.  
<sup>22</sup>For they are life to those who find them,  
and healing to all their flesh.  
<sup>23</sup>Keep your heart with all vigilance,  
for from it flow the springs of life.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

*Psalm 92:1–2*

**P** It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;  
**C** to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night.

### Epistle

*Galatians 5:16–24*

<sup>16</sup>But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. <sup>19</sup>Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, <sup>21</sup>envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. <sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-

control; against such things there is no law.<sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

**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 17:11–19*

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

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

<sup>11</sup>On the way to Jerusalem [Jesus] was passing along between Samaria and Galilee.

<sup>12</sup>And as he entered a village, he was met by ten lepers, who stood at a distance <sup>13</sup>and lifted up their voices, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.” <sup>14</sup>When he saw them he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went they were cleansed.

<sup>15</sup>Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice; <sup>16</sup>and he fell on his face at Jesus’ feet, giving him thanks. Now he was a Samaritan. <sup>17</sup>Then Jesus answered, “Were not ten cleansed? Where are the nine? <sup>18</sup>Was no one found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” <sup>19</sup>And he said to him, “Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well.”

**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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

**Children's Message**

## Hymn of the Day: 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -  
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet  
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered

at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,  
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons  
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious

Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the  
With the pierc - ing, two-edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool  
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and

Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm-ing  
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this  
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us

storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.  
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

Tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*Stand*

### Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** Through the atoning death of Christ and by His mediation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** In thanksgiving for His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** For the Church and her ministers; to give all pastors courage to embrace gladly the crosses of their office; and to aid all Christians in bearing the reproach of the world, the attacks of Satan and the temptations of the flesh in the confidence of Christ's redemption, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the Church, which is the family of God, that she may be a home filled with sisters and brothers to care for one another, a refuge for the weary, a companion for the lonely, a safe place for those who are afraid and a help to us in every burden; and for all Christian congregations, especially for our congregation and for Ziah Town Lutheran Church in Liberia, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For President Biden and all who make, execute and judge our laws, that their eyes may be turned toward the Lord, and that they would receive wisdom and strength to faithfully carry out their duties, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the sick and needy, *[including \_\_\_\_\_]*, that as Christ showed mercy to the lepers, so He would also turn their sicknesses to health and their troubles to joy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all who receive the body and blood of Jesus in the salutary gift of the Lord's Supper, that they would receive His blessing of forgiveness and praise His name with thankful hearts, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For all the baptized called to be the Father's own possession, that our lives may bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit, according to the image of Christ, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Mighty God, You have done great things for us, most of all delivering us from death to life through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Mercifully hear our prayers and answer them according to Your will for the sake of Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, 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

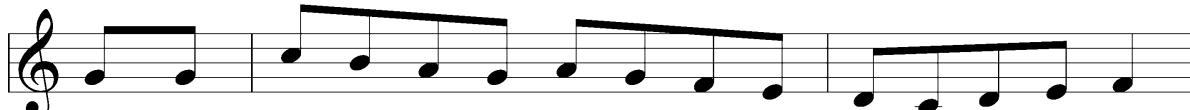
*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**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.  
**F**or 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  $\ddagger$  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  $\ddagger$  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*

The musical score consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff begins with a bass clef, the second with a soprano clef, the third with an alto clef, and the fourth with a tenor clef. The lyrics are as follows:

**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 of this service folder regarding our Holy Communion policy.

## Distribution Hymn: 704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, And let my  
2 Re - move the pow'r of sin from me And cleanse all  
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, That glad - ly  
4 Grant that I on - ly You may love And seek those

heart and soul be bright, Il - lu - mined with the  
my im - pu - ri - ty That I may have the  
I o - bey Your Word. Let what You will be  
things which are a - bove Till I be - hold You

light of grace That is - sues from Your ho - ly face.  
strength and will Temp - ta - tions of the flesh to still.  
my de - sire, And with new life my soul in - spire.  
face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through Your grace.

Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp, 1672–1708; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: As hymnodus sacer, 1625, Leipzig

Text and tune: Public domain

## Distribution Hymn: 793 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your  
2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple  
3 Fa - ther - like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble  
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; You be - hold Him

trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,  
in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,  
frame He knows; In His hand He gent - ly bears us,  
face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,

Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,  
Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,  
Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,  
All who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.  
al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.  
al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.  
al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847

Tune: John Goss, 1800–80

Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant go.  
2 All glory to the Father, the Son,  
and the Holy Spirit, Of all ages.  
A light to lead the people,  
to Your holy hill, The God's glory.  
For evermore shall we sing Your name,  
for as long as we live.

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the glo - ry to the Son,  
the glo - ry of the Three in grace:  
Spir - it, For ev - er deem - ing One;

to now, shall ev - er be, The glo - ry of Your  
people, 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: 895 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God With hearts and hands and voices,  
2 Oh, may this boun-teous God Through all our life be near us,  
△ 3 All praise and thanks to God The Fa - ther now be giv - en,

Who won - drous things has done, In whom His world re - joic - es;  
With ev - er joy - ful hearts And bless - ed peace to cheer us  
The Son, and Him who reigns With them in high - est heav - en,

Who from our moth - ers' arms Has blest us on our way  
And keep us in His grace And guide us when per - plexed  
The one e - ter - nal God, Whom earth and heav'n a - dore;

With count - less gifts of love And still is ours to - day.  
And free us from all ills In this world and the next!  
For thus it was, is now, And shall be ev - er - more.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; 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

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. 9/18 The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**

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

**Mon. 9/19 Pastor attending Circuit Visitors' Conference**

**Tue. 9/20 Pastor attending Circuit Visitor's Conference in the a.m.  
Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.**

**Wed. 9/21 Serving Dinner at St. Paul, Pontiac 5:00 p.m.**

**Thu. 9/22 Fall Begins  
Quilting Bee 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall  
Pastor out of the office in the p.m.**

**Fri. 9/23 Distribution of October's newsletter**

**Sat. 9/24 Mission Planning Workshop 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall**

**Sun. 9/25 The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**

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

## TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ADULT BIBLE STUDY** – All are invited to attend **this morning's** Adult Bible Class with Pastor Vergin starting **at 10:45 a.m.** in the basement Fellowship Hall. He will be continuing the study of the book of Genesis. The book of Genesis is the first book of the Bible, and it tells the story of God's salvation from the very beginning. It starts with the creation of the world and the fall into sin, and from there it traces the promise of the Savior from generation to generation, beginning with Adam and culminating with Jacob's twelve children. It includes the account of Noah and the Flood, the Tower of Babel, the Call of Abraham, and Joseph's rise in Egypt. At every place it proclaims the steadfast love of God and His faithfulness in redeeming mankind from the guilt of our sin. We hope you will join us for this study! This is a great opportunity to fill your week with God's Word and to grow in knowledge and faith!

**SERVING DINNER AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN, PONTIAC** – This **Wednesday, September 21**, St. Mark's will be serving dinner to those in the Pontiac area at our sister congregation, St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pontiac. If you can help serve at the event, or donate food, please sign up on the chart in the lobby posted on the easel. Volunteers should arrive at 5:00 p.m. to start serving dinner around 6:00 p.m. Feel free to contact Karen Kaufman with questions.

**MISSION PLANNING WORKSHOP** – Calling all church leaders! We hope you will make plans now to attend St. Mark’s Mission Planning Workshop this **Saturday, September 24** in the Fellowship Hall from 9 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. This is the once-a-year meeting where we plan all church events for the subsequent year (2023). This includes outreach events, service events, and internal congregational fellowship events. Please plan on attending, if you can!

**QUILTING BEE READY TO SHIP OUT 35 QUILTS** – Several ladies from St. Mark’s have worked diligently over the past 6-8 months to assemble, then sew, 35 beautiful quilts that will be sent to Lutheran World Relief (LWR) in mid-October. LWR will then distribute these quilts and others to the poor and needy in many different areas around the world. Pastor Vergin will be blessing the quilts during the Divine Service on **Sunday, October 9**, before they are shipped overseas. The cost to ship each quilt is \$2.25. In order to cover the cost of shipping, we will be having a free-will, *spare change*, door offering over the next 4 Sundays. Any amount of change you’d like to give can be placed in the offering plate near the sanctuary doors on those Sundays. All donations must be put in the plate by Sunday, October 9. If you’d like to write a check, please make it payable to: *St. Mark Missionary League*. St. Mark’s 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!

**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.

**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 38 (September 18 - September 24) are:**

Sun	18-Sep	Amos 1-4
Mon	19-Sep	Amos 5-9
Tue	20-Sep	Obadiah 1
Wed	21-Sep	Jonah 1-4
Thu	22-Sep	Micah 1-4
Fri	23-Sep	Micah 5-7
Sat	24-Sep	Nahum 1-3

**AN UPDATE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL PLANNING** – St. Mark’s Board of Family & Youth, conferring with Pastor Vergin, has been meeting lately to discuss the lack of children attending our Sunday School program, and to brainstorm for ways we can get more children to attend Bible-based classes and events here at St. Mark’s. In making phone calls to church member parents who have elementary-aged school children, it was suggested that we go back to having a Wednesday evening youth Christian education class, as that might be easier for kids to attend than a class after church on Sundays. The board discussed this further and has decided to work toward implementing a 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 decided 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 would 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 that will be our new Trunk-or-Treat date 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 trick-or-treat. In order to get this program off the ground, we will be needing volunteers to help. During the upcoming Mission Planning Meeting this Saturday, the Board of Family & Youth will introduce the details of this new, midweek program to our church’s leaders in order to get their thoughts. After that, we will roll out the details to our congregation and begin calling our member parents and our VBS parents to share the details with them, encouraging them to register online for this program. Stay tuned for more news coming up!

**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.**

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  $\frac{1}{4}$ " 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

Karen Kaufman

Elder on Duty

John Sidelinker

Greeter(s)

Tom & Debbie LoCascio

Offering Counters

Mary Ann Lockwood & Jean Swainson

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Usher

Tom Kaufman

Video Technician

Charlie Powell