



*the welcome place.*

**ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WORSHIP BULLETIN  
AUGUST 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2022  
THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**PRELUDE**

*Faith Woodward*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,  
**we confess that we have not followed your path  
but have chosen our own way.  
Instead of putting others before ourselves,  
we long to take the best seats at the table.  
When met by those in need,  
we have too often passed by on the other side.  
Set us again on the path of life.  
Save us from ourselves  
and free us to love our neighbors.  
Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

**OPENING HYMN**

**ELW 771 | GOD WHO STRETCHED THE SPANGLED HEAVENS**

## **GREETING**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## **KYRIE AND HYMN OF PRAISE** *(SUNG)*

**PP. 203**

Have mercy on us, Lord,  
**And hear our solemn prayer.**

We come to hear your living word,  
**It saves us from despair.**

Have mercy on us, Christ,  
**And wash away our sin.**

Pour out your grace and make us whole,  
**That new life may begin.**

Have mercy on us, Lord,  
**Make sin and shame depart.**

Renew us with your saving power;  
**Create in us new hearts!**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

**PP. 204**

**Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth.**

**We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.**

**Glory be to Christ forever, lamb of God and Lord of love.  
Son of God and gracious savior, you have come from heav'n above;**

**On the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.**

**Holy one we now acclaim you; Lord alone to you we call.  
Holy one in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all.**

**Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **READINGS**

### **FIRST READING: GENESIS 15:1-6**

1After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." 2But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." 4But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." 5He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." 6And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

### **PSALM 33:12-22**

12Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!  
Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

13The Lord looks down from heaven,  
and sees all humankind.

14God sits firmly enthroned and watches  
all who dwell on the earth.

15God fashions all their hearts  
and observes all their deeds.

16A king is not saved by the size of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

17The horse gives vain hope for victory;  
despite its great strength it cannot save.

18Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord,  
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

19to deliver their lives from death,  
and to keep them alive in time of famine.

20Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,  
our helper and our shield.

21Surely, our heart rejoices in you,  
for in your holy name we put our trust.

22Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
even as we place our hope in you.

**SECOND READING: HEBREWS 11:1-3, 8-16**

1Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. 3By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

8By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. 9By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. 12Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

13All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, 14for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. 16But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**W&P 55 | HE IS EXALTED**

**GOSPEL: LUKE 12:32-40**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] 32“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

35“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; 36be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. 37Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. 38If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

39“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. 40You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**W&P 55 | HE IS EXALTED**

### **SERMON**

*THE REV. KEVIN TRACEY*

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW 638 | BLESSED ASSURANCE**

### **APOSTLE’S CREED**

P: Let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostle’s Creed.

**C: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

Let your lovingkindness be upon your church. Fill all who proclaim the gospel with your Spirit. Equip your flock to speak your word of promise and hope in the midst of fear and uncertainty. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your creation. Dwell among us and sustain our earthly home. In places of famine, provide nourishment. In places of plenty, fashion us to be good stewards of your bounty. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your world. Be our helper and our shield in places torn by strife and violence (especially). Raise up courageous leaders to govern with compassion and justice. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon your children. Look upon all who wait for your steadfast love. Console those who grieve and embrace those who cry out to you (especially). Help us to trust your promise and not be afraid. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Let your lovingkindness be upon this community. Fashion our hearts to strive for the way of peace. Strengthen the outreach ministries of this congregation and all who care for those in need. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

With thanksgiving we remember all who have died in faith and now rest in you. As they placed their hope in you, so strengthen us to trust in your promise of new life. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**Amen.**

### **PEACE**

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.*

### **OFFERING**

#### **OFFERTORY HYMN**

**ELW 523 | LET US GO NOW TO THE BANQUET**

#### **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

*Please gather whatever elements you have in your home that most closely resemble the bread and wine/grape juice of our typical communion table. If you only have "bread" or "wine/grape juice" (whatever those might be for you) trust that you are receiving the full presence of Jesus in that element.*

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest,  
hosanna in the highest.**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;

to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

P: As our Savior Christ taught us, we are bold to pray:

**C: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not to temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.*

P: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

The God of peace, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you,  
and show you the path of life this day and always.

**Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

**ELW 856 | HOW GREAT THOU ART**

### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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**ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

**PREACHER / PRESIDER** ..... The Reverend Kevin M. Tracey  
**MUSICIAN** ..... Faith Woodward  
**TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT** ..... Edie Beaupre  
**LECTOR** ..... Tiffani Champion  
**USHER / GREETER** ..... St. Mark  
**ALTAR GUILD** ..... St. Mark

**DEDICATIONS**

Altar Flowers To the Glory of God  
Eternal Flame Candle To the Glory of God  
Celebrates To the Glory of God

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**SCHOOL DIRECTOR:** Melisa McDaid                              **PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:** Alice Kaplan