



St. Mark Lutheran Church
Worship Bulletin
Sunday, October 26, 2025
Reformation Sunday

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 116)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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.

GATHERING SONG *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (isometric)* (ELW 504)

GREETING (ELW p. 120)

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

And also with you.

KYRIE (ELW p. 120)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world,
for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen, amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 121)

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 124)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from Jeremiah.

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

A reading from Romans.

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* (ELW 512)

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.

³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever.

³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* (ELW 512)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* (ELW 599)

CREED (ELW p. 126)

**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

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

Free your church, O God, with grace, mercy, and love to be transformed by your word. Direct your church to be united in word and deed so that all creation knows the uniting and transforming power of the gospel. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Renew creation, O God, so that all living creatures thrive together. Guide those who work to restore and renew creation. Preserve and care for endangered species throughout the world. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Bring peace among the nations, O God, so violence and terror are not the norm on your earth. Inspire leaders of communities to work for peace and justice. Unite our politicians with a common mission and purpose. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Heal all who suffer, O God, and bring them peace. Draw near to people who are incarcerated. Give hope to people experiencing housing or employment insecurity, oppression, or discrimination. Heal those who are ill (*especially*). Be our stronghold at all times. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

Forgive us our sins, O God, and grant us your grace. Move us to understanding and reconciliation between people of other faiths and other Christian traditions in our community. Mend hurt feelings and heal wounds we have caused one another. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We give you thanks, O God, for the life and witness of all your saints (*especially Philipp Nicolai, Johann Heermann, and Paul Gerhardt*). Give us hope in your son's victory through the cross. God of grace,

receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERTORY *We Bow Down* (W&P 149)

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 129)

Let us pray.

**Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 129)

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 130)

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.
By the witness of your saints
you show us the hope of our calling
and strengthen us to run the race set before us,
that we may delight in your mercy and rejoice with them in glory.
And so, with [name/s and] all the saints,
with the choirs of angels and all the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 130)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven 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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 130)

O God before time, O God at the end,
we delight in the splendor of your universe.
Daily we laud your continuing creation,
and we give thanks
for all the homelands of your Reformation people.
We glorify you, now and forever.
We glorify you, now and forever.

O God of the covenant, O God of the church,
we hear you speaking to centuries of your people.
We come as your children to this table,
and we give thanks for your presence
among Lutheran congregations around the world.
We praise you, now and forever.
We praise you, now and forever.

You gave us Mary and Magdalene, Peter and Paul,
*Luther and Melancthon, Henry Muhlenberg, and
Elizabeth Fedde*
—let us call out more names—
*Katharina Luther the homemaker, Cranach the artist,
Bach the musician, Nicolai the hymnwriter,
Nommensen the missionary, Kierkegaard the philosopher,
Bonhoeffer the martyr, Hammar skjöld the statesman,
countless other servants of the Reformation.*
We bless you, now and forever.
We bless you, now and forever.

You came as Jesus, our wisdom, our guide,
embodying forgiveness, granting us grace, setting us free,
dying for sin, and alive for the life of the world.
We worship you, now and forever.
We worship you, now and forever.

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 his death, we cry out Amen.

Amen.

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

Amen.

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

Amen.

Come, Holy Spirit, and make here the body of Christ.
Breathe onto this food, that it bring us your life.
*Empower your Reformation people throughout the world
to preach and teach, baptize and feed,
pray and sing, comfort and heal.*
By your Spirit,
preserve what is faithful;
reform what we treasure;
create in us what is vital and new.
We honor you, now and forever.
We honor you, now and forever.

O God before time, O God at the end,
Father, Son, and Spirit,
we laud you,
Covenant Lord, our Redeemer, the Strength of truth.
Glory and praise, blessing and worship,
honor and power and might be to you, our God,
forever and ever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 134)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (LAMB OF GOD) (ELW p. 135)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

SONG DURING COMMUNION *Soli Deo Gloria* (ELW 878)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 136)

Let us pray.

**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.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord’s face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *The Church's One Foundation* (ELW 654)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHER / PRESIDERThe Reverend Kevin M.B. Tracey
MUSICIANFaith Woodward
TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT Edie Beaupre/Tom Petree
LECTOR Bonnie Tillman

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: The Reverend Kevin M.B. Tracey **SCHOOL DIRECTOR:** Melisa McDaid
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Faith Woodward **PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:** Alice Kaplan

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Today Worship Service 10 AM
Wednesday Fall Bible Study 7 PM
Sunday Worship Service 10 AM

Announcements

Thank you to everyone who donated candy or participated in **TRUNK OR TREAT** on Friday.

Join us Wednesday evenings at 7pm for our **FALL BIBLE STUDY**. We’re studying the book of Job in a series called: The Pain of Being Human: Are Suffering and Destruction in God’s Plan? Let Pr. Kevin or the church office know if you’d like to receive the link to participate.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the **ENDOWMENT FUNDING CAMPAIGN**, Even though it officially ended this past Sunday, October 19th, we are still accepting gifts toward St. Mark's Mission Endowment Fund. Your gifts of any size are welcome – and will make a difference as we work together to continue to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in Word and Deed. If you haven't had a chance to contribute yet, please consider doing so before the New Year.

You can read Pastor Kevin's blog celebrating the campaign on our website.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE - Each year, Christ Lutheran Church in Upper Darby gives out Thanksgiving dinner baskets to area families who need help to put a Thanksgiving dinner on the table.

Last year, in the weeks before Thanksgiving, they gave out over 200 baskets, & on Thanksgiving Day they distributed over 500 hot meals.

St. Mark will be working with Christ Lutheran to gather the items listed below to help them prepare. We'll gather food every Sunday (and during the week) until 11/16.
Items needed:

*Frozen Turkeys
Instant Mashed potatoes
Stuffing Mix
Canned Corn*

*Canned Green Beans
Turkey Gravy (cans or jars)
Cranberry Sauce
Muffin or Corn Bread Mix*

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
436 N. Oak Ave, Clifton Heights, PA 190018
*Website: www.stmarkcliftonheights.org
Email: office@stmarkcliftonheights.org
Phone: 610-626-5295*