



the welcome place.

St. Mark Lutheran Church  
Worship Bulletin  
Sunday, July 12, 2026  
7th Sunday after Pentecost

## GATHERING

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

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,  
whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

**we confess to you all our sins.**

**Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.**

**In your mercy, call us back to you.**

**Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.**

**Restore us to dwell in your peace.**

**In Christ's name we pray,**

**Amen.**

Jesus says, "Come to me,  
all you who are weary  
and are carrying heavy burdens,  
and I will give you rest."

In the name of God,

Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God's love.

**Amen.**

## GATHERING SONG *Bring Forth the Kingdom (W&P 22)*

## GREETING

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. 184)**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

**For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;**

**for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,**

**let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

**That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;**

**that we may live out truth and justice and grace,**

**let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

**For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;**

**for life and for love, for our work and our play,**

**let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

**For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;**

**that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,**

**let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,**

**Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

## **WORD**

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

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10-13**

A reading from Isaiah.

<sup>10</sup> For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

<sup>11</sup> so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

<sup>12</sup> For you shall go out in joy  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

<sup>13</sup> Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,  
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13**

[ <sup>1</sup> You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;  
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

<sup>2</sup> **To you, the one who answers prayer,  
to you all flesh shall come.**

<sup>3</sup> Our sins are stronger than we are,  
but you blot out our transgressions.

<sup>4</sup> **Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!  
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**

<sup>5</sup> Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,  
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

<sup>6</sup> **You make firm the mountains by your power;  
you are girded about with might.**

<sup>7</sup> You still the roaring of the seas,  
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

<sup>8</sup> **Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;  
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.**

] <sup>9</sup> You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is  
full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

<sup>10</sup> **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

<sup>11</sup> You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.

<sup>12</sup> **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,  
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

<sup>13</sup> May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with  
grain;  
let them shout for joy and sing.

## **SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11**

A reading from Romans.

<sup>1</sup> Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup> For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. <sup>3</sup> For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup> For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup> For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, <sup>8</sup> and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup> But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup> But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup> If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup> Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.

<sup>3</sup> And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup> And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup> But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.

<sup>8</sup> Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup> If you have ears, hear!"

<sup>18</sup> "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup> When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup> As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, <sup>21</sup> yet such a person has no root but endures only

for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup> As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup> But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil* (ELW 512)**

**CREED**

**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 steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God our joy, your bountiful creation reflects your commitment to life despite our actions disregarding its wonder. We look toward Isaiah's vision, when all creation rejoices, and the trees will clap for joy at your salvation. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God our life, you give us the same Spirit by which you raised Christ from the dead. Set our minds on that Spirit whenever fear or condemnation overwhelm throughout the world. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God our host and table, we pray for children who hunger and rely on school meals, for all who toil under the hot sun without refreshment, for the chronically ill who have exhausted their resources, and for local concerns. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

God our source, tend this assembly with your grace throughout this summer season. May those who travel for work or recreation do so safely, and may visitors find refreshment among us.

God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks that the roots of your goodness run deep throughout history. We remember those saints who have gone before us in faith. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

## **OFFERING**

## **MUSICAL OFFERING**

## **OFFERTORY *Christ Above Me (PP)***

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Loving God,**

**we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.**

**Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,  
so that all creation can taste your abundance.**

**We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.  
Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **DIALOGUE**

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**

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 (ELW p. 190)**

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

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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**

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**

Heaven has come near.  
Come, share in the feast!

## **COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION SONG (LAMB OF GOD) (ELW p. 191)**

**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, grant us peace, Lamb of God.**

**SONG DURING COMMUNION *As the Grains of Wheat (Haas) (W&P 10)***

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Compassionate God,  
through the gifts of bread and wine  
our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love.  
Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,  
may share your love freely, as you have shared with us.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus,  
through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.  
Amen.**

**SENDING**

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

**BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
+one God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG *For the Fruit of All Creation (ELW 679)***

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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**ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY**

PREACHER / PRESIDER ..... The Reverend Kevin M.B. Tracey  
MUSICIAN ..... Faith Woodward  
TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT ..... Edie Beaupre/Tom Petree  
LECTOR ..... Edie Beaupre

## CHURCH STAFF

**PASTOR:** The Reverend Kevin M.B. Tracey  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Faith Woodward

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

### THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Today ..... Worship Service ..... 10 AM  
Monday ..... Finance Team Meeting ..... 7 PM  
Sunday ..... Worship Service ..... 10 AM

### Announcements

It's time for the annual **SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE**. For more information pick up a list of needed supplies in the narthex. You can contribute 3 ways: place supplies in the collection box in the narthex, send in a check, or scan the QR code to order directly from the list on Amazon.

During the month of July, we will be focusing on sharing our abundance with those in need through **ELCA GOOD GIFTS**. You can give a gift via the web site <http://elca.org/goodgifts> or by using an order form in the narthex throughout the month. We will culminate with a special offering on the last Sunday of July. See Kathy Cosentino for more information.

Pr. Kevin wants to hear from you about a potential **NEW MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY**. Scan the QR code to share your thoughts today.



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