



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

July 18, 2021 | 9:30

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Service of Holy Communion

Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

Bold responses are spoken by the congregation.

Offerings may be placed in the plate at the entrance to the sanctuary.

The Offering will be brought forward by the usher during the Offertory Anthem.

Prelude

"Adagio" from *Clarinet Concerto in C Major*

Carl Maria von Weber; Samuel Sparrow, clarinetist

The congregation stands as the cross is carried into the sanctuary.

Processional Hymn

"The Church's One Foundation" (ELW 654)

AURELIA

1. The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
she is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
2. Elect from ev'ry nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses with ev'ry grace endued.
5. Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by your grace,
that we, like saints before us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839-1900; Music: Samuel S. Wesley, 1810-1876

Please be seated.

Welcome

Lowell Engelhard, Council President

The congregation may sit or kneel for the Confession.

Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is
marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us.
It is hard to believe there is enough to share.
**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**
**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**
We take offense at your teachings and your ways.
Turn us again to you.
Where else can we turn?
**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.**
Amen.

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, + the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding
and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the
justice and peace of you Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Kelly Price, lector

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.
²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my
people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not
attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will
gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring
them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over

them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. ⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 23

Delenn Rumbolo, cantor



The LORD is my shep-herd; I shall not be in want.

Psalm 23:1 (Wayne Wold) Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress

Second Reading

Ephesians 2:11-22

Kelly Price, lector

¹¹So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision” —a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— ¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

“Lift High the Cross”

Tune by Sydney H. Nicholson

Please stand.

The Holy Gospel

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 6th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they

these fires. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Reconcile the nations, O God. In Christ, we are no longer strangers and aliens, but citizens with the saints. Encourage all leaders and diplomats with the spirit of Christ to lead with justice and righteousness, creating unity among the nations and in the human family. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Revive and heal your people, O God. We pray for all suffering from Covid-19, and those who have lost loved ones across the globe during the pandemic. Continue to protect all caregivers, researchers and first-responders as they seek to care for others. Bless and heal: Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Jeffery Eckerd, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Jo Lammonds, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Mary Lou Kiser, Jim Hobbs, Paul Davis, Jimmy Schwartz, Doris Dixon, Ken Winters, Michael Frye, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Debbie Walden, Dene Shockley, the residents of Matthews Glen, and Aynsley Bragdon and the nine children in her VBS class with Covid. Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Nourish this congregation, O God. You prepare a table, feeding us and forgiving our sins. Renewed by your grace, strengthen our commitment to feed others in our community, and grant us the grace and love to see you in the diversity of our neighbors. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Shepherd us home, O God. We give thanks for all the saints who have lived and died following Christ, and who have gained a dwelling place as citizens in the household of God. As you have received them into your heavenly home, so welcome all of us to dwell in your house forever. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

(please share words of peace while practicing "social distancing" as appropriate)

OFFERING

(Offerings may be placed in the plate at the sanctuary entrance)

(The offering is brought forward from the Narthex)

Offertory Anthem

"Meditation on 'He Leadeth Me, O Blessed Thought'"

from *An American Sonata*

Tune by William B. Bradbury; Setting for Clarinet by Charles Callahan

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

Please stand.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving *(spoken)*

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.

Words of Institution

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.

Lord's Prayer

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.
Come to the holy meal!

Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is now offered in two ways: a "Communion Kit," or wafer and wine in a small cup. Communion will be continuous beginning with the balcony, then the pulpit side, followed by the lectern side of the sanctuary. Please follow the ushers' directions, coming forward via the

center aisle to the freestanding altar, returning via the side aisle. If receiving a “kit” please return to your pew via the side aisle to partake of Communion. Afterwards please seal the used Communion utensils in the zip-lock kit bag, and dispose of them after worship in the bowls available in the Narthex. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

Communion Music

“Adagio in G Minor”

Tomaso Albinoni

Clarinet and Organ; Arranged by Remo Giazotto

Please stand.

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING 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.

Recessional Hymn

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us” (ELW 789)

BRADBURY

1. Savior like a shepherd lead us; much we need your tender care.
In your pleasant pastures feed us, for our use your fold prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have bought us; we are yours.
2. We are yours; in love befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep your flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear us children when we pray.
4. Early let us seek your favor, early let us do your will;
blessed Lord and only Savior, with your love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, you have loved us, love us still.

Text: attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1779-1847; Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

“Allegro” from *Flute Sonata in E flat*

Johann Sebastian Bach

Please join us for fellowship on the patio outside.



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Worship Leaders: Pastor Carl Yost; Michael Lakeman, crucifer/acolyte; Michael Huang, prayer assistant; Kelly Price, lector; Jacob Wenzel, Jonathan & Charles Lakeman, live streaming camera; Kevin Feezor, soundboard; ushers: Doug Milheim, Marc & Susan Ginns, Eddie Goodall, A. J. Pridgen; greeters: Jay Jacob, Mike & Tara Thompson; communion assistants: Susan Lakeman, Sally McCauley; tabulators: Meg Fielding, Susan League; musicians: Samuel Sparrow, clarinetist; Delenn Rumbolo, cantor; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Michael Lakeman; crucifer/acolyte: Sophie Schwartz; ushers: Team B; greeters: Richard & Millie Cansler, Chris & Melissa Parrish; lector: Marty Schwartz; communion assistants: Ken Hazen, Jane Thompson; tabulators: Cliff Edahl, Janice Miller

Music Notes

"**Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**" ELW 789 gives us images for both Psalm 23 and the parable of the good shepherd in John 10. The hymn first appeared in the collection *Hymns for the Young* (London, 1836) compiled by Dorothy Thrupp (1779-1847), but we don't know for certain she is the author, as she wrote anonymously or under pseudonyms. William Bradbury (1816-1868) wrote the tune **BRADBURY** for this hymn, and it was published in his Sunday school book entitled *Oriola* (1859).

"**The Church's One Foundation**" ELW 654 Samuel J. Stone (1839-1900), a Church of England pastor, penned this hymn in 1866. It is from a collection of hymns he published on the Apostles' Creed: *Twelve Hymns on the Twelve Articles of the Apostles' Creed*. This hymn is based on the ninth article "The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints." Stone wrote this hymn to assist his congregation comprehend "the breadth and depth of meaning contained in each Article of the Confession of Faith." Christ is the foundation (1 Corinthians 3:11), its members' are his "new creation" (11 Corinthians 5:17), and they are his "holy bride" for whom he gave his life. Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876) composed the tune **AURELIA**, (girl's name of Latin origin meaning "the golden one") which was paired to Stone's hymn in 1868.

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

July 22, Mary Magdalene, Apostle

The gospels report Mary Magdalene was one of the women of Galilee who followed Jesus. She was present at Jesus' crucifixion and his burial. When she went to the tomb on the first day of the week to anoint Jesus' body, she was the first person to whom the risen Lord appeared. She returned to the disciples with the news and has been called "the apostle to the apostles" for her proclamation of the resurrection. Because John's gospel describes Mary as weeping at the tomb, she is often portrayed in art with red eyes. Icons depict her standing by the tomb and holding a bright red egg, a symbol of the resurrection.

July 23, Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church (c.1303-1373)

Birgitta was married at age thirteen and had four daughters with her husband. She was a woman of some standing who, in her early thirties, served as the chief lady-in-waiting to the queen of Sweden. She was widowed at the age of thirty-eight, shortly after she and her husband had made a religious

pilgrimage. Following the death of her husband, the religious dreams and visions that had begun in her youth occurred more regularly. Her devotional commitments led her to give to the poor and needy all that she owned, and she began to live a more ascetic life. She founded an order of monks and nuns, the Order of the Holy Savior (Brigittines), whose superior was a woman. Today the Society of St. Birgitta (*Societas Sanctæ Birgittæ*) is a laypersons' society that continues her work of prayer and charity.

Parish News

From the pastor -

By unanimous vote, St. Mark's Congregation Council has lifted the restrictions of social distancing and masks consistent with the CDC and the Executive Order of Governor Roy Cooper, "that fully vaccinated individuals can safely do most activities without a mask or the need to social distance from others"; as well as the NCDHHS guidance, "People who are not vaccinated should wear a mask and maintain distance in all indoor public settings and in outdoor settings when they can't maintain six feet of distance." Therefore, reservations are no longer needed. I look forward to seeing you in worship!

St. Mark's Council continues to take seriously the safety and the health concerns of all members and friends. Therefore, if individuals need or desire to wear a mask during worship, the Council wholeheartedly supports the continued use of masks for those who desire to wear them. The Council also voted that the first two rows of pews remain roped off to allow adequate space between musicians, lectors, worship leaders and the congregation as we continue our transition out of the pandemic. We have also restarted after worship fellowship with refreshments, weather permitting, on the church patio.

St. Mark's Council has also voted to add congregational singing of processional and recessional hymns, and also to offer Holy Communion in two ways in Sunday worship, either by "Communion Kit," or wafer and wine in a small cup. Though "Drive-Thru" Holy Communion has ended, if Holy Communion is desired by anyone unable to attend Sunday worship, please contact me to arrange a time to come to the church to receive the sacrament.

As we continue in a time of transition, we also look to the future knowing that Jesus Christ is leading us toward a "new normal" of new ministries and opportunities. May we remain steadfast to following Jesus Christ who never leaves us, always walks with us, and gives us strength to be light and hope for the world.

In the grace and peace of Christ,
Pastor Tim McKenzie
pastortimsmlc@gmail.com

Coming Up at St. Mark's

Worship and Congregational Life

Welcome today's guest pastor! *Pastor Yost grew up in Hickory, NC, and graduated from Lenoir-Rhyne University and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. During his ministry, Pastor Yost served congregations in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Alabama. He is also a retired U.S. military chaplain. Thank you Pastor Yost!*

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God.

“Hybrid Worship” is both in-person and online worship at the same time. The Holy Spirit gathers us both in-person and online as we continue to live together as the body of Christ during this pandemic.

Online worship continues to be streamed every Sunday at 9:30 am on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SaintMarksLutheran/>).

7/12-8/1 Pastor McKenzie will be on vacation. In the case of a pastoral emergency please contact the church office, 704-375-9185. Thank you.

Summer Sanctuary Wednesdays. During the summer St. Mark’s sanctuary will be open for prayer and meditation (6/9 - 7/28, 10:30 am-1:30 pm). Though not a worship service, it is an opportunity for individual prayer in the sacred space of our church home. In the comings and goings of the summer, let St. Mark’s sanctuary also be a place of quiet midweek homecoming, prayerful summer renewal, and joyful sacred music. Resources for this time include a brief organ recital at 12 noon and a devotional bulletin prepared from the daily lectionary.

Book Swap! Book lovers, start saving your used books for our fall Book Swap. We'll announce the date of the book exchange by the end of summer and when you can start bringing in your books. Let's make this one the best ever!

St. Mark’s email list If you are not receiving emails from St. Mark’s, we may not have your correct email address. Please contact the church to let us know. We send at least 2 emails every week.

Stewardship

Offerings and pledges may continue to be sent to St. Mark’s church office by mail or through online giving. For more information go to (<http://saintmarkscharlotte.org/stewardship/do-you-wish-to-make-a-donation/>). We have been blessed to be a blessing to others!

St. Mark’s 2021 Stewardship campaign We continue to welcome your pledge of support for St. Mark’s ministries. You may choose to return it with your offering or mail it to the church office, either in paper or online. You can also send your pledge over OnRealm. Just log into your account. Click on Giving on the left. Click on the grey "Pledge Box" and fill out the information. Remember to choose **"GF Member Contributions - 01/01/2021 until 12/31/2021"** Thank you for your generosity. It makes a difference!

Altar Flower Sponsorship If you would like to sponsor live flowers for our Sunday worship service, please sign up on the calendar by the mailbox room or contact the church office. Remember a loved one or commemorate an event by donating altar flowers. If you would like to volunteer as flower coordinator, please let us know.

Social Ministry

We continue to remember the hungry and homeless through our social ministries.

Quarters Drive Thank you to all who have continued to support the quarters drive. Quarters go to Refugee Support Services for use in laundry facilities in many apartment buildings used by recently arrived refugees. Please continue to save your quarters as the need will be ongoing. You may drop them off at church Monday-Thursday from 10 am – 2 pm, or place them in the offering plate on Sunday and they will be locked in the counting room.

Food Drive for Loaves and Fishes Social Ministry is requesting your support through July by bringing food items to help hungry children and families in Mecklenburg County! Please bring Canned entrees (spaghetti, stew, etc.), Boxed mac & cheese (any size, any brand), Canned meats (chicken, tuna, spam), Peanut butter (any size, any brand), Boxed cereal (not too sugary), Canned fruit (any kind, any size, preferably in natural juices).

Soup Kitchen St. Mark's Soup Kitchen continues every Thursday making bag lunches for distribution to our neighbors. If you would like to serve, please contact us. You may also support the Soup Kitchen through financial donations sent to the church, or through St. Mark's online giving portal. Help us share God's love!

Youth and Family Ministry

Come to the Waters Children's VBS: Save the Date! Saturday, July 31. 9 am – 2 pm at St. Mark's. Through storytelling, crafts, music, and games, children will explore the place of water in Creation, the Noah's Ark story, and Baptism. VBS is aimed at children ages 4-10. If you have a child 3 or younger who would like to participate, that's fine! We would just ask that a parent of these youngest children stay and participate with the group. If any parent would like to help with all or part of the program (storytelling, games, crafts, lunch), please respond and let me know. Your help is always accepted and appreciated! Youth are also invited to help lead! **Cost** The cost for each child to attend is \$5. This will help offset the cost of VBS materials. You can pay by cash or check (payable to St. Mark's). Please hand payments directly to Alex or place them in his church mailbox.

Adult VBS: August 1-2 Resiliency and Reliance on God Sunday, August 1--After worship until Noon. Light refreshments will be provided. Monday, August 2--7:00-8:15 pm. We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP to Alex English at dymalexenglish@gmail.com. The Christian Education Committee looks forward to hosting an Adult Vacation Bible School centered around the theme of resilience and reliance on God in times of trouble! Presenters will include Carol Goodall and Pastor Tim.

Announcements

AA meets Monday nights, 7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall.

Please remember to set the alarm when leaving the church. There is less activity at the church, so each person should be aware that the alarm may need to be set as they leave.

Facemasks St. Mark's members have made colorful, washable, re-usable masks which are in the Narthex. Please feel free to use these as masks continue to be part of our lives.

✝ ✝ ✝

St. Mark's Prayer List

Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Jeffery Eckerd, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Jo Lammonds, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Mary Lou Kiser, Jim Hobbs, Paul Davis, Jimmy Schwartz, Julian and Judy Norris, Doris Dixon, Ken Winter, Michael Frye, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Carol Marion, Dene Shockley, Aynsley Bragdon and nine other children with Covid-19 for health and full recovery, the residents of Matthews Glen.

Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests (pastortimsmc@gmail.com)

**Readings for 7/25/2021,
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost**

2 Kings 4:42-44

Psalms 145:10-18

*You open wide your hand and satisfy
the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)*

Ephesians 3:14-21

John 6:1-21

Birthdays

7/18 Daryn Zimmerman

7/19 Dave Dunlap

7/20 Larry Dagenhart, Sr.

7/20 Carol Marion

7/20 Dawn Schwartz

7/23 Beverly Timm

7/24 Barbara Baker



Do you feel like you are in crisis? In Isaiah it is written, "Fear not, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God." Stephen ministers are here to show the Lord's love and comfort for you in times of trial. Would you contact us today? Pastor Tim (pastortimsmc@gmail.com), or Lisa Barnette (stephenministriesmc@gmail.com)



Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor
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**Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry,
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