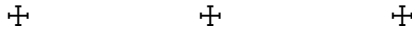




ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known



MAY 7, 2023

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Amidst the fear and trembling of life, Jesus continues to tell us to look to him so that we might see the Father. Jesus calls himself the way, the truth and the life so that we might follow him, know him and live with him all our lives. In speaking with Thomas, Jesus is also speaking to us, telling us that in believing in him we are also living into our future with him in the Father's house.

GATHERING

Bold responses are spoken by the congregation.

Prelude

“Festival Piece on ‘Alleluia! Sing to Jesus’”

Tune HYFRYDOL by Rowland H. Prichard
Setting for handbells by Douglas E. Wagner

Please stand as able.

Processional Hymn

“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing” ELW 389

TRURO

1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
2. Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now, and touching ev'ry place and time.
3. In ev'ry insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.
4. Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and ev'ry age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936, © 1975 Hope Publishing Co.; Music: T. Williams, *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

Please be seated.

Welcome

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

The congregation may sit or kneel for the Confession.

Thanksgiving for Baptism (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,
by whose hand we are given new birth,
by whose speaking we are given new life.

Amen.

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,
holy and merciful,
holy and mighty,
you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,
and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams.
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.

Empower our witness to your resurrection.

Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

Satisfy the world's need through this living water.
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.
Where despair prevails, grant hope.
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.
We ask this through Christ,
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.

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.

Please stand as able.

Kyrie

Holy Communion Setting Three, pg. 138-139

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

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 mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Hymn of Praise

“This Is the Feast of Victory” *Holy Communion Setting Three*

ELW pg. 140-141; Richard Hillert

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

1. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*
2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. *Refrain*
3. 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. *Refrain*
4. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. *Refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to following the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Musical Interlude

“I Am the Bread of Life”

Tune BREAD OF LIFE by Suzanne Toolan
Setting for handbells by Jefferey A. Hall

WORD

First Reading Acts 7:55-60

Karen Feezor, lector

⁵⁵But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶“Look,” he said, “I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!” ⁵⁷But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

Delenn Rumbolo, Christian Souza, cantors



In - to your hands, O LORD, I com-mend my spir-it.

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalms Setting for the Church Year: Revised Common Lectionary* (Mark Sedio), Copyright © 2008 Augsburg Fortress

¹In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame; in your righteousness deliver me. ²Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily. Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me. ³You are indeed my rock and my fortress; for your name's sake lead me and guide me, ⁴take me out of the net that is hidden for me, for you are my refuge. ⁵Into your hand I commit my spirit; you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God. ¹⁵My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors. ¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.

Second Reading 1 Peter 2:2-10

Karen Feezor, lector

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture: “See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.” ⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner,” ⁸and “A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall.” They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous

light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

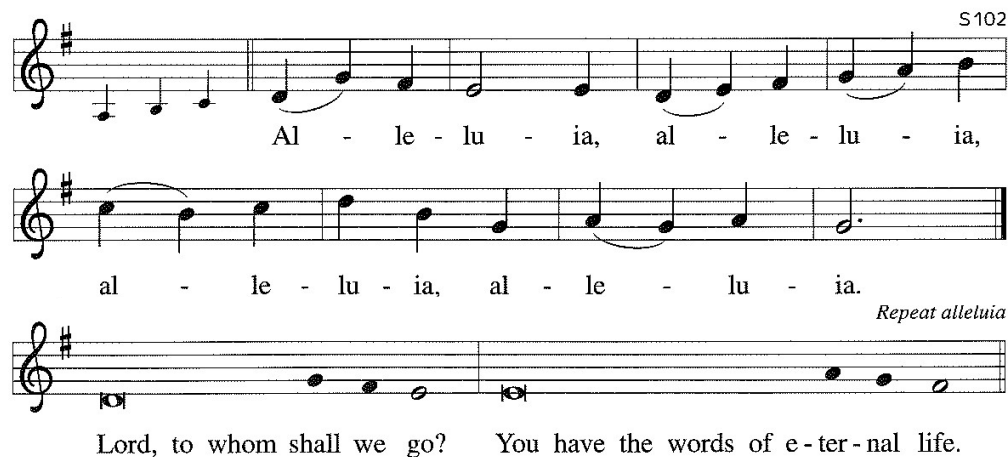
The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please stand as able.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go” from *Holy Communion Setting One*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

The Holy Gospel **John 14:1-14**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 14th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” ⁸Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. ¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

“*Look to him*”

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day

“You Are the Way” ELW 758

DUNDEE

Text: George W. Doane, 1799-1859, alt.. Music: *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615

1. You are the way; to you alone from sin and death we flee;
all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
2. You are the truth; your word alone true wisdom can impart;
you only can inform the mind and purify the heart.
3. You are the life; the rending tomb proclaims your conqu’ring arm;
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
4. You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys eternal flow.

The Nicene Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

(Michael Thompson, prayer assistant)

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.

United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.
A brief silence.

God of mercy, you sent your servant Stephen to be a witness for those who would not see you, a voice for those who would not hear you, and a test for those who would not accept you. In giving his life for you, the love and compassion you instilled in him became his final prayer - that you not hold their sins against them. Grant your church the same love and compassion when we encounter rejection, hatred, or harm in this world; help us to forgive others, so that we might also know forgiveness and life in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, your steadfast love continues to sustain your creation with the breath of life. Enable us to be co-creators with you by protecting the earth's diverse habitats from the misuse and negligence that leads to pollution, global warming, climate change, and extinction. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Redeeming Lord, in Jesus you have given us the way to truth and life; grant wisdom to all leaders and governments to live and govern with justice and mercy. Strengthen all nations to end the sin of hatred, war, and gun violence, and bless all rescue workers responding to the victims of earthquake, flood and storms. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of love, in this challenging and volatile world, be our shelter and safe harbor when we need refuge from life's storms. Be our rock and our fortress when we feel threatened; be our light and our guide when we encounter darkness, and free us from all that keeps us from you. We ask that you heal and strengthen: Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Arlene Fielding, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Christopher Shirley, Joan Love, Jamie Bates, Jimmy Schwartz, John Simon, Dan Price, Roxi Tolbert, Katie Yowell, Shirley Larson, Ingrid Keiris, Martha Stackel, Bishop Tim Smith, Sam Temple, Joe Barrett, and Lawanna Stoeckel. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of life, you call us out of darkness into your marvelous light. Lead us as a congregation always to offer your light of hope amidst the darkness of the world. Bless us to be a voice for the weak, the sick, the vulnerable and the stranger, always incarnating your mercy and love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Triune God, you are the way, the truth and the life. Open our hearts and minds so that believing in your Son, we might know our eternal home in you. Grant us faith to know him so we can know you, to see him so we can see you, and to be with him in your Spirit, so that we can be with you for all eternity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ's resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

Amen.

Peace

(Please stand as able, sharing the peace of the risen Christ.)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

Please be seated.

OFFERING

(Offerings for the mission of the church are gathered by the ushers.)

Anthem

“The Whole Bright World Rejoices Now”

David H. Williams

*The whole bright world rejoices now, Alleluia! The birds do sing on ev'ry bough, Alleluia!
Then shout beneath the racing skies, Alleluia! To him who rose that we might rise, Alleluia!
And all you living things make praise, Alleluia! He guideth you on all your ways, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Alleluia! Our God most high, our joy and boast. Alleluia!*

Offertory

(The offering is brought forward by the ushers)

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” ELW 392

HYFRYDOL

1. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood.”

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898, alt; Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Generous God, in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please stand as able.

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

S 144a

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

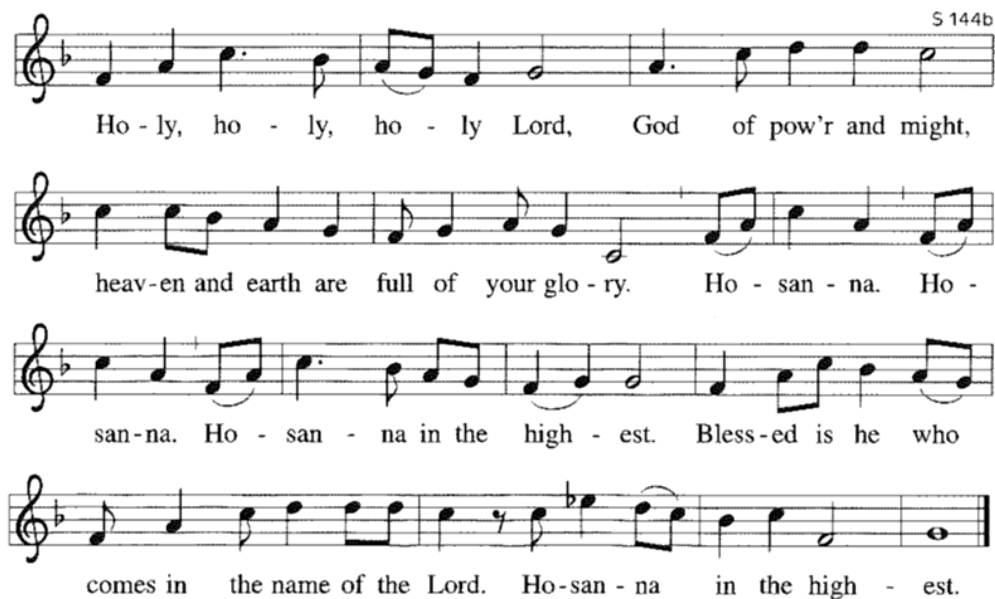
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy” from *Holy Communion Setting Three*



S 144b

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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.

The 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

Come and know Christ, broken and poured out for you.

Please be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered continuously in front of the freestanding altar, or at the rail of the high altar in two ways, by wafer and wine in a small cup or "Communion Kit." Please follow the ushers' prompts, walking forward to the desired

communion station, and returning via the side aisles. If receiving a “kit” please seal the used utensils in the zip-lock bag, placing the bag after worship in the marked bowl in the Narthex. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

Communion Music “Lamb of God” from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

S 146

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

“Prelude on ‘You Are the Way’” Setting for organ by Lani Smith

“Chaconne on ‘Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing’”
Setting for organ by Matthew H. Coral

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

SENDING

SENDING BLESSING

The God of all,
who raised † Jesus from the dead,
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit
to live in the new creation.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn

“Sing with All the Saints in Glory!” ELW 426

Alternate tune: HYMN TO JOY

1. Sing with all the saints in glory, sing the resurrection song!
 Death and sorrow, earth's dark story, to the former days belong.
 All around the clouds are breaking, soon the storms of time shall cease;
 in God's likeness we awaken, knowing everlasting peace.
2. Oh, what glory, far exceeding all the eye has yet perceived!
 Holiest hearts for ages pleading never that full joy conceived.
 God has promised, Christ prepares it, there on high our welcome waits.
 Ev'ry humble spirit shares it, Christ has passed the eternal gates.
3. Life eternal! heav'n rejoices: Jesus lives who once was dead.
 Shout with joy, O deathless voices! Child of God, lift up your head!
 Life eternal! Oh, what wonders crowd on faith; what joy unknown,
 Whan, amid earth's closing thunders, saints shall stand before the throne!

Text: William J. Irons, 1812-1883, alt.. Music: William Bradley Roberts, b. 1947, © 1995 Augsburg Fortress

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Postlude

“Improvisation on ‘Sing with All the Saints in Glory’”

Tune by Ludwig van Beethoven; Organ setting by Richard Elliott

+ + +

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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie; prayer assistant: Michael Thompson; crucifer: Michael Lakeman; acolyte: Andrew Puky; lector: Karen Feezor; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Kevin Feezor; ushers: Ken Williams, Larry Dagenhart, Jr., Alan Harms, Dale Hopp, Sally McCauley; greeters: Chris Miller, Tom Sehorn, Ted Seman, David Thomason; communion assistants: Ken Hazen, Gretchen Payne, Ruth Barrett, Barbara Baker, Flora Chance; communion helper: Karen Covington; nursery attendants: Susan Ginns, Elsa Wartner; tabulators: Karen Feezor, Dianne Thomas; musicians: St. Mark's Choir; St. Mark's Handbell Choir; Christian Souza, Delenn Rumbolo, cantors; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Michael Lakeman; crucifer: Michael Lakeman; acolyte: Andrew Puky; lector: Charles Lakeman; live streaming camera: Joe Barrett; soundboard: Alan Harms; ushers: Team A; greeters: Jackie Ellington, Ted Seman, David Thompson; communion assistants: Charles & Susan Lakeman, Janice Miller, Chris & Brooks Stevenson; communion helper: Catherine Metze; Nursery attendants: Shelley & Kendall Ferner; tabulators: Joe Barrett, Janice Miller

+ + +

Parish News

From the pastor -

"If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God." (Colossians 3:1)

Blessed Eastertide greetings! The joy we experience at Easter is profound because the risen Christ is alive and dwells in every heart opening itself to him. This means we are also raised with Christ to live into his resurrection as a reality today and every day. Paul certainly experienced this, encouraging the church at Colossae to know that we are freed to seek and live for "the things that are above" where Christ is. Yet we also live with the things that are "below" and this is precisely where Christ lived and died so that he might raise us with him to know God's glory in the midst of suffering. Christ raised at Easter frees us, moving us from death to life. May you be freed and lifted every day to seek the things that are above. In doing so, you will be able to lift others with strength you never knew you had.

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

Coming Up at St. Mark's

Worship and Congregational Life

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Richard Cansler by his family.

Love Circle meets this Wednesday at 11 am in the Large Conference Room. Please join us. We will not meet again until this fall.

Theology on Tap will be held May 11 at 7pm at The Vaulted Oak Brewery, 3726 Monroe Rd. All are welcome.

Save the Date: May 17 is Brixx Pizza fundraiser night for Family Ministry! Please consider having dinner at Brixx in support of Family Ministry. Please use the printed sign-up sheets

St. Mark's Ethnic Restaurant Group on May 16, 2023 at 7:00 PM will dine at **La Shish Kabob**. This restaurant is located at 3117 N Sharon Amity Road, 28205 (in a strip mall, 300 feet north from the intersection with Albemarle Road, on the west (uptown) side

of North Sharon Amity Road). Slow down, or you may miss your turn! La Shish Kabob serves hot and cold Near Eastern entrees, sides, and desserts in a casual deli-type space. The salads and soups and specialty dishes all are prepared under Izzat Freitekh's careful supervision from his family's recipes. The selections include dishes from gyros and kabobs to shawarmas and slowly simmered lamb and chicken served with mountains of moulikhla (yellow) rice. Izzat's Lebanese grandmother would be proud of how some of her recipes are served at La Shish Kabob! All are welcome to join the fun at La Shish Kabob! There is no language-barrier at this restaurant – the only problem is deciding which treat(s) to indulge in. Hint: tag-team a meal and share baba-ghannouj, hommoss, falafel, kibbeh, kabob, tabouli, chicken salad, or even double lamb shanks and rice! And, don't forget to save room for any (or all) of the fresh pastries. **RSVP** for seating to Tom and Judy Tolbert (please call the church office) by the Sunday afternoon before the dinner. We look forward to greeting you at La Shish Kabob!

St. Mark's Book Study Group will meet on May 25 at 10 am in the large conference room and via Zoom. This month's book is Will the Circle Be Unbroken? by Sean Dietrich. This is an unforgettable memoir of love, loss, the friction of family memories, and the unlikely hope that you're going to be all right. It is the story of what happens after the unthinkable, and the journey we all must make in finding the courage to stop the cycles of the past from laying claim to our future. Sean was a seventh-grade drop-out, a dishwasher then a construction worker to help his mother and sister scrape by, and a self-described "nobody with a sad story behind him." Yet he cannot deny the glimmers of life's goodness even amid its rough edges. Such goodness becomes even harder to deny when Sean meets the love of his life at a fried chicken church potluck, and harder still when his lifelong love of storytelling leads him to stages across the southeast, where he is known and loved as "Sean of the South." A story that will stay with you long after the final page, Will the Circle Be Unbroken? testifies to the strength that lives within us all to make peace with the past and look to the future with renewed hope and wonder.

The Christian Education Hour is at 9:30 am on Sundays. Please join us as you are able. On Sunday, May 7, we will begin a study of Daniel in the Lion's Den.

"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 10:30 am on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SaintMarksLutheran/>).

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.

Family Ministry

Youth Classes

Sundays at 9:30: Youth Group in the Youth Room. Godly Play has been temporarily paused.

Confirmation Class meets every other Sunday at 9:30.

Stewardship

2023 Stewardship Appeal If you have not done so, please prayerfully consider making a financial pledge of support for St. Mark's in 2023. Your pledge helps St. Mark's ministries of worship, service and fellowship continue over the coming year. Your pledge of support is welcome at any time. Pledge cards are available in the Gathering Place. An online pledge option is also available from our website, or you may use the QR code.

You may use the QR code at left (hover your phone camera to connect) for immediate access to St. Mark's website donation page. Pledges and donations for Altar Flowers may also be made using this code.

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.

Social Ministry

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

REFUGEE SUPPORT SERVICES is teaching the skill of knitting to our refugee neighbors. If you have any surplus yarn or yarn you no longer need, please donate it to this outreach. They would especially appreciate kelly green for a specific project, but will definitely welcome ALL colors for general use.

Loaves and Fishes Please remember families who need some assistance putting food on the table every day. Let's continue to overflow our baker's rack with non-perishable, **non-breakable** food items. Or you can leave your donation by the choir room door from 10:00 - 2:00 Monday - Thursday. "I was hungry and you gave me food" Matt.25:35

Soup Kitchen St. Mark's Soup Kitchen is serving lunch in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday for 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!

Announcements

If the alarm goes off when you are in the building, leave and shut the door by the choir room, swipe your key card to silence the alarm.

AA meets Monday nights "Third Tradition", 7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall; Wednesday nights "Just the Basics", 7:30 p.m. in Room 210; Thursday nights "Not a Glum Lot", 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall; Saturday morning 10:30 a.m. "SLAA".

Fundraiser for Family Ministry



BRIXX
WOOD FIRED PIZZA
+ CRAFT BAR

Wednesday, May 17
from 4 - 7 pm
Look for the form for
St. Mark's to receive funds.



Music Notes

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" ELW 389 was penned by Brian Wren (b.1936) for Easter of 1968, just ten days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Wren is a minister in the United Reformed Church of England and Wales. He has revised this hymn several times, with the version in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* completed in 1993. His hymn reminds us that the risen Christ is not far away from our lives. Christ is alive, and suffers with us, yet lives and comes to us with good news, "till all of creation rings with joy, justice, love and praise." The tune **TRURO** is named for a city in Cornwall, England, and we believe written by Thomas Williams, from a collection of his hymns entitled *Psalmodia Evangelica*, published in 1789.

"Sing with All the Saints in Glory" ELW 426 This Easter hymn was written by William J. Irons (1812-1883) with first publication in 1873. Inspired by 1 Corinthians 15:20, it celebrates the meaning of the eternal life won for us in Christ's resurrection. The text looks beyond individual deaths to the consummation of all things, when "the storms of times shall cease." Today we pair Iron's text with the tune **HYMN TO JOY**, from Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*.

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

May 8, Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church (c.1342-c.1416)

Julian of Norwich lived as an anchoress in Norwich, England, and after recovering from a serious illness she described visions that had come to her in 1373 during her suffering. She conceived of a loving and compassionate God, merciful and forgiving, and believed in our ability to reach self-knowledge despite sin. She wrote of God as our mother, and was a strikingly independent thinker. Her book, *Revelations of Divine Love*, is the earliest surviving book in the English language written by a woman. Though little is known about her life, she is one of the most celebrated figures of the English Middle Ages, and esteemed as one of the profoundest thinkers of this period. A prayer and a hymn attributed to Julian are included in the ELW (p.87, #735).

May 9 Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church, hymnwriter (1700-1760)

Count Zinzendorf was born into an aristocratic family and after the death of his father was raised by his Pietistic grandmother. This influence was a lasting one, and he moved away from the overly intellectual Lutheranism of the Enlightenment period. When he was twenty-two, a group of Moravians asked permission to live on his lands. He agreed, and they established a settlement they called "Herrnhut, or "the Lord's watch." Eventually worldwide Moravian missions emanated from this community. Zinzendorf participated in these missions and is also remembered for writing hymns characteristic of his Pietistic faith, including "Jesus, Still Lead On" (ELW 624).

Adapted from Sundays and Seasons

THEOLOGY ON TAP



**Thursday,
May 11 at 7pm -**

The Vaulted Oak Brewery
3726 Monroe Rd.
All are welcome!



Ethnic Restaurant Group
Tuesday, May 16
7 pm
La Shish Kabob
Contact Tom or Judy
Tolbert by May 14

St. Mark's Prayer List

Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Arlene Fielding, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Christopher Shirley, Joan Love, Jane Thompson, Jamie Bates, Jimmy Schwartz, John Simon, Dan Price, Roxi Tolbert, Katie Yowell, Shirley Larson, Ingrid Keiris, Martha Stackel, Bishop Tim Smith, Sam Temple, Joe Barrett, and Lawanna Stoeckel.

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

Readings for 5/14/2023,

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 17:22-31

Psalms 66:8-20

Bless our God, you people; let the sound of praise be heard. (Ps. 66:8)

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

Birthdays

5/7 Agnes Yoos

5/9 Roger Bruhwel

5/10 Dzidra Reimanis

5/12 Nanette Temple

5/12 Tracy Johnson

5/12 Sara Poplin

5/13 Henry Ilderton



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. If you would like to confidentially speak to a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Tim (pastortimsmc@gmail.com)



Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor

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