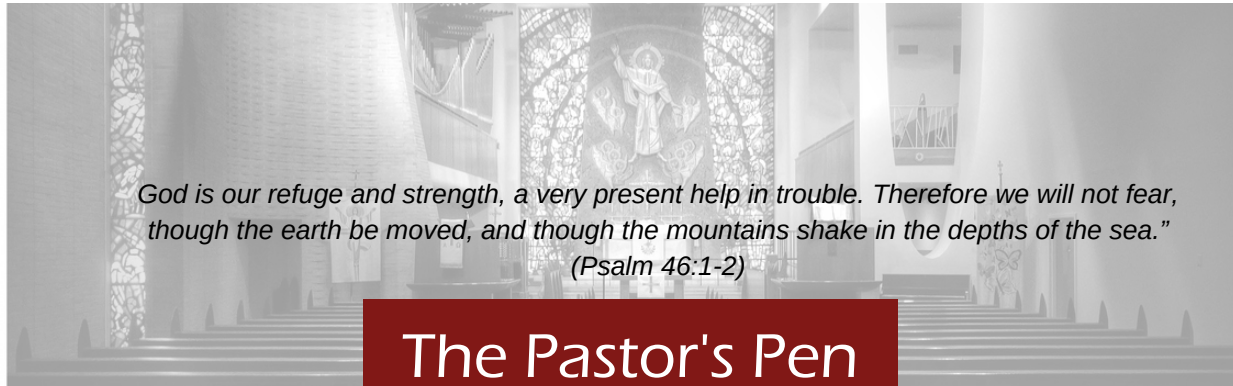


# ReMarks

October 2023

## St. Mark's Lutheran Church



Dear Friends in Christ,

Psalm 46 is said to have inspired Martin Luther to write the hymn, “A Mighty Fortress is Our God.” The opening words of this psalm, “God is our refuge and strength,” remind us that no matter what is happening in our lives or world, God’s presence is refuge and strength. This psalm, with its words about the earth being moved and mountains shaking in the sea, is remarkable because rather than blaming God for natural disasters and tragedies, it proclaims God’s living presence in the midst of human suffering.

On March 11, 2011, while my wife and I were serving as missionaries in Japan, a powerful earthquake struck the Tōhoku region north of Tokyo where we lived, severely damaging the library of the Lutheran college and seminary where I worked and shaking our lives. During worship in the school chapel the following day, it was Psalm 46 that was read and preached on. I remember being moved by words so ancient that could also immediately become a source of God’s power and hope in the present moment. This psalm continues to remind me that God is with humanity amid its troubles, always offering refuge and hope.

As we prepare to celebrate the Reformation later this month, we give thanks that in Christ God is our refuge and strength, always helping us in the present to embody the God who suffers with us. God’s gift of grace frees us to live as people for others. Grace allows us to see God creating unity out of divisions and amid human crises. The church is the place where we see a diverse humanity gathered by God into a new community centered in Christ and living for others. God creates this new community in the waters of Baptism where we become one in Christ Jesus, always seeking to be a very present help – refuge and strength – to those in need.

Each year our Stewardship Appeal is the way we come together in the unity of Christ in order that we might plan our mutual mission for the coming year. This year’s appeal is titled, “One in Christ Jesus,” reminding us that in the grace of Baptism we are claimed by Christ and made into one body, the church. As you give thanks for God’s grace, I invite you to prayerfully consider your financial support of St. Mark’s as a sign of your ongoing commitment to living as Christ’s body the church – a very present help to those in need.

The refuge and strength of God’s grace is the one constant that is always with us so that we might live with confidence and hope for others!

In the grace and peace of Christ, Pastor Timothy McKenzie

1001 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207 | 704.375.9185 | [stmarkscharlotte.org](http://stmarkscharlotte.org)

November 2023 ReMarks deadline is 10/16/2023

Email articles/pictures to [admin@saintmarkscharlotte.org](mailto:admin@saintmarkscharlotte.org)



# September Council Highlights

On 9/11/2023, the congregational council held their monthly meeting in the large conference room.

From the Pastor's Report:

- Thank you to the congregation for its display of kindness and Christian fellowship following the passing of his father and Mari's father within one month of one another.
- Thank you to Property Committee for the uncountable hours and dedication to identifying issues with the roof, seeking a solution, and ensuring the safety of the building.
- 7/23 – Sarah Storrs joined congregation. Welcome, Sarah.
- 8/6 – Adult VBS, over 50 attendees
- 8/13 and 9/3 - Thank you to Bibba Whitener for being a guest organist.
- 8/20, 8/27, and 9/3 respectively - Thank you to Dr. Marcus Miller, Deacon Rachel Bailey, and Rev. Todd Cutter for preaching.
- 9/11 - Memorial Service for Steve McCurry

From the Treasurer's Report:

- The church continues to be in a relatively good financial situation.

Approved motions:

- Combine Barker-Ownby Estate funds with contingency fund. Interest will be part of contingency fund. The principal balance from the Barker-Ownby will remain the same.
- Approve property committee's recommendation to go with Mighty Dog Roofing to repair the roof.
- As per St. Mark's Constitution and Bylaws, council established a 2023 nominating committee comprised of Susan Lakeman, Ken Hazen, and Ruth Barrett put forth 3 adult plus 1 youth nomination by October 15th.

Other topics during meeting:

- 10/29 – Congregational Life will host a potluck lunch following Reformation Sunday Service and concurrent with annual meeting
  - Every family to bring a covered dish
- For committees that did not send a budget to Ken by 8/25 deadline, Finance will set budget for committee based on previous year's budget and previous year's spending

Peace,

A.J. Pridgen, Council Secretary



*St. Mark's  
October  
Congregational Meeting*

**10/29/2023 Reformation Sunday**  
**One service only at 10:30 am**  
**immediately followed by the meeting.**

*Stay for the potluck lunch!*

Thank you for your faithfulness in service together to  
Christ at St. Mark's!

**A Note from the Finance Committee**

Thank you for keeping up with your pledges and contributions to St. Mark's. Through July your generous contributions kept St. Mark's in very good financial shape. However, the traditional summer decline in contributions occurred in August and September. August showed a budget deficit with September tracking the same. Deficits in the summer months are not unusual as church attendance is down and this year was no exception.

Now that we are entering the final quarter of the year, please evaluate where you stand with your pledges and if you are behind, the fourth quarter is a good time to catch up. Keep in mind that gifts of appreciated stock and pledges fulfilled via IRA RMD's can be a great tax savings to you and those gifts benefit St. Mark's. As always, consult your tax advisor or CPA if you choose to give via gifts of appreciated stock or an RMD from your IRA or 401K.

Again, thank you for your faithfulness to St. Mark's and its ministries.

**Update on Roofing Project**

The roofing project is proceeding on track with a contractor selected and funding via a loan from the Home Mission Foundation's loan committee. If all goes to plan, we expect the roof to be completed by Thanksgiving.

The roof contract is being reviewed by legal counsel and we hope to have the contract signed shortly. The Home Mission Foundation is expected to approve our loan in the next 30 days with funds in place by the end of October. The loan is a fifteen-year note at 4% fixed interest. We intend to satisfy the loan in just a few years, and it is not too early to donate to the Roof Fund. Just make sure to note "Roof Fund" on your donations.

Cliff Edahl, Treasurer

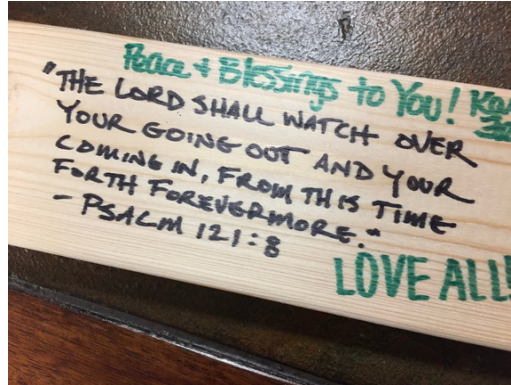
**From the Pastor: Call Committee Update**

St. Mark's Congregation Council is drafting the Ministry Site Profile (MSP), which will be submitted to the Synod for approval. The Call Committee met on September 18 and elected Meg Fielding as chairperson. Pastor Tim reported these activities to the Bishop's Assistant, Pastor CeCee Mills.

# Around St. Mark's

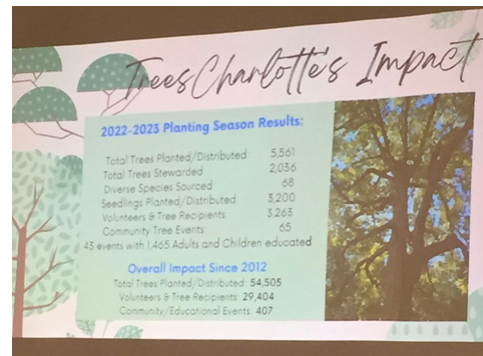
"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." (Colossians 3:16)

God's Work. Our Hands.



On Sunday September 10, we blessed backpacks and bags of the children and youth of St. Mark's, and also blessed lumber that will be incorporated into the 2023 Habitat For Humanity Fall Build. After worship the Men's Group sponsored a work project in the building and on the grounds of St. Mark's. Thank you to all who participated!

TreesCharlotte sponsored by St. Mark's Men's Group



TreesCharlotte Executive Director, Jane Myers, and Community arborist, Heather Brent, led a learning session that introduced the work TreesCharlotte does in seeking to protect as well as expand the tree canopy in Charlotte.

The Beauty of St. Mark's

St. Mark's unique font is a symbol of the Holy Spirit that descended upon Jesus at his baptism, reminding us that we also receive the gift of the Spirit in Holy Baptism. Pastor Tim taking photos for the Stewardship brochure.



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# Coming up at St. Mark's

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"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly." (Colossians 3:16)



## Blessing of the Animals Saturday, October 7 4 pm on the church patio

In remembrance of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi (10/4), and in recognition of the blessings we receive from the goodness of God's creation. All our welcome!

Francis of Assisi had a spirit of gladness and gratitude for all of God's creation. The modern significance of St. Francis of Assisi is in his recognition and blessing of the goodness of God's creation, and in identifying himself with the poor. Francis' commemoration day has traditionally been a time to bless pets and animals. Please join us outside on the church patio at 4 pm on October 7 as we bless our beloved pets who enrich our lives and homes.

18th Season  
2023-2024



**Organ at  
DAVIDSON**

**October 9 @ 7:30**  
**Les Ackerman**

Davidson College  
Presbyterian Church

[organatdavidson.org](http://organatdavidson.org)

Media Sponsor  
**WDAV 89.9**  
Classical Public Radio



The concert is free to the public both in-person and streaming online at Organ at Davidson on Facebook.



**SAINT MARK'S MEN'S GROUP**

**Saturday, Oct. 14 at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall**  
**After the meeting: Adopt-a-Street cleanup**

Please join us for our monthly meeting, and stay to serve with us, helping to clean the Charlotte streets that St. Mark's Men's Group has adopted. All are Welcome!

Thank you, St. Mark's Men's Group! Please join us on October 14 at 9 am.

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# Congregational Life

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Kay Sehorn Committee Chairperson

## Celebrate Reformation with a Potluck!



Please join us for a potluck lunch on Reformation Day, Sunday, October 29, immediately following the 10:30 am Worship service and the Congregational meeting! Sponsored by the Congregational Life Committee, fried chicken and drinks will be provided. We ask that you bring a side dish, protein, or dessert to share. Please sign up on the Sign-Up Genius site below so we will know how many people to expect.

We look forward to sharing a delicious meal and celebrating the Reformation with you!

**Click on the link or copy it to your browser or call the church office to sign up:**

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4DAFAB23A6F49-44610625-reformation>**

## St. Mark's Annual Book Swap



Bring your books to the Gathering Place during October for our annual Book Swap event Sunday October 22. All books you've loved and want to swap for new ones are welcome. Remainders will be added to our church library or donated to Julia's Cafe Habitat for Humanity book drive.

Bring as many as you want.

Take as many as you like.

Enjoy!

At your local Charlotte Region ReStore, old books, CDs, movies, vinyl and more are given a second change at life, thanks to our very own Julia's Cafe & Books. Proceeds go to building and repairing more affordable homes in our community through Habitat for Humanity of the Charlotte Region. Make a real difference and declutter at the same time by dropping off your books in the Gathering Place for our annual Book Swap! See [www.juliascafe.org](http://www.juliascafe.org)



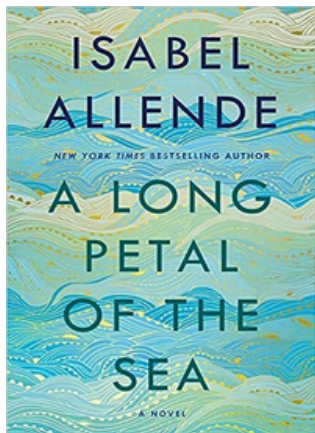
## The Love Circle

The Love Circle will gather on Wednesday, October 11 at 11:00 in the Large Conference Room. Everyone is invited!

# Congregational Life

## Kay Sehorn Committee Chairperson

### St. Mark's Book Study Group

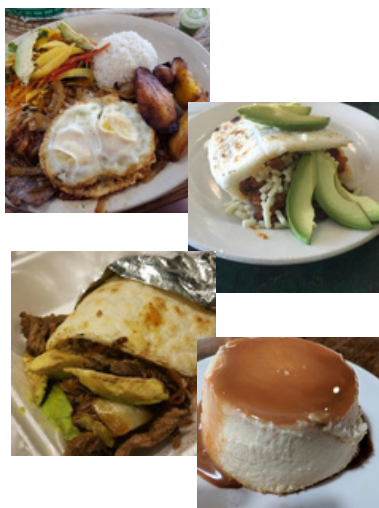


The St. Mark's Book Study Group will meet on Thursday, October 26, at 10 am in the large conference room and via Zoom.

Our book this month is *A Long Petal of The Sea* by Chilean author Isabel Allende. This novel spans decades and crosses continents following two young people as they flee the aftermath of the Spanish Civil War and cross the ocean in search of a place to call home. It also provides an intimate look at the relationship between one man and one woman and an epic story of love, war, family, and the search for home. The couple embraces exile as the rest of Europe erupts in world war. Starting over on a new continent, they face trial after trial. Through it all, their hope of returning to Spain keeps them going. Destined to witness the battle between freedom and repression as it plays out across the world, they will find that home might have been closer than they thought all along.

We welcome all who wish to join our discussion. Please contact Judy Tolbert or Kay Sehorn for more information.

### Ethnic Restaurant Group



St Mark's Ethnic Restaurant Group will dine at Las Americas Colombian Restaurant and Bakery on October 17, 2023 at 7:00 PM. The menu offers English and Spanish, and the tantalizing bakery display allows you to point as well as read.

Las Americas opened relatively recently, and the varied menu is still "Colombian". A wide assortment of main-dish options (steak, pork, chicken, fish, shellfish, mixed grill, stews, soups, eggs) will tempt tastebuds. The sides (arepas, yuca, potatoes, salads, rice, avocados) add variety to dinner choices. Selections from the bakery display (Napoleons, flans, rollups, cakes, meringues, cheese brads) add a crowning touch to a delightful experience. Plan to come and enjoy as indulgent a meal as you choose. All of the dishes have the potential to create a memorable experience. Las Americas is located in Tower Place Shopping Center, 8652 Pineville-Matthews Road, Charlotte NC 28226. Tower Place is close to the Park-Road intersection.

Easily accessed parking abounds at Tower Place. You can turn directly into Tower Place from NC51 (Pineville-Matthews Road), or you can work your way from Park Road through the Black Lion parking lot if traffic is heavy and you are driving from the Pineville direction. RSVP to Tom & Judy Tolbert by midnight on the Sunday before our gathering at Las Americas!



pictured: Ethnic Restaurant Group at Cafe Monte on September 19.

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# Family Ministry

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## THEOLOGY ON TAP



This month's outing will be at Suffolk Punch Brewing (Southpark location, 4400 Sharon Rd, Suite 173) at 7pm on Thursday October 19th.



pictured: THOT at Olde Mecklenburg Brewery on September 14.

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# Gifts & Memorials

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## Jay Jacob Committee Chairperson

### In Memory of Steve McCurry

Karen Covington - Music Fund  
Larry Dagenhart, Sr. - Gifts & Memorials  
Sarah East - Gifts & Memorials  
Barbara Baker - Gifts & Memorials  
Millie Cansler - Pastor's Discretionary Fund  
Evelyn Gerdes - Prayer Garden Columbarium  
McCurry Family - Pastor's Discretionary Fund  
Claire Barnhardt - Gifts & Memorials  
Steven & Brenda Hoffman - Gifts & Memorials  
With Love & Condolences Charles "Chuck" ERC  
Broadband work family - Gifts & Memorials

### In Memory of Betty Lentz

Evelyn Gerdes - Prayer Garden Columbarium

### In Memory of Rev. Dr. Carl McKenzie (Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie's father)

James Harbinson - Pastor's Discretionary Fund  
Steve & Jane McCall - ELCA World Hunger  
Karen Covington - ELCA Global Mission (Japan)  
Dale & Mary Lou Hopp - ELCA World Hunger  
Evelyn Gerdes - Pastor's Discretionary Fund

### In Memory of Takamasa Esashi (Mari McKenzie's father)

Evelyn Gerdes - Pastor's Discretionary Fund

### In Honor of Virginia Stackel

Evelyn Gerdes - Music Fund



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# Social Ministry

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Susan Ginns Committee Chairperson



**MARK'S**

Soup Kitchen

St. Mark's Soup Kitchen has been invited to be a charity partner for the Charlotte Turkey Trot. The soup kitchen will receive a monetary donation from the race for providing volunteers to pass out medals at the finish line!

The Charlotte Turkey Trot will be on Thanksgiving Morning at the Dick's Sporting Goods Parking Lot at the South Park Mall (4325 Barclay Downs Dr). The time commitment for passing out medals is from 6:30 am to 10:30 am. We need 10 volunteers to help with this event.

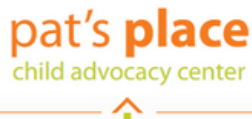
If you are interested in helping, please email Susan Lakeman at [womble1974@yahoo.com](mailto:womble1974@yahoo.com) for more information.



Listed as one of the 30 Best Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trots in America, the Charlotte Turkey Trot celebrates its 35th year in 2023!

Thanksgiving Day morning several fun options to participate including an 8K Run, a 5K Run/Walk, a 1-Mile Fun Run/Walk and a Tot Trot are offered. Starting and finishing at the SouthPark Mall, the largest road race (9,000+) in North Carolina is a homecoming destination for extended families, old classmates, and a place to meet and celebrate with neighbors. The community comes together for the official Charlotte kick-off to the holiday season!

## Social Ministry October Projects



### Fall Drive to Assist Pat's Place

Please donate gifts for young people. A list is in the Gathering Place.



### Habitat for Humanity Fall 2023 Build Carter Work Project

Please help by donating funds, and volunteering for the house we will sponsor. Call Susan League with your questions.



### Loaves and Fishes Pantry

Our baker's rack in the Gathering Place is always waiting for your donations of NON-PERISHABLE, NON-BREAKABLE food items.

# Worship & Music

Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

September Worship Highlights



Alex Wilborn, principal trumpet, Charlotte Symphony,  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



St. Mark's Choir, Fifteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost



Altar flowers, memorial service for Stevenson McCurry,  
September 11, 2023



John Brumbaugh, cellist,  
Seventeenth Sunday after  
Pentecost



Delenn Rumbolo, Christian Souza,  
8:30 am worship song leaders,  
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



St. Mark's Choir, Seventeenth  
Sunday after Pentecost



Flora Chance, lector,  
Seventeenth Sunday after  
Pentecost

# Worship & Music

Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson



Melody Long, Bryan Stoenner, cantors, Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost



Fall season rehearsals have resumed for our St. Marks Choir! Please consider joining us, as singers are needed and welcomed for all voice parts. Wednesdays 7:00-8:30 pm.

St. Mark's Hanbell Choir fall season rehearsals have begun! Please join us Wednesday evenings 6:00-6:45 pm.

Half price tickets for SMLC!! Enter SMHalfoff on CPM website

**Carolina Pro Musica**  
IN CONCERT

*"The Amorous Baroque"*  
October 20, 2023  
7:30 pm

*Italy was the place for new ideas in the 17th century. The concepts spread across Europe and beyond. Enter the Baroque period with enticing sonatas and cantatas full of emotion. Works by Castello, Marcello, Bononcini, Veracini, Sarro, and Corelli. Enjoy how it started!*

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
1001 Queens Road, Charlotte  
TICKET RESERVATION:  
[HTTPS://WWW.CAROLINAPROMUSICA.ORG/SCHEDULE](https://www.carolinapromusica.org/schedule)

[www.SaintMarksCharlotte.org](http://www.SaintMarksCharlotte.org) 704-375-9185

Carolina Pro Musica new season brochures will be available in the Gathering Place.

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# Worship & Music

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Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

We Sing the Faith

Historical and Spiritual Insight Into the Hymns We Sing  
Reflections by Lester Ackerman

## "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" ELW 836

This hymn was written in 1907 by Henry van Dyke (1852-1933). In addition to being a Presbyterian minister, van Dyke was professor of literature at Princeton University, a Navy chaplain during World War I, and served as an ambassador to Holland and Luxembourg. He was a prolific writer, with twenty-five books to his credit, including *Book of Poems* (1911) in which this hymn is included. He stated his purpose in writing it as follows: "These verses are simple expressions of common Christian feelings and desires in this present time, hymns of today that may be sung together by people who know the thought of the age, and are not afraid that any truth of science will destroy their religion or that any revolution on earth will overthrow the kingdom of heaven". Van Dyke requested that this hymn be sung to the tune HYMN TO JOY, the famous tune from the last movement of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony.

## "God's Work, Our Hands" ACS 1000 (All Creation Sings)

This hymn was written in 2019 in response to the ELCA sponsored competition for a new hymn based on the theme "God's Work, Our Hands." Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954) received the top honor out of 120 submissions. All Creation Sings pairs Wold's hymn with the tune EARTH AND ALL STARS, composed by David N. Johnson (1922-1987) for the hymn "Earth and All Stars" ELW 731, as well as the Easter hymn "Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!" ELW 377.

## "In the Singing" ELW 466

A native of New Zealand, Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931) wrote this hymn in 1994 with the original title "Invocation" and suggests its nature. It calls on Jesus, "the wine of grace" and "the bread of peace," in light of Christ's presence at the table as the people sing, yet are silent and expectant with question, answer, blessing, acceptance, heart's cry, and healing. Murray is best known as a hymn writer and her texts have appeared in more than a hundred collections around the world. This hymn was published in her collection *Every Day in Your Spirit* (1996). The tune BREAD OF PEACE was written for this hymn by Dr. Carlton Young (b. 1926) a Methodist composer and hymn writer. He writes of his hymn tune "I've tried to keep it uncomplicated with the notion that in time those coming to the distribution might sing it from memory." We sing this hymn for our Offertory, "Offering Song for Autumn" these first weeks of the early fall season.

## "Faith Begins by Letting Go" ACS 1004

This hymn comes to us from All Creation Sings. It was first published in 1996 in a collection by Carl P. Daw Jr. (b. 1944) *New Psalms and Hymns and Spiritual Songs*. Daw is an Episcopal priest, and served many years as the executive director of the Hymn Society. Daw writes of his hymn: "this hymn affirms that faith is not a state of being, but a process of becoming what we are called to be in relationship to God, other people, and the world". This text is paired with the tune RATISBON by German organist Johann Werner (1777-1822). RATISBON also appears in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* coupled with "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" ELW 553 by Charles Wesley (1707-1788). The tune is named for the German city of Ratisbon, now known as Regensburg.

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# Worship & Music

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Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

We Sing the Faith

Historical and Spiritual Insight Into the Hymns We Sing  
Reflections by Lester Ackerman

## "Lord of All Hopefulness" ELW 765

This hymn is by English teacher, poet and novelist Jan Struther (1901-1953) was one of her eleven hymns published in *Songs of Praise* (London, 1931). Her hymns were among the first to address God with the pronoun "You". Paul Westermeyer writes of Struther's hymn: "this hymn is organized like a collect, the church's 'collecting' of petitions in a short form of prayer with an address, a phrase that describes the attribute of God under consideration, and a petition related to it. The themes develop from God as Lord of hopefulness, eagerness, kindness, and calm, and relate to our daily round of waking and sleeping". SLANE is an Irish folk tune named for the hill where Saint Patrick (b. 389-460) is reputed to have defied the king by lighting the new fire at the Easter Vigil. SLANE is most famously paired with the eighth century hymn "Be Thou My Vision" ELW 793.

## "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" ACS 1084

This hymn text and tune comes to us from the pen of American writer, composer and theologian Richard Bruxvoort Colligan (b. 1967). This text is a lorica, a "protective armor or breastplate". A lorica was intended to be sung while dressing, arming oneself for battle, or traveling, as a protection against spiritual enemies. Its meaning is likely to be extended more generally to a prayer for the indwelling and surrounding of Christ with us on our daily journeys. The tune GREEN TYLER was composed by Colligan while he and his family lived on Tyler Street in New Brighton, Minnesota. Colligan says that the tune "started as a lullaby for our newborn son Sam."

## "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" ELW 517

This short hymn was written by Martin Luther in 1541 for use in a prayer service. The text is a prayer asking for God's protection. This was at the time when the Turkish army had invaded Hungary and was a threat to Germany. Additional stanzas (twelve) appear in numerous publications, but probably not written by Luther. The original title appears in 1543 as "A hymn for the children to sing against the two archenemies of Christ and his Holy Church, the Pope and the Turks." Paul Westermeyer says of this hymn: "It is a trinitarian petition--to the Father to keep us steadfast in the word of God and curb the power of those who stand against it, to the Son to defend the church that we may sing Christ's praise, and to the Holy Spirit to send peace and unity on earth and lead us from death to life." The Word of God was always uppermost in the mind and heart of Luther, and we sing his prayer asking God to keep us faithful to the Word. The tune EHALT UNS, HERR first appeared in the collection *Geistliche Lieder* (Wittenberg, 1543) by Johann Klug (1490-1552) and gets its German name from Luther's hymn text "Keep Us, Lord".

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# Worship & Music

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Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

## Hymn Suggestions

### October 8, 2023 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost—Lectionary 27

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophet's mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

Hymns: ELW 803 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross HAMBURG  
ELW 727 Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth MIT FREUDEN ZART  
ELW 595 Jesus Loves Me! (stanza one) (Offertory) JESUS LOVES ME  
ELW 826 Thine the Amen THINE

### October 15, 2023 Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost—Lectionary 28

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

Hymns: ELW 632 O God, Our Help in Ages Past ST. ANNE  
ELW 462 Now We Join in Celebration SCHMUCKE DICH  
ELW 466 In the Singing (stanza one) (Offertory) BREAD OF PEACE  
ELW 873 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart (stanzas 1-4, & 6) MARION

### October 22, 2023 Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost—Lectionary 29

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

Hymns: ELW 834 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise ST. DENIO  
ELW 757 All My Hope on God Is Founded MICHAEL  
ELW 623 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me (stanzas 1 & 2) (Offertory) TOPLADY  
ELW 705 God of Grace and God of Glory CWM RHONDDA

### October 29, 2023 Reformation Sunday

Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

Hymns: ELW 504 A Mighty Fortress Is our God EIN FESTE BURG  
ACS 1023 God Alone Be Praised AD LUCEM  
ELW 645 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (stanza one) (Offertory) WESTMINSTER ABBEY  
ELW 517 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word ERHALT UNS, HERR

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# Worship & Music

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Kevin Feezor Committee Chairperson

## October Serving Schedule

### Crucifer/Acolyte

10/1 C/A: Michael Lakeman  
10/8 C/A: Needed  
10/15 C/A: Brady Ferner  
10/22 C/A: Needed  
10/29 C/A: Michael Lakeman

### Sound System

10/1 John Brumbaugh  
10/8 Kevin Feezor  
10/15 Neil Dixon  
10/22 Alan Harms  
10/29 John Brumbaugh

### Tabulators

10/1 Charles Lakeman  
Diane Thomas  
10/8 Meg Fielding  
Janice Miller  
10/15 Alan Harms  
Doug Milheim  
10/22 Joe Barrett  
Kevin Feezor  
10/29 Doug Milheim  
Susan League

### Ushers

Team C: Ken Williams, Larry Dagenhart, Jr., Alan Harms, Dale Hopp, Sally McCauley

### Prayer Assistants

10/1 Larry Dagenhart, Jr.  
10/8 Mike Doyne  
10/15 Brady Ferner  
10/22 Melissa Smith  
10/29 Lisa Barnette

### Lectors

10/1 Lowell Engelhard  
10/8 Karen Feezor  
10/15 Maddie Thompson  
10/22 Meg Fielding  
10/29 Kay Finlon

### Communion Helpers

10/1 Kay Finlon  
10/8 Catherine Metze  
10/15 Kay Finlon  
10/23 Sandy Rach  
10/29 Karen Covington

### Video Streaming

10/1 A. J. Pridgen  
10/8 A. J. Pridgen  
10/15 Ron Wenzel  
10/22 Ron Wenzel  
10/29 Joe Barrett

### Greeters

10/1 Neil & Charlotte Dixon  
Tom & Kay Sehorn  
10/8 Joanne Marz  
Tom & Kay Sehorn  
10/15 Michael & Tara Thompson  
Gretchen Dodge  
10/22 Jackie Ellington  
Evelyn Gerdes  
10/29 Eddie & Carol Goodall  
Patrick & Rebecca Huang

### Communion Assistants

10/1 Ruth Barrett, Gretchen Payne  
Charles & Susan Lakeman  
Chris Stevenson  
10/8 Barbara Baker, Cliff Edahl  
Ken Hazen, Jay Jacob  
Janice Miller  
10/15 Lisa Barnette, Ruth Barrett  
Rebecca Huang, Susan Lakeman  
Nick Wartner  
10/22 Flora Chance, Charles Lakeman  
A. J. Pridgen, Chris Stevenson  
Nick Wartner  
10/29 Cliff Edahl, Ken Hazen  
Kevin & Karen Feezor  
Jay Jacob

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## October Birthdays

10/1 Dale Hopp  
10/4 John Graham  
10/5 Doris Phillips  
10/5 David Simpson  
10/5 Steve Rach  
10/7 CJ Miles  
10/7 Katarina Miles  
10/7 Michael Lakeman  
10/8 Ashley Ginns  
10/10 Susan Lakeman

10/12 Jane McCall  
10/13 Madeleine Thompson  
10/14 Matthew Williams  
10/16 Robert Hazen  
10/17 Phoebe Droege  
10/17 Patrick Huang  
10/19 Janice Elder  
10/19 Virginia Edahl-Molan  
10/20 Eddie Goodall

10/20 Kelly Price  
10/23 Harry Kendrick  
10/23 Shelley Mobley  
10/24 Tim Niedermeier  
10/25 Alice FuHua Wenzel  
10/26 Marshall Payne, Jr.  
10/26 Grace Rathkamp  
10/26 Glen Stone  
10/26 Jacob Stone  
10/26 Bobby Adden