



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known



MAY 4, 2025

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

In today's readings, Jesus asks Saul, "Why do you persecute me?" and he says to his disciples, "Follow me." Jesus stopped Saul from his violence and persecution of others, and he sought out Peter who had denied him. Jesus gave them new identities and a new purpose for living. Jesus, alive and risen, continues to recreate us, calling us to follow him, proclaim him, and feed his sheep.

GATHERING

*The congregation is invited to join in the **BOLD** responses.*

Prelude

"Partita on 'Alleluia! Sing to Jesus'" Op. 42

Andante - Trio - Quietly

Tune HYFRYDOL by Rowland H. Prichard; Organ settings by Charles Callahan

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

Processional Hymn

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" ELW 392 Stanzas 1-4

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."
2. Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us; faith believe, nor questions how.
Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore?"
3. Alleluia! Bread of heaven, here on earth our food our stay;
Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, hear our plea
where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
4. Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary, earth your footstool, heav'n your throne.
As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest,
here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.

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

Please be seated.

Welcome

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

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,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

The congregation may kneel or sit for the Confession. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.

**We confess that we have turned from you and given
ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have done
and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in the newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

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

“Lord, Have Mercy” from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

Jack Richardson, cantor



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

Lord, have mer - cy.

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 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* Richard Hillert

Refrain S 140

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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. *Final refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

First Reading

Acts 9:1-20

Kay Finlon, lector

¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

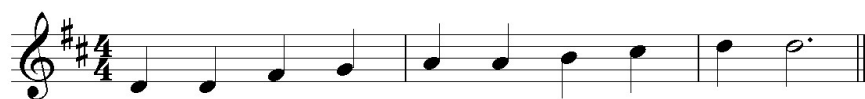
The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 30

Taylor McNamara, Jack Richardson, cantors

Psalm 30 (Thomas Pavlechko)



You have turned my wail - ing in - to danc - ing.

¹I will exalt you O lord, ... because you have [lifted] me up and have not let my enemies [tri]-umph over me. ²O Lord my God, ... I cried [out] to you, and you re-[stored me] to health. ³You brought me up O [lord from] the dead; you restored my life as I was going [down to] the grave. ⁴Sing praise to the [Lord all] you faithful; give thanks in [holy] remembrance. *Antiphon* ⁵God's wrath is short; ... God's favor [lasts] a lifetime. Weeping spends the night, ... but joy comes [in] the morning. ⁶While I felt se-[cure] I said, "I shall never [be] disturbed. ⁷You lord, ... with your favor, ... made me as

[strong as] the mountains.” Then you hid your face, ... and I was *[filled]* with fear. ⁸I cried to *[you]* O Lord; I pleaded with my *[Lord]* saying, ⁹“What profit is there in my blood if I go *[down to]* the pit? Will the dust praise you or de-*[clare]* your faithfulness? ¹⁰Hear O Lord and have *[mercy]* upon me; O Lord *[be]* my helper.” Antiphon ¹¹You have turned my wailing *[in]-to* dancing; you have put off my sackcloth and *[clothed me]* with joy. ¹²Therefore my heart sings to you with-*[out]* ceasing; O Lord my God, ... I will give you *[thanks]* forever. Antiphon

Second Reading

Revelation 5:11-14

Kay Finlon, lector

¹¹Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshipped.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please stand as able.

Gospel Acclamation

“The Strife Is O’er” ELW 366 stanza one

VICTORY

Text: *Symphonia Sirenum*, Köln, 1695; tr. Francis Pott, 1832-1909; Music: Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1525-1594; arr. William H. Monk, 1823-1889

Begin with refrain:



1. The strife is o’er, the battle done; now is the victor’s triumph won! Now be the song of praise begun. Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel

John 21:1-19

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 21st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.” ⁶He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they

knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. ¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

"Follow me"

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day

"You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" ACS 954 from *All Creation Sings*

PICARDY

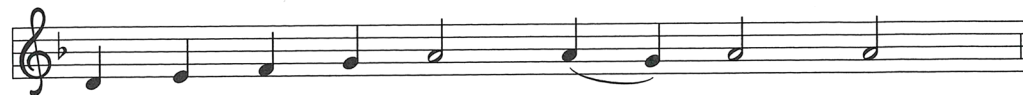
Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993, © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.; Music: French folk tune, 17th cent.



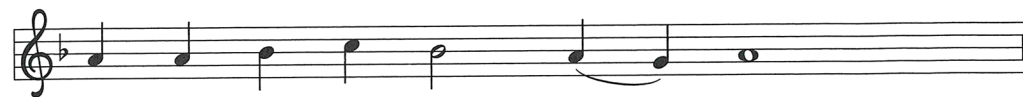
1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



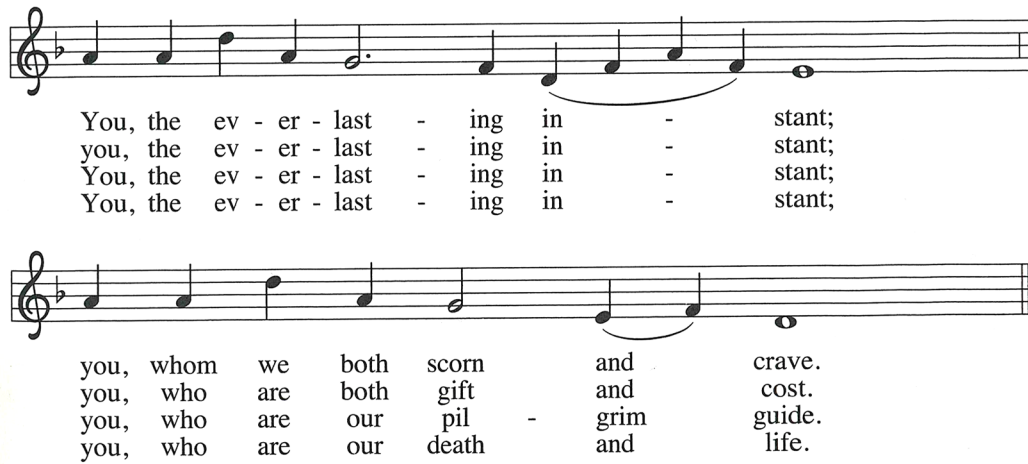
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



Reception of New Members

The pastor invites new members and sponsors to come forward.

Today we welcome Chuck and Pam Baynard who have been received into membership by St. Mark's Congregation Council. We pray God's blessing upon their continued journey with Jesus Christ and his body, gathered together in the power of the Holy Spirit at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Their sponsors are Margaret and Jerry Poplin.

The pastor addresses the new members.

Chuck and Pam, we welcome you as members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church to join with us in word and sacrament ministry. Together, we worship God, hearing the Word and sharing in the Lord's Supper, and together we proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ through word and deed, serving all people and striving for justice and peace in all the earth. God bless you in your continued service to Jesus Christ!

The congregation welcomes the new members by acclamation. The service continues with the creed.

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

Pastor McKenzie, prayer assistant

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Risen Lord, your love sustains the church and its ministries. Unite your church, bring an end to divisions, and sustain each of us in your love that we might follow you, proclaim you, and feed your sheep of every flock. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Risen Lord, your abundance is made known throughout creation. Preserve your ongoing creation in oceans and estuaries, rivers and lakes, plains and prairies, woodlands and wilderness. Make us wise stewards of all creation that all people might share in its beauty and abundance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Risen Lord, your wisdom guides all who work for justice and peace. Protect all who are displaced by war, unjustly imprisoned, or persecuted for their ethnicity or gender. Strengthen all elected leaders to work for justice and peace, and to love and welcome others as you love and welcome them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Risen Lord, your compassion restores life and hope to all who call upon you. Raise up, heal and sustain the sick, lonely and addicted, and grant faith and hope to the dying. Grant peace and healing to our extended church family: Ashlyn Bordelon, Carmelita Harris, Lucille Johnson, Evelyn Scott, Marilyn Stevens, Jerry Poplin, Satoko Yamada, Judy Cox, Ross Boheler, Betty Denison, Charlene Oppermann, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Julie Dornberger, Angie Blackwelder Malone, Norma Alexander, Laura Elliott, Gene Ellington, Ken Foust, Tanner Grant, Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Danyne Olin Bragdon, Mindy Curley, Louisa and Oakley Coburn, Ingrid Keiris, Shirley Larson, Jimmy Schwartz, Roxi Tolbert, Bill Schwartz, Arlene Fielding, David Kutscher, Danielle Clausen, Rachel Fulp, Joseph Tolbert, and Jay Harbinson. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Risen Lord, your mercy and love for this congregation are unending. Bless us in word and sacrament that in feeding upon your word in bread and wine, we may be forgiven, nourished and restored to feed others that they may also experience the peace and wholeness that comes only from you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Risen Lord, your Son calls and leads saints to follow him across time and space. Guide us to listen to and follow him, to proclaim him in lives of service, and to tend your sheep of every pasture until Christ gathers us into one flock in his kingdom of justice and peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We commend these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting that you are always with us; in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

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! The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost—Alleluia! Our God most high, our joy and boast. Alleluia!

Please stand as able.

Offertory *(The offering is brought forward by the ushers)*

"I Love to Tell the Story" ELW 661 Stanza one

HANKEY

Text: Katherine Hankey, 1834-1911; Music: William E. Fischer, 1849-1936

1. I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.

Refrain: I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Holy Communion

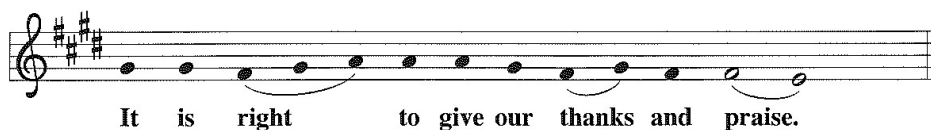
The Great Thanksgiving

S 152

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.

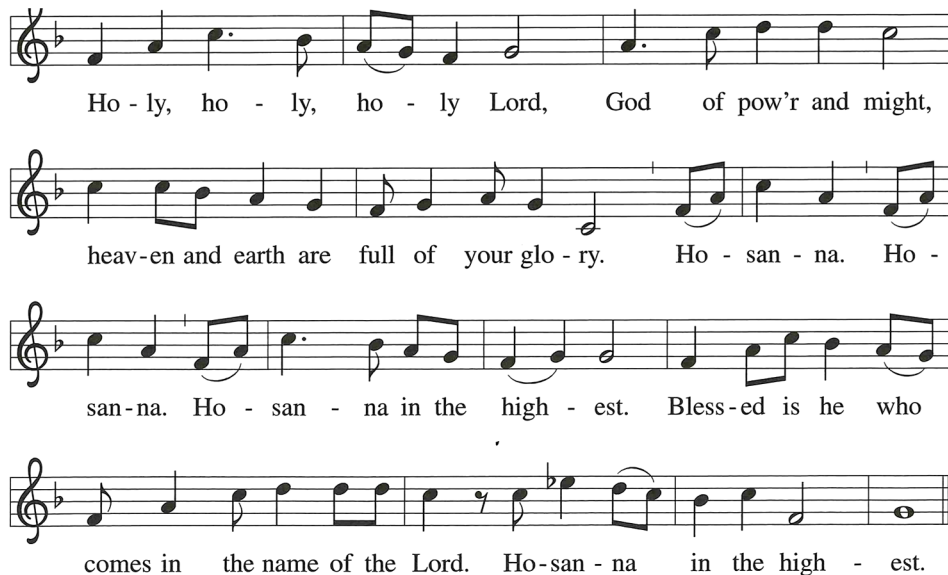


Proper Preface

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord”

Holy Communion Setting Three



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

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Please be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered continuously at the Lord's table and at the high altar. Please follow the ushers' prompts, walking forward to the desired communion station and returning via the side aisles. On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, distribution is by wafers and small cups, and on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sundays of the month distribution is by intinction. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are always available. Communion kits are no longer available.

Communion Music

“Be Known to Us, Lord Jesus” from *All Creation Sings*

Holy Communion Setting Twelve

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for 'Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.' The second staff contains the melody for 'Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.' The third staff repeats the first melody, and the fourth staff repeats the second melody. The lyrics are written below each staff.

“Adagio on ‘Alleluia! Sing to Jesus’” from *Partita on HYFRYDOL*”

Organ setting by Charles Callahan

“I Know That My Redeemer Liveth” from *Messiah*

George Frideric Handel; Kate Suchanek, soprano

I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth. I know that my redeemer liveth and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now Christ is risen from the dead, the first-fruits of them that sleep.

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

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

“You Servants of God” ELW 825

LYONS

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.; Music: arr. Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806

1. You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name, all-victorious, of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all!
2. Ascended on high, almighty to save,
yet still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
ascribing salvation to Jesus, our king!
3. Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud and honor the Son.
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb
4. Then let us adore and give him his right,
all glory and pow'r and wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing, with angels above,
and thanks never ceasing, and infinite love!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Postlude

“Improvisation on ‘Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing’”

Tune by Melchior Vulpius
Organ setting by John Leavitt



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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie (prayer assistant); crucifer/acolyte: Andrew Puky; lector: Kay Finlon; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Bob Chernet; ushers: John Simon, Mike Doyne, Jenny Dagenhart, Larry Lippert, Jim Metze, Jay Jacob, Bill Thompson, Michael Thompson; greeters: Kay & Tom Sehorn, Michael & Tara Thompson; communion assistants: Rebecca Huang, Andrea Long, Virginia Molan, Kevin Feezor, Nick Wartner; communion helper: Sandy Rach; tabulators: Dianne Thomas, Dawn

Schwartz; musicians: St. Mark's Choir; Taylor McNamara, Jack Richardson, cantors; Kate Suchanek, soprano soloist; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Charles Lakeman; crucifer/acolyte: Needed; lector: Charles Lakeman; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Neil Dixon; ushers: Team A; greeters: Gretchen Dodge, Jackie Ellington; communion assistants: Barbara Baker, Susan Lakeman, Andrea Long, Tom Puky, John Simon; communion helper: Catherine Metze; tabulators: Joe Barrett, Charles Lakeman



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 Christ is risen and alive in every heart open to him. In Holy Baptism we are raised with Christ to live into his resurrection life each 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." The good news of Easter is powerful because daily we also live among the things that are "below" - the things of this broken and sinful world. This is the world God so loves, where Christ lived and died that he might raise us with Christ to seek the things that are above, moving us from death to life. Every day, freed from sin and death, may you seek the things that are above. In doing so, Christ, who is alive in you, will help you live for others with his unfailing strength.

In the grace and peace of Christ,
Pastor Tim McKenzie
pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org

Coming Up at St. Mark's

Worship and Congregational Life

Altar Flowers Today are given in honor of Patrick Huang and Rebecca's 25th wedding anniversary.

Welcome to New Members! Please take a moment to welcome Chuck and Pam Baynard as they are received into membership at St. Mark's. May God bless them on their continued journey with Jesus Christ!

Today! Queen City Ringers Spring Concert, "What a Wonderful World," 5 pm.

5/10 Bach Akademie Charlotte Concert, 7:30 pm.
Tickets at <https://bachcharlotte.com/>

St. Mark's Lutheran Church Men's Group invites all the men of the congregation to join us on Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 9 AM in the Fellowship Hall for a special potluck breakfast. We are celebrating the men's group, and their accomplishments over the past year. In addition to food and fellowship we will briefly re-view activities of the past 12 months as well as discuss upcoming events. Please sign up (using link below) and plan on bringing some breakfast food (and note on the signup what you would like to bring.) This year, following the breakfast, we plan on splitting into two groups: One will stay at the church and clean-up the remains of the breakfast and reset the Fellowship Hall. A second group (maybe six to eight men) will do one of our obligated "street cleanups" of Scott and Kenilworth Avenues. Allow about an hour's worth of time for the pick-up walk. To sign up use the following link and paste it in your browser or call the church office: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4DAFAB23A6F49-coffee1>
Contact Steve McCall, Kevin Feezor or Mike Doyne with questions.

Love Circle will meet Wednesday, May 14 at 11 am in the Large Conference Room. All are welcome.

Our May Theology on Tap will be Thursday, May 15 at 7 pm at the home of Genna & Matt Hurley. BYOB and an appetizer to share. Text Genna for the address at 704-200-4679. Rain Plan - go to the Cotswold location of The Pizza Peel located at 4422 Colwick Road.

The Ethnic Restaurant Group will re-calibrate our taste-buds at **Bad Daddy's Burger Bar** in Ballantyne on **May 20, 2025 at 6:00 PM**. Big Daddy's started on East Blvd in 2007. The Ballentyne location has good parking and safe strolling in the middle of Ballantyne: **15105 John J Delaney Drive, Charlotte, NC 28277**. Bad Daddy's has a fervently defended reputation for being THE place for burgers on the south side of Charlotte. There are entrées other than burgers, but it's difficult to move past the concept of "burger" at this specialty restaurant. Incentive like sweet potato fries with chipotle-buttermilk—or 20 other sauces—further encourage sticking to a burger theme. The lengthy menu includes appetizers, beef, chicken, turkey, salmon, and even no-meat burgers. Possible beverages include water, sodas, Margaritas, tipsy milkshakes, and other bar items. One has the option to design a burger from scratch. The healthy column includes salads that also can be specified in detail or taken from the menu. And, there are desserts, including banana pudding and other delights. The atmosphere is friendly and festive. The service is attentive and helpful. The food is delicious. This will be an interesting place to try out a new, earlier time for dinners. Heading west on Ballantyne Commons Parkway: turn left at the last traffic light before Johnston Road/US-521 (John J Delaney Drive). If you miss that turn, turn left on Johnston Road, then turn left at the first traffic light (John J Delaney Drive is a "loop" road). Heading east on Ballantyne Commons Parkway: go through the Johnston Road/US-521 intersection, then turn right at the first traffic light (John J Delaney Drive). Heading south on Johnston Road/US-521: go through the Ballantyne Commons Parkway intersection, then turn left at first the traffic light (John J Delaney Drive). Heading north on Johnston Road/US-521: turn right at the John J Delaney Drive traffic light. If you miss that turn, turn right on Ballantyne Commons Parkway, then turn right at the first traffic light (John J Delaney Drive). RSVP to Tom & Judy Tolbert to hold seating for a tantalizing taste-adventure!



Aid for Hurricane Helene Victims Thank you to all for your donations. If you would like to help, please see the NC Synod's website.

Thinking of joining St. Mark's? Please see Pastor Tim to set up a time to talk. All people are welcome at St. Mark's!

The Christian Education Hour is at 9:30 am on Sundays.

You are invited to join the Faith Forum for lively discussion. The class meets at 9:30 in the Large Conference room. New members are always welcome.

Online worship is streamed live every Sunday at 10:30 am on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/@st.markslutherancharlotte234/streams>), St. Mark's website (<https://saintmarkscharlotte.org/live-stream/>), and 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

Nursery: A fun-filled nursery, staffed by volunteers, is located downstairs. An usher is available to show you the way. Our safety protocols offer peace of mind so you can worship without worry.

Confirmation Class meets every Sunday at 9:30.

Stewardship

Please prayerfully consider your 2025 pledge to Christ's mission at St. Mark's. Your pledge is important to St. Mark's mission and may also be offered at any time. Brochures are available in the Gathering Place. Thank you for your faithful gifts to St. Mark's ministries. 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.



2025 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.

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Social Ministry

NOURISH UP (Loaves & Fishes) The need for assistance in many families goes on. ALL foods are welcome but some items you may not have thought of but are certainly needed and appreciated: ketchup, mustard, mayo, salt, pepper, sugar, flour, tea bags, instant coffee, pancake mix "complete", syrup and cornbread mix. Please make sure all donations are

NON-PERISHABLE and NON-BREAKABLE. The gathering place baker's rack is always waiting for your donations to those in our community in need. "*When I was hungry you gave me food*"

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

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

Music Notes

"Alleluia! Sing to Jesus" ELW 392 This hymn was written in as a communion hymn in 1866 by William C. Dix (1837-1898). It was published in his *Altar Songs* (1867) under the title "Redemption by the Precious Blood" He had a successful career as a marine insurance manager in Glasgow, Scotland, but developed a second career as a writer of hymns, Christmas and Easter carols, as well as other religious verses, devotional books, and instructions for children. In addition to this hymn, our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* includes two additional hymns by Dix: "As with Gladness Men of Old" ELW 302, and "What Child Is This" ELW 296. The tune **HYFRYDOL** is a Welsh tune composed by Rowland H. Prichard (1811-1887). **HYFRYDOL** means delightful, beautiful, sweet and melodious. This popular hymn tune is paired with four different hymn texts in our hymnal.

"You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd" ACS 954 from *All Creation Sings* Susan Dunstan (1955-1993) has served as a pastor and as a duty chaplain in a maximum-security jail. Dunstan says she wrote this hymn in 1984 while commuting on a bus after a particularly bad day at the jail. It was later published in *In Search of Hope & Grace* under the title "Christus Paradox." *All Creation Sings* pairs Dunstan's text with the seventeenth century French folk tune **PICARDY**, named for that region of France.

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

May 4, Monica, mother of Augustine (322-387)

Monica was married to a Roman named Patricius, who was a government official in Thagaste (in present day Algeria). She rejoiced when both her husband and his mother became Christian. Monica is best known as the mother of the theologian, Augustine. Monica became a disciple of Ambrose, bishop of Milan, and after resisting Christianity for seventeen years, her son Augustine was baptized by Ambrose on Easter, 387. Almost everything we know about Monica comes from Augustine's *Confessions*, his autobiography. She died far from home, but said to her son, "Do not fret because I am buried far from our home in Africa. Nothing is far from God, and I have no fear that God will not know where to find me, when Christ comes to raise me to life at the end of the world." Her dying wish was that her son remember her at the altar of the Lord, wherever he was.

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).

St. Mark's Prayer List

Ashlyn Bordelon, Betsy League, Carmelita Harris, Lucille Johnson, Evelyn Scott, Marilyn Stevens, Jerry Poplin, Satoko Yamada, Judy Cox, Ross Boheler, Charlene Oppermann, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Julie Dornberger, Angie Blackwelder Malone, Norma Alexander, Laura Elliott, Gene Ellington, Ken Foust, 'Tanner Grant, Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Dannye Olin Bragdon, Mindy Curley, Louisa & Oakley Coburn, Ingrid Keiris, Shirley Larson, Jimmy Schwartz, Roxi Tolbert, Bill Schwartz, Arlene Fielding, David Kutscher, Danielle Clausen, Rachel Fulp, Joseph Tolbert, and Jay Harbinson.

Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests

(pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org)

Readings for 5/11/2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10:22-30

Birthdays

5/9 Roger Bruhwel

5/10 Dzidra Reimanis



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 (pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org)



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, Organist

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Sue Wadgymer, Parish Administrator

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Elaine Johnson, Finance Administrator

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