



MARK'S

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known



MAY 10, 2026

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Today in 1 Peter, we are reminded to always be ready to give an account for the hope that is in us. In Athens, Paul used the poetry of the Greeks to give an account for the hope that was in him of Jesus Christ. Today's readings encourage us to grasp anew Jesus' promise that he is in us always — that "in him we live and love and have our being." He will not leave you orphaned. He lives that you might also live, now and forever.

GATHERING

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

Prelude

"Andantino in C Minor for Cello and Piano"

Gabriel Faure

Transcribed for cello by Pablo Casals; John Brumbaugh, cello

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

Processional Hymn

"For the Beauty of the Earth" ELW 879

DIX

Text: Follitt S. Pierpont, 1835-1917, alt.; Music: Conrad Kocher, 1786-1872

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Refrain Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sacrifice of praise.
2. For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light: *Refrain*
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: *Refrain*
4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above; for all gentle thoughts and mild: *Refrain*
5. For each perfect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;
for thyself, best gift divine, to our world so freely giv'n: *Refrain*

Please be seated.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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 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.

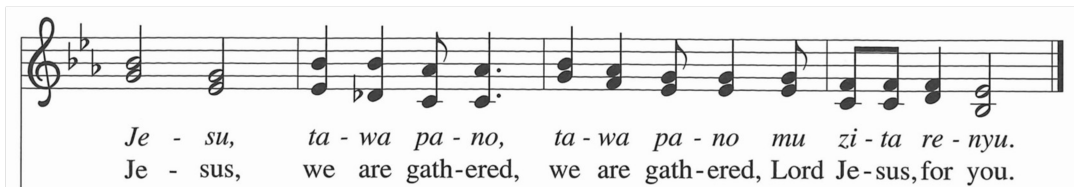
Kyrie

“Jesus, We Are Gathered” ELW 529 sing two times

JESU, TAWA PANO

Text & Music Patrick Matsikenyiri © 1990, 1996 General board of global Ministries, GBG Music

The image shows a musical score for the Kyrie. It features a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is written in a simple, homophonic style. Below the staff, the lyrics are written in two lines: "Je - su, ta - wa pa - no, Je - su, ta - wa pa - no," and "Je - sus, we are gath-ered, Je - sus, we are gath-ered,". The lyrics are aligned with the notes on the staff.



Hymn of Praise

“Glory Be to God in Heaven”

Holy Communion Setting Ten
 Tune: HYMN TO JOY

1. Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
 Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:
 we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
 Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through 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 17:22-31

Kay Finlon, lector

²²Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we, too, are his offspring.’ ²⁹“Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 66:8-20

Taylor McNamara, Jack Richardson, cantors

Psalm 66:8 (Anne Krentz Organ) from Psalter for Worship Year A © 2007 Augsburg Fortress



⁸Bless our | God, you peoples; let the sound of | praise be heard. ⁹Our God has kept us a- | mong the living and has not allowed our | feet to slip. R ¹⁰For you, O God, have | tested us; you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried. ¹¹You brought us in- | to the net; you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs. ¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water, but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment. ¹³I will enter your house | with burnt offerings and will pay | you my vows— ¹⁴those that I promised | with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble. ¹⁵I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams; I will give you ox- | en and goats. R ¹⁶Come and listen, all you | who believe, and I will tell you what God has | done for me. ¹⁷I called out to God | with my mouth, and praised the Lord | with my tongue. ¹⁸If I had cherished evil | in my heart, the Lord would | not have heard me; ¹⁹but in truth | God has heard me and has attended to the sound | of my prayer. ²⁰Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer, nor withheld unfailing | love from me. R

Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

Kay Finlon, lector

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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 Three*

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

The Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

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

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁵ “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷ This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive

because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸ “I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹ In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹ They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

“In him you live and move”

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day

“My God, How Wonderful Thou Art” ELW 863

DUNDEE

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863; Music: *Psalter*, Edinburgh, 1615



1 My God, how won - der - ful thou art, thy maj - es - ty how bright!
2 How won - der - ful, how beau - ti - ful the sight of thee must be—
3 No earth - ly fa - ther loves like thee; no moth - er, e'er so mild,
4 Yet I may love thee too, O Lord, al - might - y as thou art,
5 My God, how won - der - ful thou art, thou ev - er - last - ing friend!



How beau - ti - ful thy mer - cy seat in depths of burn - ing light!
thine end - less wis - dom, bound - less pow'r, and awe - some pu - ri - ty!
bears and for - bears as thou hast done with me, thy sin - ful child.
for thou hast stooped to ask of me the love of my poor heart.
On thee I stay my trust - ing heart till faith in vi - sion end.

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.

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief silence.*

Lord of Hosts, give Your church and each of us the strength to do what is right, especially when it is difficult. Inspire us to be people who respond to hardship with kindness, to despair with hope, and to injustice with integrity. Remind us that Christ is the Righteous One, who suffered death so that we might live in peace with You. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Creator God, in you all things have their being. You have set the stars and the planets in motion, giving eternal life to the cosmos. We praise you that you continue to breathe life into creation, for in you we live and move. Bless this season of planting with growth and help us to share your abundant gifts with all in need everyday. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of peace, grant to all leaders of cities and nations, the Advocate, the Spirit of truth who comes only from you, so that filled with grace and mercy, leaders might walk with courage and compassion for the poor, the vulnerable, and the outcast. For you will judge them and us, not according to world's standards, but according to your righteousness. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of grace, You see us through every trial and tribulation. When we walk through fire, You walk with us. When we grow weary, You renew us. When we struggle, You provide for us. We thank You for hearing our prayers, for showing us mercy, and for always sharing Your love. Surround our loved ones with Your healing presence, especially, Steve Gore, Bibba Whitener, James Watson, Sarah East, Phaedra & Scott Snow, Bill Bowden, Harry Kendrick, Kendal Turner, Rochelle Dagenhart, Janice Darnell, Pastor Glen Sea, Mark Barbee, Polly Needham, Mark Thornton, Tom Tolbert, Samuel Davis, Bob Roach, Dale Hopp, Bill Coppedge, Marcia Newlin, Silvia Puky, Ashlyn Bordelon, Betsy League, Carmelita Harris, Lucille Johnson, Marilyn Stevens, Satoko Yamada, Ross Boheler, Charlene Oppermann, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Gene Ellington, Tanner & Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Bonnie & Danyne Olin Bragdon, Mindy Curley, Louisa & Oakley Coburn, Roxi Tolbert, Bill Schwartz, Arlene Fielding, David Kutscher, Danielle Clausen, Joseph Tolbert, and Jay Harbinson. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God of joy and compassion, we give You thanks for the gift of mothers. Through You, they nurture, guide, and offer Your steadfast love, giving of themselves to families and neighbors in countless ways. Encourage us to celebrate their endless contributions, not just today, but every day. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal Lord, your steadfast love abides forever. Inspire us by the steadfast example of mothers and grandmothers now departed, who taught your love by example, allowing us to walk each day with love for others; and like them, lead us to that place that Jesus prepares for us in your eternal kingdom. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of the resurrection, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through 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 “We Have Been Told” David Haas

We have been told, we've seen His face, and heard His voice alive in our hearts; “Live in my love with all your heart, as the Father has loved me, so I have loved you.” “I am the vine, you are the branches, and all who live in me will bear great fruit.” “You are my friends, if you keep my commands, no longer slaves, I call you friends:”

Please stand as able.

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

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” ELW 392 stanza one HYFRYDOL

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

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: “Je - sus



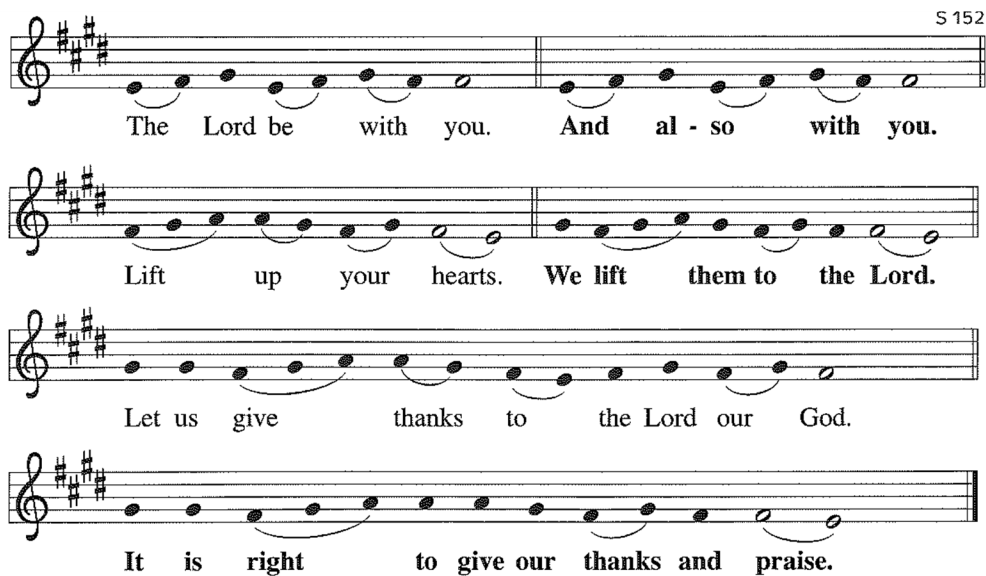
out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood."

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.

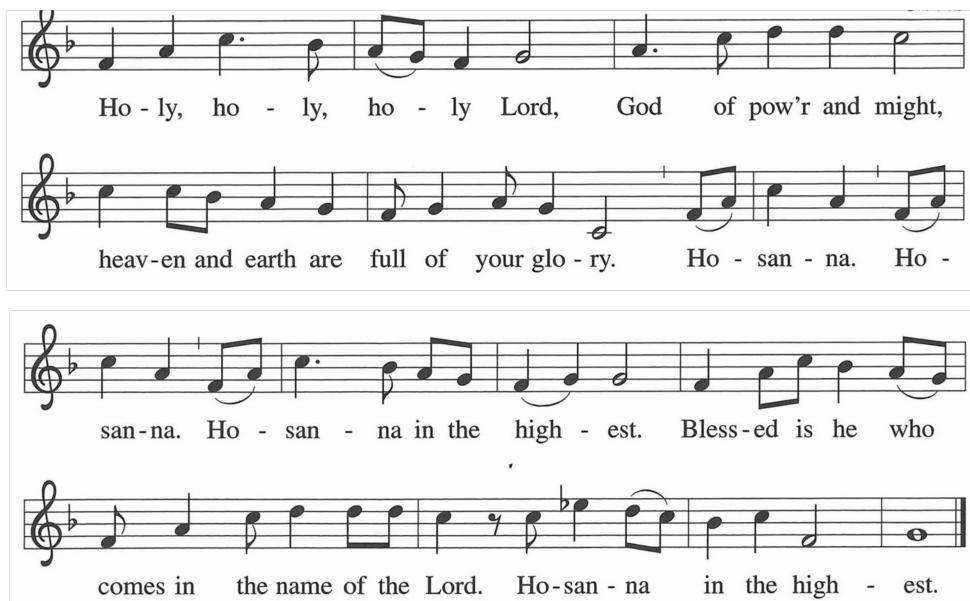
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord” ...

.. *Holy Communion Setting Three*



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

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 "Lamb of God" from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

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.

Communion Hymn

“In the Singing” ELW 466

BREAD OF PEACE

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827, adpt.

1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pec - tant, o - pen,
 2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cep - tance,

in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
 in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,

Refrain
 Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;
 Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

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

“O Zion, Haste” ELW 668

ANGELIC SONGS

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834-1923; Music James Walsh, 1837-1901

1. O Zion, haste, your mission high fulfilling,
to tell to all the world that God is light;
that he who made all nations is not willing
one soul should perish, lost in shades of night.

Refrain: Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace,
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.

2. Publish to ev'ry people, tongue, and nation
that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
tell how he stooped to save his lost creation
and died on earth that we might live above. *refrain*

3. He comes again! O Zion, ere you meet him,
make known to ev'ry heart his saving grace;
let none whom he has ransomed fail to greet him,
through your neglect, unfit to see his face. *refrain*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Worship has ended. You are free to depart or you may remain for the postlude.

Postlude

“The Heavens Declare the Glory of God”

Benedetto Marcello

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Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie; Pastor Alexandra Joy Rode; prayer assistant: Michael Thompson; crucifer/acolyte: Andrew Puky; lector: Kay Finlon; live streaming camera: Charles Lakeman; soundboard: Neil Dixon; ushers: Mike Doyne, Jay Jacob, Larry Lippert, Jim Metze, Michael Thompson; greeters: Susan Lakeman, Dawn Schwartz; communion assistants: Andrea Long, Tom Puky, Rebecca Huang, Nick Wartner, Kimberly Zimmerman; communion helper: Catherine Metze; tabulators: Charles Lakeman, Diane Thomas; musicians: St. Mark's Choir; John Brumbaugh, cello; Taylor McNamara, Jack Richardson, cantors ; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Riley Smith; crucifer/acolyte: Riley Smith; lector: Karen Feezor; live streaming camera: A.J. Pridgen; soundboard: John Brumbaugh; ushers: Team A; greeters: Tom & Kay Sehorn, Ted Seman, David Thomason; communion assistants: Lisa Barnette, Betsy Wenzel, Charles & Susan Lakeman; communion helper: Karen Covington; tabulators: Karen Feezor, Janice Miller

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" in this broken and sinful world. Yet because this is the world God so loves, Jesus died and was raised that he might raise us with him to seek the things that are above, moving us from death to life. Daily, may you be freed from sin and death to seek the things that are above. In doing so, you will be able to lift others with the strength of Christ alive in you.

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 to the glory of God and in memory of Richard Cansler by his family.

Mother's Day A blessed Mother's Day to all mothers and mother figures. We give thanks for the wisdom and encouragement of mothers who are models of faith, hope and love for so many!

Family Ministry: "Everybody's Birthday Party" Sunday 5/17, 1 pm in the Nursery.

Love Circle Members Spring Luncheon at LaPeep May 13 at 11:30 am, for our last gathering until fall. Seating is limited.

Ethnic Restaurant Group will dine at Nakato Japanese Steakhouse on May 19, 2026, at 6:00 PM. Nakato is located at 8500 Pineville-Matthews Road (NC-51), 28226. We have always enjoyed the hijinks of the hibachi chefs at Nakato, and the food is always delicious and plentiful! Please consider joining us for fun at Nakato. Free parking is abundant in front of the restaurant. Friends and visitors are always welcome!

Nakato limits large parties to 20 people, so get your RSVP in before we max-out. RSVP to Tom & Judy Tolbert by Sunday afternoon before this dinner.

Theology on Tap May 21 at 7pm at Birdsong Brewing Company, 1016 N. Davidson Street, Charlotte 28206. Come join us!

St. Mark's Book Study Group will meet on Thursday, May 28, at 10 am in the large conference room and via Zoom. All are welcome to attend. Our selection this month is *The Borrowed Life of Frederick Fife* by Anna Johnston. This is the story of a zany case of mistaken identity that allows a lonely old man one last chance to be part of a family. The man is Frederick Fife, who was born with an extra helping of kindness in his heart. If he borrowed your car, he'd return it washed with a full tank of gas. The problem is, at age eighty-two, there's nobody left in Fred's life to borrow from, and he's broke and on the brink of eviction. But Fred's luck changes when he's mistaken for Bernard Greer, a missing resident at the local nursing home, and takes his place. Now Fred has warm meals in his belly and a roof over his head—as long as his look-alike Bernard never returns. Please contact Kay Sehorn or Judy Tolbert for more information.

5/24 Day of Pentecost 8:30 am & 10:30 am **5/31 Holy Trinity Sunday** 8:30 am & **Senior Sunday** (10:30) Please join us as we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduating high school seniors.

Save the date! Sullenberger Aviation Museum Visit June 13 at 9 am. Cost \$18 per adult. The Men's Group is inviting everyone to sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0D4DAFAB23A6F49-63869003-sullenberger> Watch for updates.



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.

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 other Sunday at 9:30.

Stewardship

Your pledge helps St. Mark's ministries of worship, service and fellowship continue over the year. **2026** Pledge cards 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.



2026 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.

St. Mark's email list If you are not receiving emails from St. Mark's, please contact the church to let us know. We send at least 2 emails every week.

Social Ministry

NOURISH UP in May Help us "meat" the needs of the food pantry this May! Please donate canned tuna, chicken and salmon. *Cans with pop tabs appreciated.* Other highly requested items are: whole grain cereals, low sugar or unsweetened fruits, low sodium canned vegetables, and pasta. *Your donations help our neighbors!*

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 pm; Wednesday nights "Just the Basics", 7:30 pm; & Thursday nights "Not a Glum Lot", 6:30 pm; "SLAA" meets in Room 106: Thursdays at 6:30 pm; Fridays women only at 6 pm & Saturday mornings 10:30 am.



	TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 7:30 PM Dall'Italia con amore
	THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 7:30 PM Bach and the French Influence
	FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 7:30 PM Echoes of Bach
	SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 3 PM Organ Recital with Lester Ackerman

Tickets: <https://bachcharlotte.com/charlottebachfestival>

**St. Mark's
members half
off tickets at
the door!!**

"For the Beauty of the Earth" ELW 879 This popular hymn, from the Praise and Thanksgiving section of our hymnal, was written by a twenty-nine old following a walk in the beautiful countryside outside of his native Bath, England. Folliott S. Pierpoint (1835-1917) found inspiration in the beauty of his surroundings, and this hymn is the result. He wrote eight stanzas, five included in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, with a few modifications. Pierpoint begins by acknowledging the beauty of creation, but also thanks God for family relationships, human love and friendships, physical senses, and Jesus himself. The remaining stanzas reflect the authors original intent for this to serve as a communion hymn. The refrain is inspired by Hebrews 13:15 "let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God." The tune name **DIX** came from the association of this melody from a hymn by William Dix (1837-1898) "As with Gladness Men of Old" ELW 302. Conrad Kocher (1786-1872) is the composer.

"O Zion, Haste" ELW 668 Mary Ann Thomson (1834-1923) was born in England, but spent most of her life in Pennsylvania, where her husband was the librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia. She wrote over forty hymns, and started writing **"O Zion, Haste"** in 1868. She says of this hymn "one night, while I was sitting up with one of my children who was ill with typhoid fever. I thought I should like to write a missionary hymn to the tune **PILGRIMS** for the hymn 'Hark, hark, my soul! Angelic songs are swelling.'" She was not able to write a fitting refrain that night. It wasn't until three years later she penned the refrain "Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release." English organist James Walch (1837-1901) wrote the tune **ANGELIC SONGS** in 1875, originally paired with the hymn "Hark, hark, my soul!" *The Church Hymnal 1892* (Episcopal) joined Thomson's hymn, with Walch's tune.

"Jesus, We Are Gathered" ELW 529 This text and tune **JESU, TAWA PANO** are by Patrick Matsikenyiri (b. 1937) a musician and member of the Shona tribe in Zimbabwe. He is an internationally famous promoter of global African song. The text translates "we are gathered" or "we are here for you". C. Michael Hawn, a professor at Southern Methodist University writes: "the text functions like a Shona proverb, in this case like an acclamation or expression of community in which the plural 'we' is an affirmation that the community has a role in the health and spiritual well-being of the individual worshiper. Given the difficulties of getting to worship in Zimbabwe and the suffering many worshipers are undergoing, it is literally a miracle that many people 'are here' in worship."

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

May 15, Matthias, Apostle

After Christ's ascension, the apostles met in Jerusalem to choose a replacement for Judas. Matthias was chosen over Joseph Justus. Little is known about Matthias, and little is reported about him in the account of his election in Acts 1:15-26. Matthias traveled among the disciples from the beginning of Jesus' ministry until his ascension. According to apocryphal traditions, he is said to have preached in Ethiopia. Matthias' task, after he was enrolled among the eleven remaining disciples was to bear witness to the resurrection.

St. Mark's Prayer List

Steve Gore, Elizabeth (Bibba) Whitener, James Watson, Sarah East, Phaedra & Scott Snow, Bill Bowden, Harry Kendrick, Kendal Turner, Rochelle Dagenhart, Janice Darnell, Pastor Glen Sea, Mark Barbee, Mark Thornton, Polly Needham, Tom Tolbert, Samuel Davis, Bob Roach, Dale Hopp, Bill Coppedge, Marcia Newlin, Silvia Puky, Ashlyn Bordelon, Betsy League, Carmelita Harris, Lucille Johnson, Marilyn Stevens, Satoko Yamada, Ross Boheler, Charlene Oppermann, Elaine Ketner Sherman, Gene Ellington, Tanner & Christopher Shirley, Eileen Dunlap, Dannye & Bonnie Bragdon, Mindy Curley, Louisa & Oakley Coburn, Roxi Tolbert, Bill Schwartz, Arlene Fielding, David Kutscher, Danielle Clausen, Joseph Tolbert, and Jay Harbinson.

Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests
(pastortim@saintmarkscharlotte.org)

Readings for 5/17/2026 Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35
1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11
John 17:1-11

Birthdays

5/10 Dzidra Reimanis
5/12 Tracy Johnson
5/12 Sara Poplin
5/14 Madeline Lippert



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

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St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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