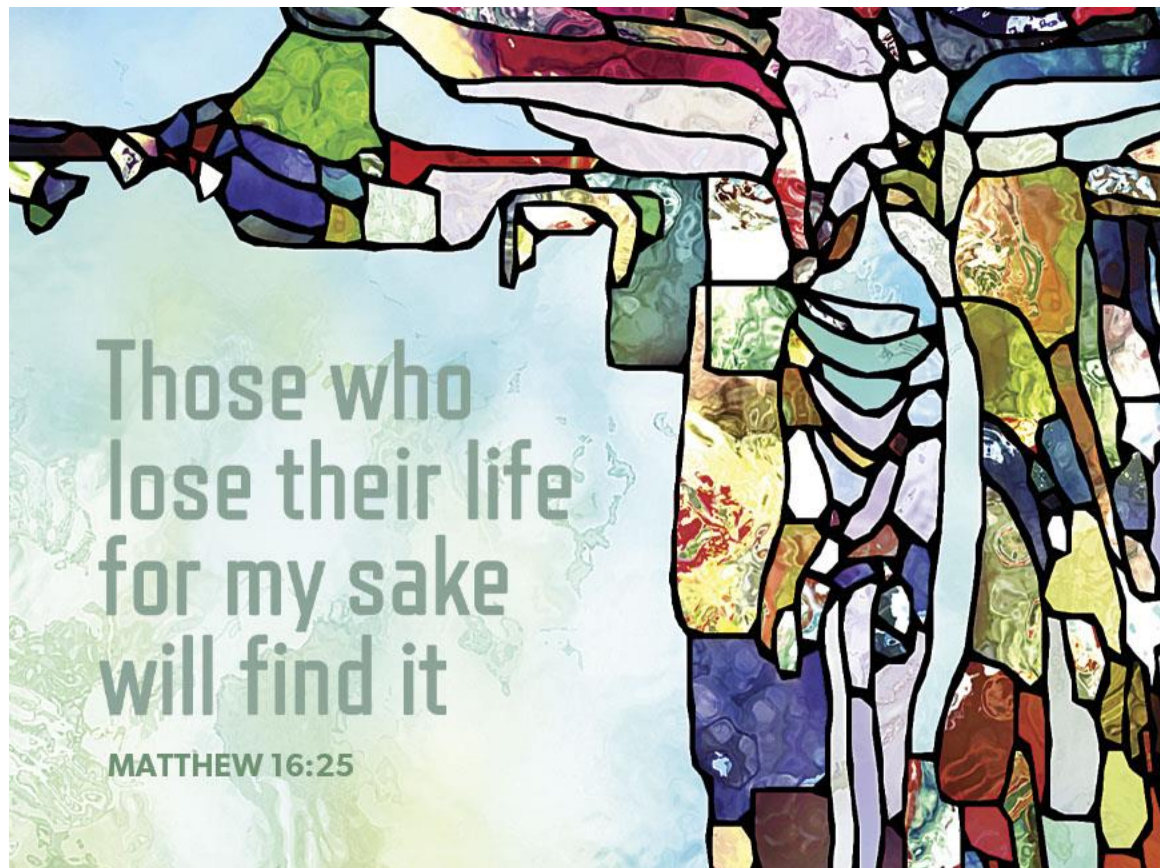


14th Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Communion



SEPTEMBER 3, 2023 ~ 10:00 am

**ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**HAGERSTOWN, MD**

**St. Mark's Lutheran Church**  
601 Washington Avenue, Hagerstown, MD 21740  
Pastor Brian McClinton, Senior Pastor  
Telephone: 301-733-7550 Website: stmarkslc.org

+ *Congregation please stand if able*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE - KOMT NU MET ZANG**

**Ronald A. Nelson**

+ **CONFESSIO AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

+ **GATHERING HYMN - "We Plow the Fields and Scatter"**

**ELW 681**

1 We plow the fields and scatter  
the good seed on the land,  
but it is fed and watered  
by God's almighty hand,  
who sends the snow in winter,  
the warmth to swell the grain,  
the breezes and the sunshine,  
and soft refreshing rain.

2 You only are the maker  
of all things near and far.  
You paint the wayside flower,  
you light the evening star.  
The winds and waves obey you,  
by you the birds are fed;  
much more to us, your children,  
you give our daily bread. *Refrain*

*Refrain*

All good gifts around us  
are sent from heav'n above.  
We thank you, Lord,  
we thank you, Lord,  
for all your love.

3 We thank you, our creator,  
for all things bright and good,  
the seedtime and the harvest,  
our life, our health, our food.  
No gifts have we to offer  
for all your love imparts,  
but what you most would treasure—  
our humble, thankful hearts. *Refrain*

+ **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.**

+ **KYRIE**



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



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



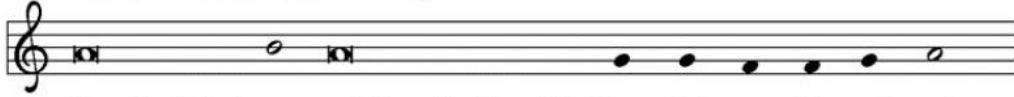
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



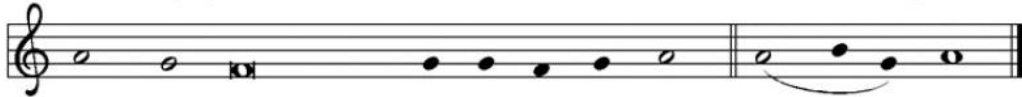
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

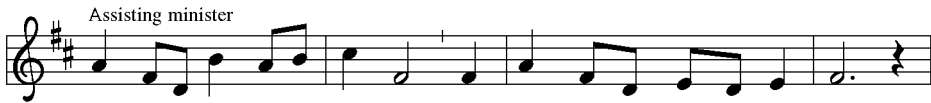


let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



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

+ **GLORIA**



Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



All

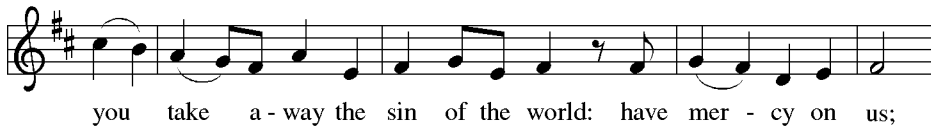
Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

### + **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **FIRST READING - Jeremiah 15:15-21**

*Jeremiah's delight in the word of the LORD is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words, "I am with you."*

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know;

remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;

know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them,

and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart;

for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,  
nor did I rejoice;  
under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?  
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,  
like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD:  
If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me.  
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,  
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them.

<sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze;  
they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you,  
for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,  
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 26:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Vindicate me, O LORD,  
for I have walked in my integrity,  
and I have trusted in the LORD without  
wavering.

<sup>2</sup>Prove me, O LORD, and try me;  
test my heart and mind.

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my  
eyes,  
and I walk in faithfulness to you.

<sup>4</sup>I do not sit with the worthless,

nor do I consort with hypocrites;

<sup>5</sup>I hate the company of evildoers,  
and will not sit with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>I wash my hands in innocence,  
and go around your altar, O LORD,

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving,  
and telling all your wondrous deeds.

<sup>8</sup>O LORD, I love the house in which  
you dwell,

and the place where your glory abides.

### **SECOND READING - Romans 12:9-21**

*Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.*

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

#### + **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



#### + **GOSPEL - Matthew 16:21-28**

*After Peter confesses that Jesus is “the Messiah, the Son of the living God” (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a “rock.”*

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.



<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord!

This must never happen to you.”<sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup> For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup> “For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup> Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”  
The gospel of the Lord.



**SERMON**

**Pastor Brian**

**+ HYMN OF THE DAY - “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”**

**ELW 484**

*Refrain*

You satisfy the hungry heart  
with gift of finest wheat.  
Come give to us, O saving Lord,  
the bread of life to eat.

- 1 As when the shepherd calls his  
sheep,  
they know and heed his voice;  
so when you call your fam'ly, Lord,  
we follow and rejoice. *Refrain*
- 2 With joyful lips we sing to you  
our praise and gratitude  
that you should count us worthy,  
Lord,  
to share this heav'nly food. *Refrain*

- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share  
the blood of Christ outpoured?  
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare  
our oneness in the Lord? *Refrain*
- 4 The myst'ry of your presence, Lord,  
no mortal tongue can tell:  
whom all the world cannot contain  
comes in our hearts to dwell.  
*Refrain*
- 5 You give yourself to us, O Lord;  
then selfless let us be,  
to serve each other in your name  
in truth and charity. *Refrain*



**+ *APOSTLES CREED***

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**+ *PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH***

*Response:* Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

**+ *SHARING OF THE PEACE***

***OFFERING***

***MUSIC OFFERING - Worship***

**Stewart McElroy**

**+ *OFFERTORY - "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"***

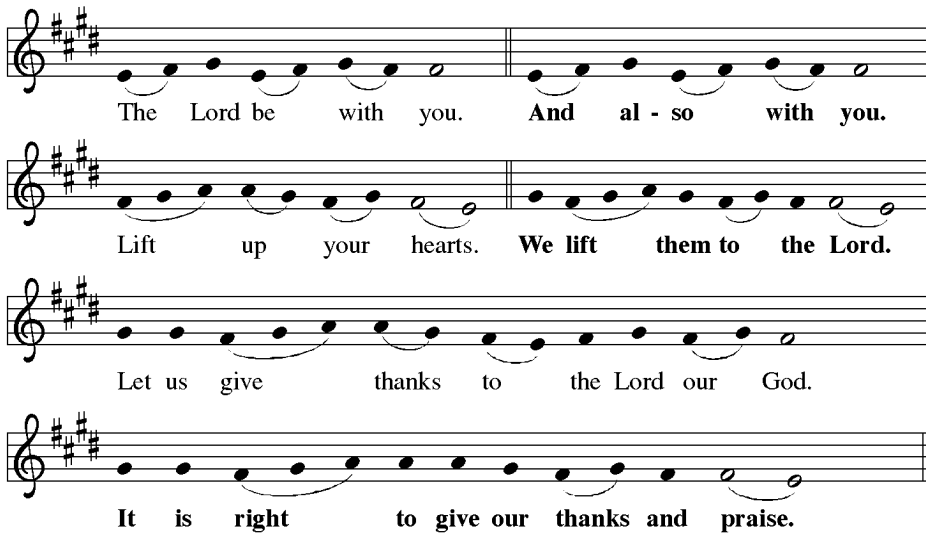
**ELW 184**

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**+*OFFERING PRAYER***

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**+ GREAT THANKSGIVING**

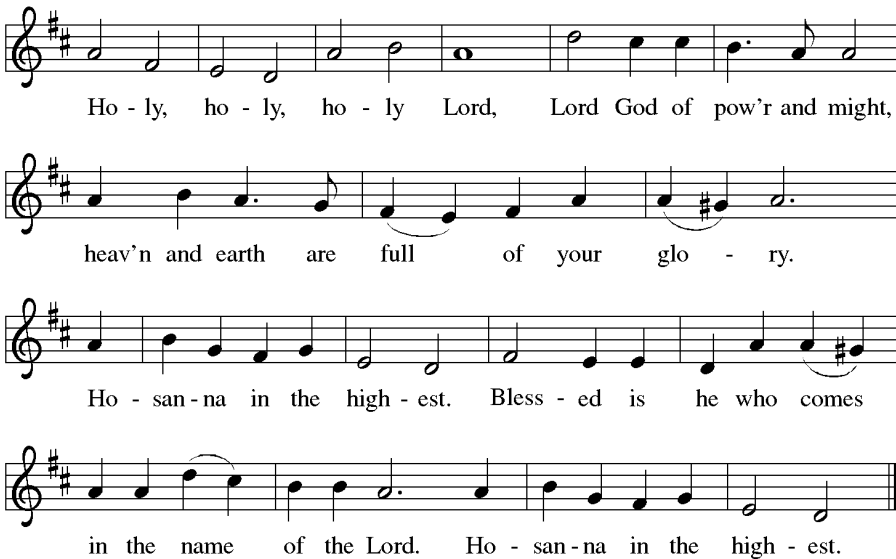


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**+ PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

**+ SANCTUS**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

**+ THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

+ *THE LORD'S PRAYER*

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 TO COMMUNION*

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.  
Thanks be to God.

+ *LAMB OF GOD*



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, grant us peace.

*COMMUNION*

*COMMUNION MEDITATION - Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* David P. Dahl

+ *TABLE BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION*

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

+ **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

+ **BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, † Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

+ **CLOSING HYMN - “Bind Us Together”**

**WOV 748**

*Refrain*

Bind us together, Lord,  
bind us together with cords that cannot  
be broken.

Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together, Lord;  
bind us together in love.

There is only one God.  
There is only one King.  
There is only one Body;  
that is why we can sing.

*Refrain*

You are the fam’ly of God.  
You are the promise divine.  
You are God’s chosen desire,  
you are the glorious new wine.

*Refrain*

+ **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE - Orgelstück**

**Gloger / ed. Leupold**

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