

20th Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion



OCTOBER 15, 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 - Give Thanks

Ellen Banks Elwell

+ **CONFESSION 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 - "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"**

ELW 553

- 1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies, till thy mercy's beams I see,
Christ, the true and only light, till they inward light impart,
Sun of righteousness, arise, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.
- 2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
- 3 Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiance divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

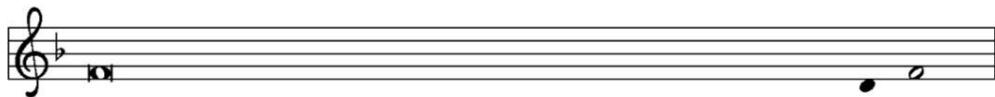
+ **GREETING**

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**



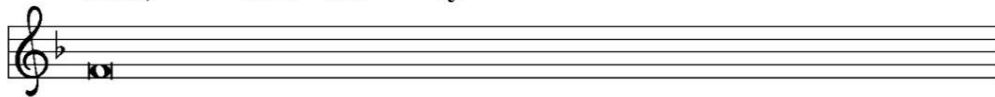
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



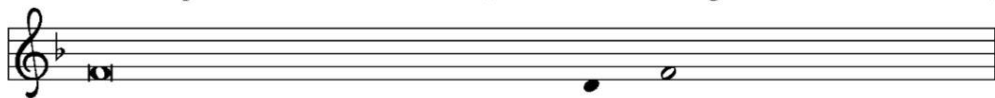
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.




Lord, have mer - cy.




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



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



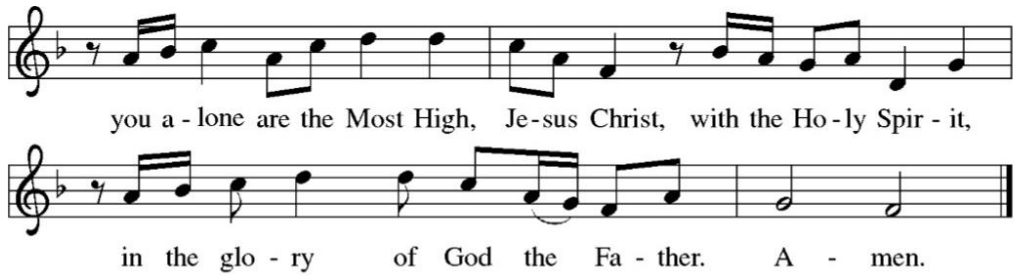
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.
 Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

+ **GLORIA**

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, 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**

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING - Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.
³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.
⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.
Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

²**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;**

³he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.

⁴**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me;**

your rod and your staff — they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.**

SECOND READING - Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

+ **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



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.

+ **GOSPEL - Matthew 22:1-14**

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

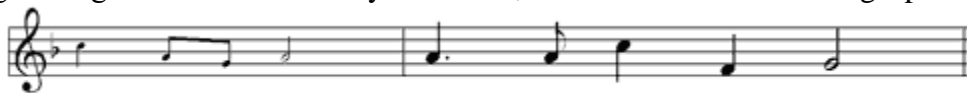
The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 22nd chapter.



Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.” The gospel of the Lord.



Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Brian

+ HYMN OF THE DAY - "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

ELW 708

Refrain

Jesu, Jesu,
fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them.

Refrain

2 Neighbors are wealthy and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are nearby and far away.

Refrain

3 These are the ones we will serve,
these are the ones we will love;
all these are neighbors to us and you.

Refrain

4 Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet:
this is the way we will live with you.

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: God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

+ SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

MUSIC OFFERING - Matins

Stephen Kemp

+ OFFERTORY - "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW 182

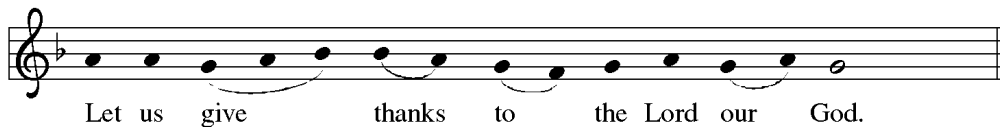
Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that
were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;

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.**

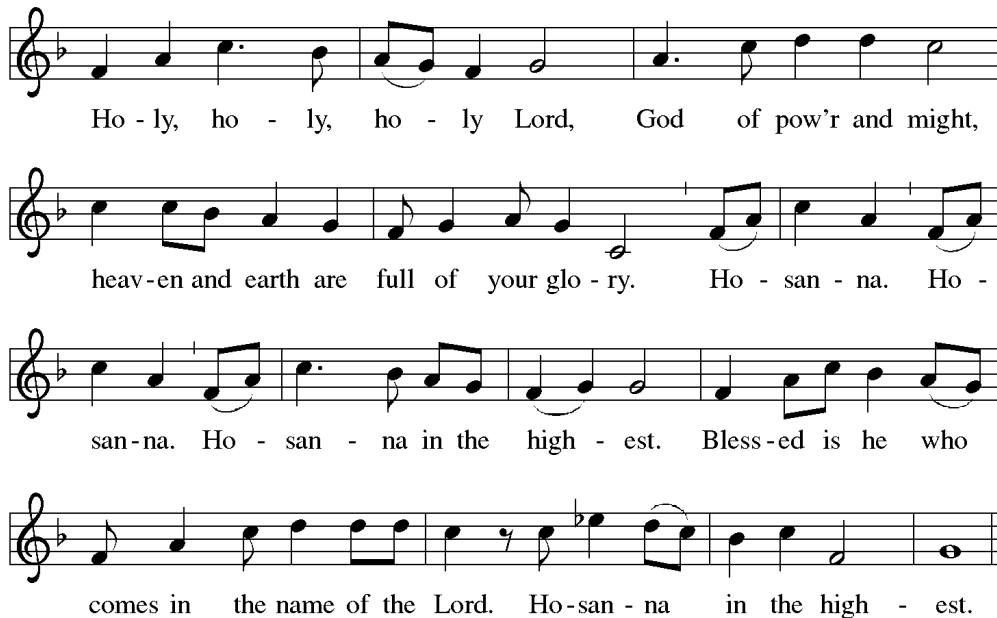
+ GREAT THANKSGIVING



+PREFACE

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

+ *SANCTUS*



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.

+ *THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE*

+ *THE LORD'S PRAYER*

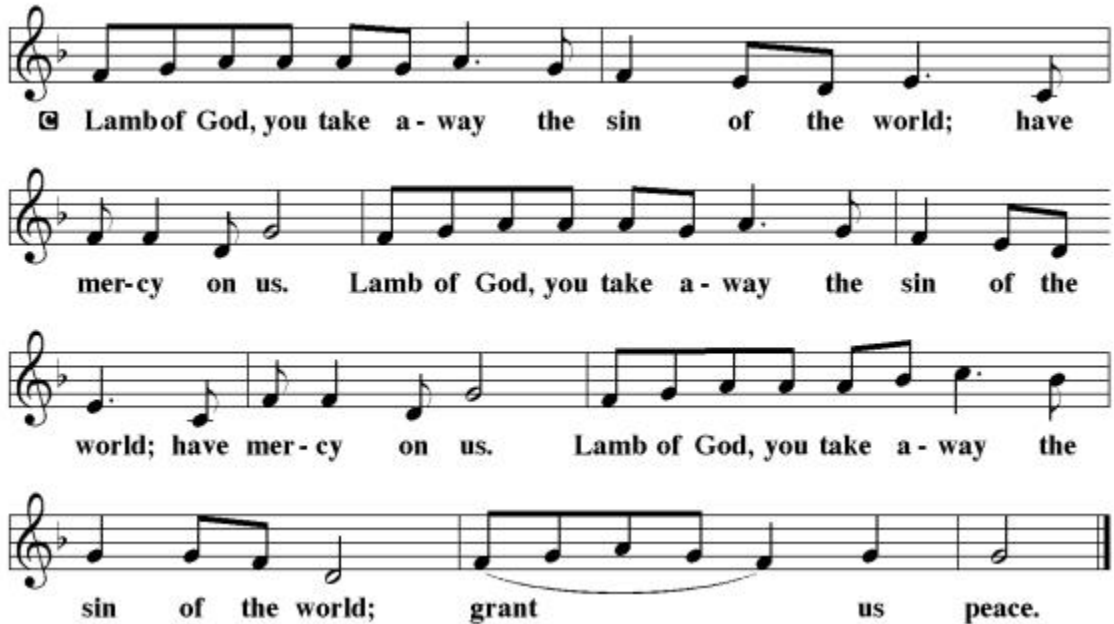
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the 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.

COMMUNION

“Come, Let Us Eat”

ELW 491

“At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing”

ELW 362

+ **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 - "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"**

ELW 632

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home: | 4 A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun. |
| 2 Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure. | 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day. |
| 3 Before the hills in order stood
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same. | 6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home. |

+ **DISMISSAL**

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

You may be seated during the postlude.

POSTLUDE - WIR PFLUGEN

Ronald A. Nelson



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