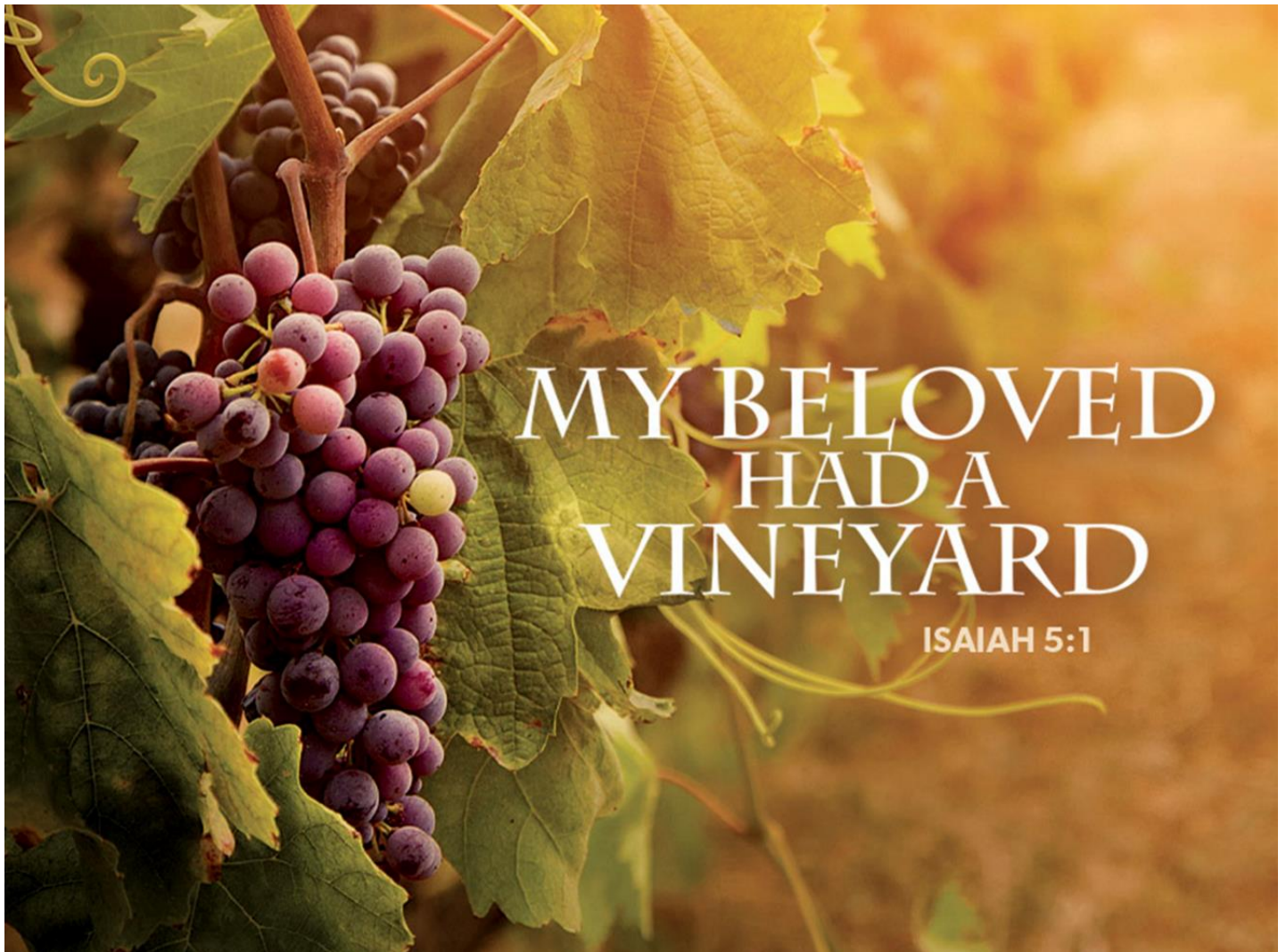


# 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Praise Service



October 8, 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

301-733-7550 [www.stmarkslc.org](http://www.stmarkslc.org)

*+ Stand if you are able.*

## **PRELUDE**

### **PRELUDE ANTHEM - Build My Life (PRAISE TEAM ONLY)**

#### *Verse 1*

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing  
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever  
    breathe  
We live for You

#### *Verse 2*

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name  
Jesus the only one who could ever save  
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever  
    breathe  
We live for You  
We live for You

#### *Chorus*

Holy there is no one like You  
There is none beside You  
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me  
    who You are  
And fill me with Your heart  
And lead me in Your love to those around  
    me

#### *Verse 2 & Chorus*

#### *Bridge (twice)*

I will build my life upon Your love  
It is a firm foundation  
I will put my trust in You alone  
And I will not be shaken

#### *Chorus*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **+ SHARING OF THE PEACE**

### **+ CALL TO WORSHIP**

Welcome to God's house, a place of faith

**From our homes, we come seeking God's word.**

Here you will find nourishment and hope.

**May we learn lessons of courage and peace.**

Here in this place you will find rest from your struggles.

**Lord, prepare our hearts to receive your words that we may leave this holy house of faith and return to our homes, encouraged and challenged to be your people. Amen.**

## + **OPENING HYMN - Gather Us In**

1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,  
we are the old who yearn for your face;  
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.

3 Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away—  
here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever,  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

## + **PRAYER**

Gracious God, you have called us to be your faithful witnesses. We struggle with this because so often we are caught up in our doubts and our despair about this world. Help us to turn again to you, living in your household of freedom and peace, of reconciliation and witness. We offer this prayer in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## **READING - Isaiah 5:1-7**

*The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.*

<sup>1</sup>Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his  
vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.

<sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watchtower in the midst of  
it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;

he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.

<sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.

<sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my  
vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?

<sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;

I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.

<sup>6</sup>I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with  
briers and thorns;

I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.

<sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

### ***PSALM 80:7-15***

<sup>7</sup>Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. <sup>8</sup>You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it. <sup>9</sup>You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land. <sup>10</sup>The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches; <sup>11</sup>it sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the River. <sup>12</sup>Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit? <sup>13</sup>The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it. <sup>14</sup>Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, <sup>15</sup>the stock that your right hand planted.

### ***OFFERING***

#### ***OFFERING PRAYER***

**Washed in your peace and love, O God, we bring our gifts to you. Bless these gifts and the lives that they represent, that all may be used in your service and to your glory. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.**

## **READING - Philippians 3:4-14**

[Paul writes:] <sup>4b</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

## **PRAISE HYMN - When the Roll is Called Up Yonder**

When the trumpet of the Lord shall  
    sound  
And time shall be no more  
And the morning breaks eternal bright  
    and fair  
When the saved of earth  
Shall gather over on the other shore  
And the roll is called up yonder  
I'll be there

### *Chorus*

When the roll is called up yonder  
When the roll is called up yonder  
When the roll is called up yonder  
When the roll is called up yonder  
I'll be there

On that bright and cloudless morning  
When the dead in Christ shall rise  
And the glory of His resurrection share  
When His chosen ones shall gather  
To their home beyond the skies  
And the roll is called up yonder  
I'll be there

### **Chorus**

Let us labor for the Master  
From the dawn till setting sun  
Let us talk of all His wondrous love and care  
Then when all of life is over  
And our work on earth is done  
And the roll is called up yonder  
I'll be there

### **Chorus**

**+ GOSPEL READING - Matthew 21:33-46**

[Jesus said to the people:] <sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?

<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

**MESSAGE**

**Pastor Brian**

**+ PRAISE SONG - How Firm a Foundation**

How firm a foundation ye saints of the Lord  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word  
What more can He say than to you He hath said  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled  
  
Fear not I am with thee O be not dismayed  
For I am thy God I will still give thee aid  
I'll strengthen thee help thee  
And cause thee to stand  
Upheld by My righteous omnipotent hand

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie  
My grace all-sufficient shall be thy supply  
The flames shall not hurt thee I only design  
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose  
I will not I will not desert to its foes  
That soul though all hell should endeavor to shake  
I'll never no never no never forsake

#### **+ CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**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**

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

#### **+ 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.**

## **+ PRAISE SONG - I Danced in the Morning (Lord of the Dance)**

I danced in the morning  
When the world was begun  
And I danced in the moon  
And the stars and the sun  
And I came down from heaven  
And I danced on the earth  
At Bethlehem I had My birth

### *Chorus*

Dance then wherever you may be  
I am the Lord of the Dance said He  
And I'll lead you all  
Wherever you may be  
And I'll lead you all  
In the Dance said He

I danced for the scribe  
And the Pharisee  
But they would not dance  
And they wouldn't follow Me  
I danced for the fishermen  
For James and John  
They came with Me  
And the dance went on

### *Chorus*

## **+ BLESSING**

The Banquet of God's love has been give to you. You have received blessing upon blessing. Go now into the world in which noise and confusion reign. Bring peace and hope in Christ's Name to all you meet. God's peace and love be with you now and always. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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I danced on the Sabbath  
And I cured the lame  
The holy people said it was a shame  
They whipped and they stripped  
And they hung Me on high  
And they left Me there  
On a Cross to die

### **Chorus**

I danced on a Friday  
When the sky turned black  
It's hard to dance  
With the devil on your back  
They buried My body  
And they thought I'd gone  
But I am the dance  
And I still go on

### **Chorus**

They cut Me down  
And I leapt up high  
I am the life  
That'll never never die  
I'll live in you  
If you'll live in Me  
I am the Lord  
Of the Dance said He