



the welcome place.

St. Mark Lutheran Church
Worship Bulletin
Sunday, October 19, 2025
19th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ELW p. 116)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

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.

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.

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 SONG *Rise Up, O Saints of God!* (ELW 669)

GREETING (ELW p. 120)

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 (ELW p. 120)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

For this holy house,
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen, amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 121)

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**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.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 124)

Let us pray.

**O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries.
Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for
all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31

A reading from Genesis.

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 121

- ¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills;
from where is my help to come?
- ² **My help comes from the LORD,
the maker of heaven and earth.**
- ³ The LORD will not let your foot be moved
nor will the one who watches over you fall asleep.
- ⁴ **Behold, the keeper of Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep;**
- ⁵ the LORD watches over you;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
- ⁶ **the sun will not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**
- ⁷ The LORD will preserve you from all evil
and will keep your life.
- ⁸ **The LORD will watch over your going out and your coming in,
from this time forth forevermore.**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

A reading from 2 Timothy.

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is

useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1} In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ² proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵ As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Lord, Listen to Your Children* (W&P 92)

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ² He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³ In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my accuser.’ ⁴ For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’ ” ⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Lord, Listen to Your Children* (W&P 92)

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* (ELW 773)

CREED (ELW p. 126)

**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 to the dead.
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 INTERCESSION

Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

We pray for the church universal. O God, who unites the church across the globe, bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition. Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth, draw us to the beauty of the whole creation. Turn us toward a right relationship with the entire cosmos. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns. O God, you rule over all the earth. Grant our elected officials humility in their decision-making for the sake of the entire world. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. O God, who heals and strengthens, our help comes from you in times of need. Support, comfort, and heal those who suffer. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We pray for St. Mark Lutheran Church. O God, who guides this congregation, encourage us to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Nurture our relationships with the community, that we serve and advocate for those who come to us in need. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer thanksgiving for the faithful departed. O God, whose promises never end, we thank you for all the saints who have shown us the way of your Son, Jesus Christ. God of grace,
receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MUSICAL OFFERING

OFFERTORY *We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise* (W&P 150)

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 129)

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 129)

The Lord be with you.

And also 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 (ELW p. 130)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 130)

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 130)

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen, amen. Amen, amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 134)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (LAMB OF GOD) (ELW p. 135)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.**

SONG DURING COMMUNION *Day by Day* (ELW 790)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 136)

Let us pray.

**God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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.

SENDING SONG *Jesus, Still Lead On* (ELW 624)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

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ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

PREACHER / PRESIDER Bishop Bryan Penman
ASSISTING MINISTER The Reverend Kevin M.B. Tracey
MUSICIAN Faith Woodward
TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT Edie Beaupre/Tom Petree
LECTOR Justin Bainum

CHURCH STAFF

PASTOR: The Reverend Kevin M.B. Tracey **SCHOOL DIRECTOR:** Melisa McDaid
MUSIC DIRECTOR: Faith Woodward **PARISH ADMINISTRATOR:** Alice Kaplan

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK

Today Worship Service with Bishop Penman 10 AM
Tuesday Council Meeting 7 PM
Wednesday Fall Bible Study 7 PM
Friday Trunk or Treat 6 PM
Sunday Worship Service 10 AM

Announcements

Today we welcome **BISHOP BRYAN J. PENMAN** to worship as our preacher and presider. Prior to his election in 2024, Bishop Penman served as the Pastor of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Conshohocken. Beyond his parish work, he also served as a Director of Evangelical Mission, focusing on congregational vitality. Bishop Penman serves as a leader here in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and in the ELCA at large. You can learn more about him and read his monthly letters to our synod on the synod's website.

Thank you to everyone who helped with St. Mark's **FALL BINGO** night last night.

Join us Wednesday evenings at 7pm for our **FALL BIBLE STUDY**. We're studying the book of Job in a series called: The Pain of Being Human: Are Suffering and Destruction in God's Plan? Let Pr. Kevin or the church office know if you'd like to receive the link to participate.

TRUNK OR TREAT is this Friday, Oct. 24. Donations of large bags of Halloween candy (no choking hazards such as hard candy please) are welcome. If you'd like to participate with your decorated car, please contact Melisa McDaid or Kathy Cosentino at (610) 626-6837 or director@stmarkcliftonheights.org.

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