

Today is God's Work. Our Hands. Day of Service! And it is not too late to get involved!

- At 11 am, you have the opportunity to meet downstairs in the fellowship hall to pack meals for our Blessings in a Backpack ministry in addition to card-making for our shut-ins!
- At 12:30 pm, the opportunities continue, as we will be preparing and assembling craft kits for the kiddos at HSV Hospital in addition to even more card-making for our elderly members!
- Last but not least, though limited in size, a crew will head over to Downtown Rescue Mission at 1 pm to help clean the kitchen! Each activity period should be about an hour - join us as we serve our neighbors!

Check out the "What's Next?" bulletin board outside the Nursery:

Signups for Free Spirits and WELCA Weekend

- Today is the last day for Free Spirits Sign Up!
- WELCA Weekend is September 25-26. Please sign up to let us know you are attending!

PRAYER REQUESTS

June Barber	Betty Hampton	Eric Martin	Mija Stockman
Dudley Brewer	Pastor Jill Henning	Brian Paulus	Terry Szymczyk
Jim Brumfield	Brenda Holsopple	Mark Pinyerd	Ival Toepke
Patty Cutter	Rein Ise	Eric Roome	
Vicki Eversmeyer	Meg Jones	Katy Schroer	
Dennis Fakes	Jim Krell	Grace Schultz	

If you would like the St. Mark's Prayer Chain to pray for your concern, please contact our Prayer Chain Coordinator, Brenda Holsopple.

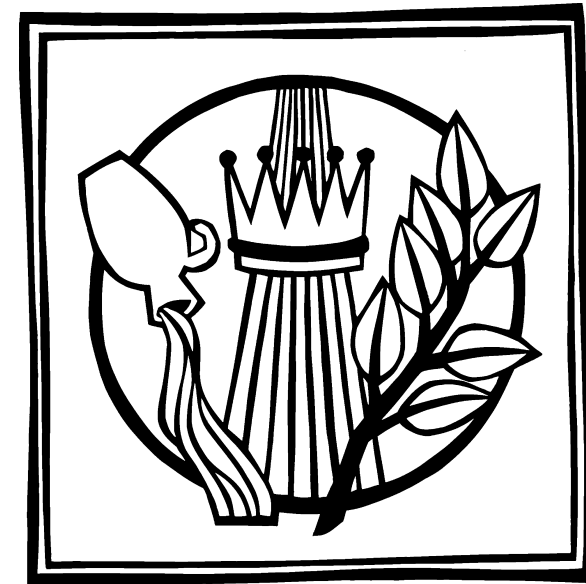


St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

September 12, 2021

11:00a.m. Traditional Worship

Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost



***Growing together in faith to abundantly
nourish our community.***

200 Longwood Drive SE, Huntsville, AL 35801

Phone: 256.539.4361

Web: www.stmarkshsv.org Email: info@stmarkshsv.org

Prelude *Listen God is Calling*

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Please stand

Gathering Hymn *Morning Has Broken* Hymn 556

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
- 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

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Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.
Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

C: like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Sending Song *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wide* Hymn 834

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Dismissal

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude *God of Abram Praise*

Service Participants

Assisting Minister: Josh Cutter

Acolyte: Madelyn Vandevre

Lector: Jed Deason

Children's Message: Traci Billman

Lay Communion Assistant: Louise Boller

Greeters/Ushers: Jim French & Wayne Falkenberg

***The Altar Arrangements today are given by Bob & Louise Boller
in celebration of their 57th wedding anniversary.***

Celebration of Holy Communion

Please follow the guidance of the ushers and make every effort to give others distance as we commune together. Also please receive both elements and then unmask to partake in this meal. Also please know you are welcome to receive a blessing instead of partaking in communion as a reminder of God's love, forgiveness, and grace for you. These are the gifts of God for all.

Communion Songs

Lamb of God

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, grant us peace.

Let Us Break Bread Together

Hymn 471

1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees. *Refrain*

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees. *Refrain*

Please stand

Prayer after Communion

C: Amen.

Blessing

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.
The holy Trinity, + one God, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C: Amen.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Canticle of Praise

Refrain

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

Final Refrain

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

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, **throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

Please be seated.

WORD

Children's Message

All children and their parents are invited for a brief message.

First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a (Pew Bible p. 594)

The Lord God has given me

the tongue of a teacher,

that I may know how to sustain

the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—

wakens my ear

to listen as those who are taught.

The Lord God has opened my ear,

and I was not rebellious,

I did not turn backward.

I gave my back to those who struck me,

and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;

I did not hide my face

from insult and spitting.

The Lord God helps me;

therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint,

and I know that I shall not be put to shame;

he who vindicates me is near.

Who will contend with me?

Let us stand up together.

Who are my adversaries?

Let them confront me.

It is the Lord God who helps me;

who will declare me guilty?

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface for Sundays/Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

Heav'n 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.

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

**C: 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.**

Please be seated

**the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Petitions will be concluded with:

A: Lord, in your mercy, **C: Hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

C: And also with you.

Please share a sign of God's peace with one another.

Please extend a greeting of welcome and a word of grace to those around you while observing best practices for social distancing.

Please be seated

MEAL

Offering Song

Take My Life, That I May Be

Choir

Please stand

Song of Thanksgiving

Doxology

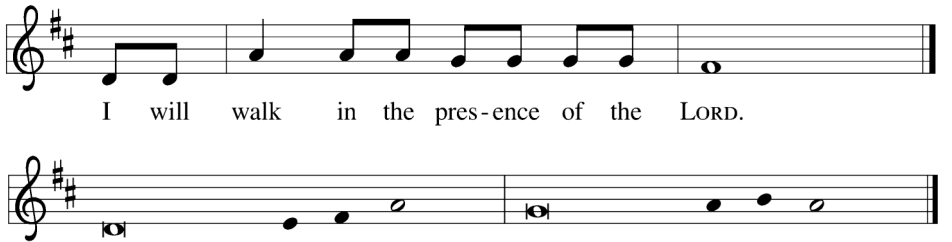
Hymn 884

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Offertory Prayer

Psalm 116:1-9 Tone 4 with Refrain

Refrain



I will walk in the pres-ence of the LORD.

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High voices/**Low voices**

- 1 I love the LORD, who has | heard my voice,
and listened to my | supplication,
- 2 **for the LORD has given | ear to me
whenev- | er I called.**
- 3 The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave | came upon me;
I came to | grief and sorrow.
- 4 **Then I called upon the name | of the LORD:
"O LORD, I pray you, | save my life." R**
- 5 Gracious is the | LORD and righteous;
our God is full | of compassion.
- 6 **The LORD watches o- | ver the innocent;
I was brought low, | and God saved me.**
- 7 Turn again to your rest, | O my soul.
for the LORD has dealt | well with you.
- 8 **For you have rescued my | life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my | feet from stumbling;**
- 9 I will walk in the presence | of the LORD
in the land | of the living. R

Second Reading: James 3:1-12 (Pew Bible pp. 981-982)

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue

is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise for the Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38 (Pew Bible p. 820)

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Proclamation of the Word

Rev. Jason R. Davis

Silence for reflection on the Word.

Please stand

Hymn of the Day

Lift High the Cross

Hymn 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*
- 2 All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*
- 3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*
- 4 So shall our song of triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

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Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us together 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 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,**