



God's love, Our service.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Sunday, October 18, 2026

21st Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The October Noisy Offering collection will go to the Starfish Project food pantry, chosen by our 3 yr. old—2nd grade class.

Stewardship Temple Talk #1 - Dave Mindrup



Upcoming Commemorations

Luke, Evangelist

Identified as the author of both Luke and Acts, Luke was careful to place the events of Jesus' life in their social and religious contexts. His gospel gives us some of the most beloved parables, as well as the songs of Zechariah, Mary, the angels, and Simeon.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

**Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✙ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 526, vs. 1 & 2

God Is Here!

1 God is here! As we your people
 meet to offer praise and prayer,
 may we find in fuller measure
 what it is in Christ we share.
 Here, as in the world around us,
 all our varied skills and arts
 wait the coming of the Spirit
 into open minds and hearts.

2 Here are symbols to remind us
 of our lifelong need of grace;
 here are table, font, and pulpit;
 here the cross has central place.
 Here in honesty of preaching,
 here in silence, as in speech,
 here, in newness and renewal,
 God the Spirit comes to each.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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Greeting page 203

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 Pg. 203

CANTICLE OF PRAISE page 204

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God,

raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the LORD has anointed to end Israel's exile. The LORD makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this LORD as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the LORD claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
 whose right hand I have grasped
 to subdue nations before him

and to strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
² I will go before you
and level the mountains;
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron;
³ I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name;
I give you a title, though you do not know me.
⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶ so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

Psalms: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

Ascribe to the LORD honor and power. (Ps. 96:7)

- ¹ Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
² **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
³ Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
⁴ **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

- ⁵ As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
- ⁶ **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**
- ⁷ Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
- ⁸ **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**
- ⁹ Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.
- [¹⁰ **Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the
peoples with equity."**
- ¹¹ Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- ¹² **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your coming, O LORD,
for you come to judge the earth.**
- ¹³ You will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with your truth.
-]

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

² We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of
love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴ For we know, brothers and
sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel
came to you not in word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full
conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your
sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you

received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For they report about us what kind of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

The Word of The Lord.

Thanks Be to God.

Gospel Acclamation pg. 205

Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 22nd Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

¹⁵ The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶ So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" ²¹ They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.



CHILDREN'S SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 685

Take My Life, That I May Be

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|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise. | 4 | Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose. |
| 2 | Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. | 5 | Take my will and make it thine,
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne. |
| 3 | Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee. | 6 | Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee. |

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

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 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

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

Living and true God, you inspire us to share the message of the gospel. Give your spirit of love to seminarians and those beginning their lives in ordained ministry. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for the majesty of our oceans. Protect the abundant life within them and sustain all those who work to preserve them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We seek your wisdom in all things. Direct all who hold positions of authority around the world, that they act with compassion, seeking the good of all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all people who work in dangerous or degrading environments. Grant them safety and courage, and heal all those who are injured, sick, or suffering (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We ask your blessing on those who do the quiet, unseen work of the church (*congregational ministries may be named*). Encourage them in their work of faith and labor of love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We thank you for our ancestors who have been called home to you (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

PEACE p. 206

In Jesus Christ, God has made his peace with us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

And also with you.

Let us share God's peace with one another.

OFFERING/ NOISY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ELW 752

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ...

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 pg. 207

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!



COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG pg. 208

COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 623

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 let me hide myself in thee;
 let the water and the blood,
 from thy riven side which flowed,
 be of sin the double cure;
 cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.

2 Not the labors of my hands
 can fulfill thy law's demands;
 could my zeal no respite know,
 could my tears forever flow,
 all for sin could not atone;
 thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring;
 simply to thy cross I cling.
 Naked, come to thee for dress;
 helpless, look to thee for grace;
 foul, I to the fountain fly;
 wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath,
 when mine eyelids close in death,
 when I soar to worlds unknown,
 see thee on thy judgment throne,
 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
 let me hide myself in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-1778

ELW 501

Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus

Come with us, O blessed Jesus,
with us evermore to be.
And, in leaving now thine altar,
let us nevermore leave thee!
Let thy bright celestial chorus
never cease the heav'nly strain;
but in us, thy loving children,
come with peace, good will to reign.

Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we are sent forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood for your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence.
Amen.

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
Amen.
The God of hope

grant you strength and joy in all circumstances
through the interceding of the Spirit.

Amen.

The God of grace

✝ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 841, vs. 1 & 3

Lift Every Voice and Sing

- 1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

- 3 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee;
lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

Text: James W. Johnson, 1871-1938

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.

Thanks be to God.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.638-9331 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.
Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

The people of St. Mark's,
Ginny Schwartzbeck,
Roger Trester,
Clarence Linsey,
Lucas Niccoli,
Donna Nichols,
Pete Cagle,
Linda Cagle,
Janet Nichols,
Chuck Vandenberg,
Janet Schmidt,



Family & friends:

Family of Willa Dean Brown, aunt of Tom Bryer,
Family of Sandra Borg, sister of Joyce Johnson,
Billy Howe, friend of Dave & Janie Best,
Mike Rex, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Sherry Anderson, friend of the Lathams,
Rhonda Bernie, cousin of Linda Cagle,
Shane & family, friends of Joe & Debbie Van Kempen,
Family of Sally Gieschen, friend of St. Mark's,
Adam, cousin of Nancy Bryer,
Michel El Haddad, extended Fetsch family member,
Audrey Varner, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Mitch Shaffer, friend of Susan and Bob Fetsch,
Patty, friend of Vicki Larson,
Barry Hansen, cousin of Paula Quade,
Family of Irene, mother of Janet Krievins,
Garry Thomas, father of Mark Thomas,
Kathryn Young, cousin of Mark Schmideskamp,
Steve, cousin of Tom Bryer,
Liz Zybko, friend of Pam Wilson,
Tony Berg, son of Arlyn & Jan Berg,
Donna Trester, Mother of Linda Cagle,
Kerry O'Rourke, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Mindy Gustus, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,
Jessica Parker, great-niece of Jane Stresewski,
Bob Bergene, friend of Clarence Linsey,

Scott Miller, son-in-law of Jane & Mike Scherrer,
Dr. Owens, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Elizabeth Applebaum, friend of Kathy Hinkle
Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,
All People affected by natural disasters

Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen
Thompson,
Ryan Hunter Hillis, family friend of Trish Klima