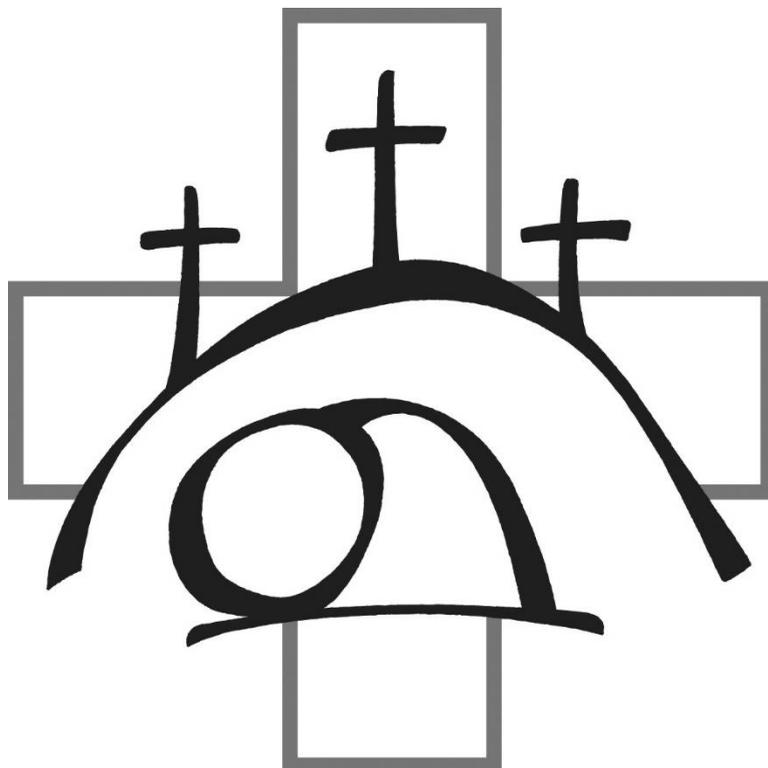


CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

August 30, 2020



**GLORIFY HIM ...
GROW IN HIM ...
GO WITH HIS GOSPEL**

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2020

Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church & School

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we welcome you to St. Mark's. We especially welcome our guests who have joined us today. We pray you will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness to us through Jesus.

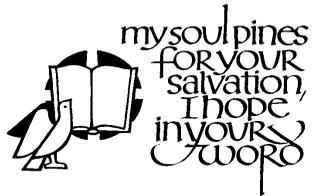
We say with the Psalmist, whether here on campus or viewing online, *"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD'"* (Psalm 122:1).

May the Lord continue to help us grow in His grace and knowledge as we hear, speak, and sing His holy Word.

Some items to keep in mind as we gather for worship in this place:

We do have LARGE PRINT copies of the Bulletin, you will find them on the table with the Bulletins;

Holy Communion is offered on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays. We ask that only WELS & ELS members partake of the Sacrament. Our Pastors are willing to speak to why this is the case, please contact one of them.



Explore our website. You will find information on Worship, Bible Study, Devotions, Children's Sunday School, and More.

Follow us to stay connected: Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/stmarksch; follow us on Instagram: Instagram.com/stmarkslutheran; Subscribe to our videos on Vimeo: vimeo.com/channels/stmarksch.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Worship Focus: Do you like exercise? Maybe your answer depends on the day or for what purpose you are exercising. Exercise for our faith is just as important. God allows tests to help with this exercise. He also has provided His Word to help us exercise His gift of faith. Confessions of faith, along with prayer, are other ways to exercise our faith. If we do not exercise, what can happen? God bless the hearing and reading of His Word today and everyday.

PRELUDE

Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising

Arr. Valerie Floeter

GREETING

OPENING HYMN

(musical introduction)

The Love of Christ, Who Died for Me

Christian Worship Supplement # 749

*(solo) The love of Christ, who died for me Is more than mind can know,
His mercy measureless and free To meet the debt I owe.
He came my sinful cause to plead, He laid his glories by,
For me a homeless life to lead, A shameful death to die.*

**My sins I only see in part, My self-regarding ways;
The secret places of my heart Lie bare before his gaze.
For me the price of sin he paid; My sins beyond recall
Are all alike on Jesus laid, he died to bear them all.**

**O living Lord of life, for whom The heavens held their breath,
To see, triumphant from the tomb, A love that conquers death,
Possess my heart that it may be Your kingdom without end,
O Christ who died for love of me And lives to be my friend.**

Minister: The grace of our Lord ☩ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift of grace that we come into your presence and offer true and faithful service. Grant that our worship on earth may always be pleasing to you, and in the life to come give us the fulfillment of what you promised;

C: through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Joshua 2:8-21

Salvation is a powerful motivator, changing lives forever – consider the life of Rahab.

⁸ Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof ⁹ and said to them, “I know that the LORD has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. ¹⁰ We have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. ¹¹ When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below. ¹² Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign ¹³ that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death.” ¹⁴ “Our lives for your lives!” the men assured her. “If you don’t tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the LORD gives us the land.” ¹⁵ So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall. ¹⁶ She said to them, “Go to the hills so the pursuers will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days until they return, and then go on your way.” ¹⁷ Now the men had said to her, “This oath

you made us swear will not be binding on us ¹⁸ unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you have brought your father and mother, your brothers and all your family into your house. ¹⁹ If any of them go outside your house into the street, their blood will be on their own heads; we will not be responsible. As for those who are in the house with you, their blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on them. ²⁰ But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear.” ²¹ “Agreed,” she replied. “Let it be as you say.” So she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

HYMN

(musical introduction)

I Hear the Savior Calling

Christian Worship # 560

**I hear the Savior calling! The gospel comes to me.
My eyes once closed in blindness Are opened now to see
That I myself was helpless To live eternally,
But, dying, Christ did save me, And now he calls for me!**

**I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.
The gift I have to offer Is Christ, my Lord’s decree
That all have been forgiven—My Savior calls for me!**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 11:13-15, 28-32

Salvation is not an automatic for anyone, it is a gift; a gift which can be lost. Don’t take it for granted.

¹³ I am talking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I take pride in my ministry ¹⁴ in the hope that I may somehow arouse my own people to envy and save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection brought reconciliation to the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead? ²⁸ As far as the gospel is concerned, they are enemies for your sake; but as far as election is concerned, they are loved on account of the patriarchs, ²⁹ for God’s gifts and his call are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you who were at one time disobedient to God have now received mercy as a result of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now become disobedient in order that they too may now receive mercy as a result of God’s mercy to you. ³² For God has bound everyone over to disobedience so that he may have mercy on them all.

HYMN*(musical introduction)***I Hear the Savior Calling***Christian Worship # 560*

**I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me:
 To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.
 Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key
 We spread the gospel tidings—My Savior calls for me!**

**I hear the Savior calling! He changes hearts for me.
 From door to door I witness To bring my Savior's plea;
 Yet nothing can be added, No word on bended knee,
 Beyond the simple gospel—My Savior calls for me!**

Our Worship centers on the Gospel Reading for the day.

GOSPEL**Matthew 15:21-28**

Salvation is meant for all people, period. What are we doing about this?

²¹ Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly." ²³ Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." ²⁴ He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." ²⁵ The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said. ²⁶ He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." ²⁷ "Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." ²⁸ Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

HYMN OF THE DAY*(musical introduction)***Rise, O Light of Gentile Nations***Christian Worship # 577*

**Rise, O Light of Gentile nations, Jesus, bright and Morning Star;
 Let your Word, the gladsome tidings, Ring out loudly near and far,
 Bringing freedom to the captives, Peace and comfort to the slave,
 That the heathen, free from bondage, May proclaim your pow'r to save.**

**Knowing you and your salvation, Grateful love dare never cease
 To proclaim your tender mercies, Gracious Lord, your heav'nly peace.
 Let us sound the gospel tidings To the earth's remotest bound
 That the sinner has been pardoned And forgiveness can be found.**

*(solo) May our zeal to help the heathen Be increased from day to day,
As we plead in true compassion And for their conversion pray.
For the many faithful workers, For the gospel they proclaim,
Let us all be cheerful givers To the glory of your name.*

**Savior, shine in all your glory On the nations near and far;
From the highways and the byways Call them forth, O Morning Star.
Guide them whom your grace has chosen Out of Satan's dreadful thrall
To the mansions of your Father—There is room for sinners all.**

SERMON

Based on Matthew 15:21-28

“Exercise Your Faith”

NICENE CREED

M: We believe in one God,

C: the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

M: We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

C: For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

M: For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.

C: On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

M: He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

C: He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

M: We believe in the Holy Spirit,

C: the Lord, the giver of life,

M: who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

C: who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

M: We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

C: We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

M: We look for the resurrection of the dead
C: **and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

OUR THANK OFFERING

Thank you for continuing to support our ministry. Your thank offering can be placed in the basket on the Table, or you can mail your thank offering to the church, or give online through our website under the “Resources” tab. The QR Code to the giving link is at the end of the bulletin.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creation and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son’s body and blood, which you give us to eat and to drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C: **Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.**

M: Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C: **Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

For online worship, continue with the Blessing and the Closing Hymn

THE SACRAMENT

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **Amen.**

Explanation regarding the Distribution of the Lord's Supper

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

(musical introduction)

O Gracious Lord, I Firmly Am Believing

Christian Worship Supplement # 743

*(solo) O gracious Lord, I firmly am believing
Your boundless love will bless each faithful soul,
As from this altar we are here receiving
Your body and your blood to make us whole,
Your body and your blood to make us whole.*

**Lord, I have sinned, a thousand times offending;
My thankless thoughts and words and deeds erase,
To me your hand of mercy now extending,
O God, my Savior, I implore your grace,
O God, my Savior, I implore your grace.**

*(solo) You see my sin, yet seat me at your table;
Lord, as a guest, I surely am the least:
Unclean, unfit, of worthy deeds unable—
My heart prepare for this most holy feast,
My heart prepare for this most holy feast.*

*(solo) O Lamb of God, my faithful, loving Savior,
You I embrace in faith and holy love;
Grant me the strength to show by my behavior
A life now hidden in your reign above,
A life now hidden in your reign above.*

**Heavenly Bread, my life and benediction,
This cup you give can take away each ill.
Come and relieve my soul from all affliction;
Calm ev'ry sigh until my heart is still,
Calm ev'ry sigh until my heart is still.**

Following Distribution and the Communion Blessing

PRAYER

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God.

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Take the World, but Give Me Jesus

Christian Worship # 560

**I hear the Savior calling! His call has urgency!
Each moment souls are dying; Soon comes eternity.
And so, my precious Savior, This is my humble plea:
Prepare me for my mission For you are calling me!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

O Worship the King

William Gardiner

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Scripture Quotations: From the *Holy Bible, New International Version* (NIV 2011), copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.

For Reflection based on Today's Scripture Readings ...

Why did Joshua send out spies? (wider context) What did Rahab know about the Israelites, and more so about the God of Israel? What do people today know about God (without excuse)? What did Rahab want in return for her help? What takeaways do you come up with from this account? See Romans 1 & 2.

What did Paul want for both Jews and Gentiles? What thoughts express his passion for this to happen? How has God shown mercy on all people? See 2 Corinthians 5:11-21

What did this woman know about Jesus? Why do you think Jesus appeared 'cold' to her given the situation? What do we want to keep in mind as we strive to carry out the Great Commission (Mt 28:18-20)? Who can you reach out to this week with a message of reconciliation? See Romans 10:14-17.

TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Jonathan Kolander

Accompanist: Marty Puckett Violin & Cello: Vince Beiderbecke Percussion: Don Black

Solo: Jenny Kolander

Altar Flowers: Flowers beautifying the altar have been placed by Keith & Donna Williamson in honor of their 38th Wedding Anniversary!.

Children's Sunday School—*Materials available online*

As we gather today, we will study “A Loving Law.” Months into their wilderness wanderings, the Israelites arrive in the wilderness of Sinai. God comes to the mountain in clouds and thunder---fire and smoke---as He establishes His covenant with His people through Moses, His chosen intermediary. There on the mountain, God gives Moses His Ten Commandments. *Discuss why the Ten Commandments are still important in our lives today.*

Adult & Teen Bible Studies

- **Personalizing Salvation - Law & Gospel:** Led by Pastor Kolander.
- **Teen Class:** Led by Pastor Groth via Zoom at 11:00am.

To connect to the auto giving option:



To online Connect Card:



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Weekly Calendar

Today	9:30 a.m.	Outdoor Service - Communion
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Buidling & Grounds Meeting
Thursday	4:30 p.m.	Board of Stewardship
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Digging Deeper Bible Discussion
Next Sunday	9:30 a.m.	LWMS Mission Box Sunday - Outdoor Service

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
Shirley Wright	<i>Aug 30</i>	
Janet Heyer	<i>Aug 31</i>	
Loretta Sanders		
Gwen Faljean	<i>Sept 1</i>	
Maddie Faljean		
Tyler Vosberg		



St. Mark's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Founded on the Word. Focused on the Cross.

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Citrus Heights, California 95610

Phone: (916) 961-7891 Fax: (916) 961-5034

Website: www.StMarksLutheran.com

St. Mark's Guest Wi-Fi Password: stmarks7869

Sunday Services at 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.

Children's Sunday School from 9:15 to 10:30 a.m.

Adult & Teen Sunday Bible Classes from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Monday Evening Service at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday School Chapel Service at 8:30 a.m.

Jonathan Kolander	Pastor
Brock Groth	Pastor
Darren Vogt	Principal, Grades 6-8
Hannah Stegman	Grades 3-5
Rosemarie Boushek	Grades 1-2
Judy Thrams	Kindergarten
Greg Thiesfeldt	Associate Teacher, Grades 3-8
Lisa Thiesfeldt	Associate Teacher, Grades 3-8
Ruth Vogt	Art
Dena Oswald	Ext. School Day Care

Glorify God • Grow in Grace • Go with the Gospel