CELEBRATING THE GOODNESS OF GOD

May 29, 2022



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

The Ascension of our Lord

May 29, 2022

A place to call home: St. Mark's Lutheran Church & School

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, welcome home. We especially welcome to our house of worship 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:

Members & our Guests ... Please pick up and fill out a **Connection Card** which can be found in the Entryway; before you leave place it in the basket labeled "Filled out Connection Cards." Thank you!

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

Hymns from 'Christian Worship' are in the 'red' book / 'Christian Worship Supplement' in the 'blue' 'Christian Worship Hymnal' is our 2021 Edition (not yet in the Pews)

Personal **hearing assistance** devices are available on the entryway wall near the west entrance. The sanctuary is also 'looped' for those who have hearing aids that can pick up the signal.

Holy Communion is offered on the 1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays. Since Holy Communion is a confession of faith, we ask that at this time only members partake of the Sacrament. If you are not a member and would like to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please reach out to our Pastor.



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: <u>facebook.com/stmarksch</u>; Follow us on Instagram: <u>Instagram.com/stmarkslutheran</u>; Subscribe to our videos on Vimeo: <u>vimeo.com/channels/stmarksch</u>.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

Worship Focus: Do you like to be held accountable? Our sinful nature rebels at the concept, yet our new self in Jesus welcomes it. Who of us does not need accountability, no matter our situation? Our motive to live a God-directed lifestyle is not because we fear punishment but rather because the love of Christ compels us to see His way is best for us. When we mess up, thankfully Jesus intercedes for us as He wants to see us in heaven with Him. Give thanks, then, for God holding us accountable in various ways, through various people, so that we will not have to fear the day of accountability.

PRELUDE

Easter Hymn

David Clark Isele

Greeting & Invocation

Minister: My soul finds rest in God alone; Congregation: My salvation comes from him.

M: He alone is my rock and my salvation; C: He is my fortress, I will never be shaken.

M: We worship today in the name of the Father and of the \oplus Son and of the Holy Spirit. C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

Musical Introduction

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered Our human story; God in him is centered. He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, With grace unbounded.

See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; He brings us freedom, light and life and healing. All men and women, who by guilt are driven, Now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling, Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. To all the world go out and tell the story Of Jesus' glory.

3

Rise, Shine, You People

Christian Worship # 556

(Ps 62)

Tell how the Father sent his Son to save us. Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation His new creation.

M: Find rest, O my soul, in God alone; my hope comes from him. C: He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken.

M: My salvation and my honor depend on God;

C: He is my mighty rock, my refuge.

M: Trust in him at all times, O people;

C: Pour out your hearts to him, for God is our refuge.

- M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- All: 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.
- 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. Thanks be to God for his amazing grace.

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

We continue with the singing of 'Glory To God' on the next page







- M: We pray. Lord Jesus, King of glory, on this day you ascended far above the heavens and at God's right hand you rule the nations. Leave us not alone, we pray, but grant us the Spirit of truth that at your command and by your power we may be your witnesses in all the world
- C: for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Exodus 14:21-31

God delivers His people when and how; this calls for patient endurance and trust – such is not misplaced in Him.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, ²² and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued them, and all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and horsemen followed them into the sea.²⁴ During the last watch of the night the LORD looked down from the pillar of fire and cloud at the Egyptian army and threw it into confusion.²⁵ He jammed the wheels of their chariots so that they had difficulty driving. And the Egyptians said, "Let's get away from the Israelites! The LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea so that the waters may flow back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen."²⁷ Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at daybreak the sea went back to its place. The Egyptians were fleeing toward it, and the LORD swept them into the sea. ²⁸ The water flowed back and covered the chariots and horsemen-the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed the Israelites into the sea. Not one of them survived. ²⁹ But the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left. ³⁰ That day the LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. ³¹ And when the Israelites saw the mighty hand of the LORD displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and put their trust in him and in Moses his servant.

M: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!

CHOIR

Song of Moses Scott Soper, © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc

(*Refrain*) I will sing, I will sing to the God who sets me free! Pharaoh's army and his chariots God cast into the sea!

The Lord is my strength, my protection and my shield. Pharaoh's army and his chariots God cast into the sea. Our God is a warrior whose name is "the Lord," God of might, God of victory! Refrain The brave and the mighty, the pride of Pharaoh's army, God plunged them to the bottom of the sea like a stone. The hand of the Lord is magnificent in power. The Lord has crushed our foes! Refrain

O God who redeems, who delivers us from slavery, You set us on the mountain of your holy place. Your throne and your temple shall endure for all time. Your reign shall never end! Refrain

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

A visual reminder of the fact that Jesus is involved with everyday life and will continue to hold people accountable.

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. ¹² His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. ¹³ He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. ¹⁴ The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. ¹⁵ Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. ¹⁶ On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

M: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God!

CHOIR & CONGREGATION

God Mounts His Throne





Revelation 19:11-16



Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy. For the LORD Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth.

God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. *Refrain*

For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise. God reigns over the nations; God is seated on his holy throne.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. *Refrain*

Our Worship centers on the Gospel Reading for the day.

A READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:44-53

The Ascension of Jesus sums up the core of worship: Blessed by God, in turn we give Him praise.

He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, "This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high." ⁵⁰ When he had led them out to the vicinity of Bethany, he lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² Then they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ And they stayed continually at the temple, praising God.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

A hymn of glory let us sing! New songs throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ, by a road before untrod, Ascends unto the throne of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Women sing) The holy apostolic band Upon the Mount of Olives stand, Alleluia! Alleluia! And with his followers they see Their Lord ascend in majesty. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

To them the shining angels cry, "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?" Alleluia! Alleluia!

"This is the Savior," thus they say. "This is his glorious triumph day." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

(Men sing)

"You see him now, ascending high Up to the portals of the sky." Alleluia! Alleluia! "Hereafter Jesus you shall see Returning in great majesty." Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Be now our joy on earth, O Lord, And be our future great reward. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Then, throned with you forever, we Shall praise your name eternally. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

O risen Christ, ascended Lord, All praise to you let earth accord. Alleluia! Alleluia! You are, while endless ages run, With Father and with Spirit one. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

FOCUS ON THE SCRIPTURES

Based on Revelation 19:11-16

"Avoid The Sword Of Judgment"

A CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH – THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. 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. 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. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead 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 received in the following ways: placed in the basket on the table, 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: Dear Father in heaven, with your gift of a Savior you restored hope for our fallen world and brought glory to your name. We thank you for the good news that you have reconciled the world to yourself through your Son.

C: Be with us as you give us opportunities to proclaim your glorious name of salvation in Jesus Christ our Savior.

M: O Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise you for offering yourself as the atoning sacrifice for the sins

of all. On the cross you declared the sacrifice for sins completed. At the open tomb, you assured the world that sinners are reconciled to God.

C: Be with us as you have promised, so that we may be bold and confident witnesses to our family members and friends.

M: Holy Spirit, blessed Counselor, use your Word of Truth and power to break down the barriers to our witness, including fallen mankind's natural hatred for God and Satan's wicked work among us.

C: Empower us by your gospel, and encourage us to be faithful, fervent witnesses to the people among whom we live and work.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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

Silent prayer.

- M: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, send us by the power of your Word into the mission fields beyond the walls of our church. Give us hearing ears and seeing eyes that seize the opportunities you set before us to be your witnesses.
- C: Guide us, strengthen us, and bless us as we declare Christ to our world. Amen.

And we also pray ...

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.

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 \oplus 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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

The ushers will direct Communicants in a continuous flow distribution of the Sacrament. Communicants will exit the pews to the outside and return to their seats via the center aisle. We start from the front to the back on the Lecturn side, and back to front on the Pulpit side. If you need to be communed in the pew, please let an Usher know of this. When approaching each table, communicants may pause as they take and eat / drink.

*As a reminder: S*ince Holy Communion is a confession of faith, we ask that at this time only members and those who spoke with the Pastor ahead of time partake of the Sacrament. In the future, if you would like to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion, please reach out to our Pastor following the Service / during the week.



DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Musical Introduction

Lord Jesus Christ, the Church's Head Christian Worship # 135

The death of Jesus Christ, our Lord, We celebrate with one accord; It is our comfort in distress, Our heart's sweet joy and happiness.

He blotted out with his own blood The judgment that against us stood; He full atonement for us made, And all our debt he fully paid.

That this forever true shall be He gives a solemn guarantee; In this his holy supper here We taste his love, so sweet, so near.

His Word proclaims and we believe That in this supper we receive His very body, as he said, His very blood for sinners shed.

A precious food is this indeed—It never fails us in our need— A heav'nly manna for our soul Until we safely reach our goal.

Oh, blest is each believing guest Who in this promise finds his rest, For Jesus will in love abide With those who do in him confide.

The guest that comes with true intent To turn to God and to repent, To live for Christ, to die to sin, Will thus a holy life begin.

They who his Word do not believe This food unworthily receive, Salvation here will never find—May we this warning keep in mind!

Help us sincerely to believe That we may worthily receive Your supper and in you find rest. Amen! They who believe are blest. M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

- M: 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. To God be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Musical Introduction

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Christian Worship # 169

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone. Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood: "Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay; Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to you from day to day. Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, hear our plea Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia! He is near us; Faith believes, nor questions how. Though the cloud from sight received him When the forty days were o'er, Shall our hearts forget his promise: "I am with you evermore"?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

This Joyful Eastertide Charles Callahan



TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship

Presiding Minister: Pastor Jonathan Kolander

Musical Accompanists: Marty Puckett

Violin/Cello: Vince Beiderbecke Percussion: Don Black

Altar Flowers: The flowers have been provided by Ellie & Steve Ennis in celebration of Steve's birthday and in honor and memory of all those who have served in our armed services!

Content requiring a copyright license is reproduced under OneLicense.net #A-711071. All rights reserved. Scripture Quotations: From the Holy Bible, New International Version (NIV 1984), copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.

Sunday Bible Studies

Adults, 9:30-10:20 am, in person & online ... Looking at the new Christian Worship Sunday School ... Meet at 9:15 in the Multi-Purpose Center (MPC) Teens, in person, at 9:30 in the Teen Room

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

1: God makes the impossible (finish the thought). What is a theme the Lord was establishing among Israel through this event (how does this theme still apply)? Why do we need constant reminders of this? Read Psalm 78.

2: How is Jesus 'faithful and true'? How can one avoid the sword of His righteous judgment? Read Hebrews 4.

3: Why were the disciples not to be in shock from what Jesus was telling them? As you read the Bible following the first time done so, what thoughts come to your mind? Read Luke 24.

To connect to the auto giving option:



To online Connect Card:



THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service with Holy Communion	
9:15 a.m.	Bible Study (in MPC)	
6:30 p.m.	Worship Service (in the Admin Building Chapel)	
8:20 a.m.	School Chapel Service (Last one for this school year)	
9:30 a.m.	JOL (Last one until September)	
	LWMS Mission Box Offering	
8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service with Holy Communion	
9:15 a.m.	Bible Study (in MPC)	
	9:15 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 8:20 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 8:00 & 10:45	

Birthdays		Anniversaries
Steve Ennis	May 29	
Laurie Kaden	May 30	
Daniel Hernandez	June 1	
Nikki Kluenker	June 2	
Duane Carlson	June 3	

St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Founded on the Word. Focused on the Cross. 7869 Kingswood Drive * Citrus Heights, California 95610 Phone: (916) 961-7891 Fax: (916) 961-5034

Website: www.StMarksLutheran.com St. Mark's Guest Wi-Fi Password: stmarks7869