



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

14TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

CROSS COMES BEFORE CROWN

August 30, 2026

Settle in with Jesus and his family. Welcome home.

Make yourself at home. Find any open spot to sit and settle in. Our worship service is designed to praise God and enrich your faith. We make it easy-to-follow with everything printed for you in this bulletin. Feel free to stay after the service to get to know some of the people you worshiped with today. St. Mark's is a place you can call home, and we look forward to seeing you next time!

Bring the kids. Our congregation enjoys the worshiping family and our services include a children's message. Parents, you can help your kids follow along today with the Kids' Questions sheet. A quiet room to help a restless child is in the lobby (to the right as you exit the main worship space).

There's no obligation. Visitors, while our members regularly give offerings as an expression of thanks to God, you're not expected to give an offering. You are our guests; it's your choice. We're glad you joined us today!

Restrooms are at the back of the lobby—women's on the right and men's on the left.

Questions? If you'd like to know more about our church or our beliefs, feel free to speak with our pastor after the service and visit us online at stmarkslutheran.com.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Blue hymnal 602



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,



Thou chang - est not, thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



all I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.



Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Thomas O. Chisolm, 1866–1960. Tune: William M. Runyan, 1870–1957. Text and tune: Public domain.

Welcomed into the Family of God

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you!

And also with you!

Following Jesus involves carrying a cross. Crosses and difficulties, and hurt and pain are in our lives because of sin. But God has not left us without hope. We can come into his presence honestly, not hiding anything. As we do, we place our trust in Jesus as our only Savior from sin.

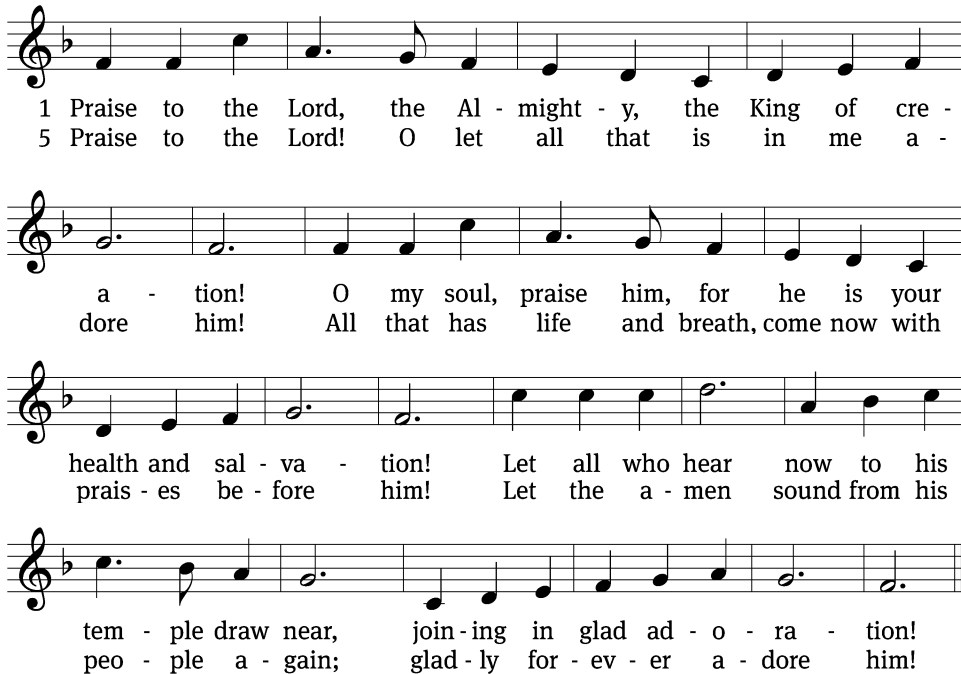
Just and gracious Lord, you know everything in my past, in my heart, and in my life. From birth, I have so often sinned against you and against the people in my life. I deserved to be left with the consequences. Thank you for your love for me! You sent Jesus as my Substitute and Savior. Trusting in him, I ask for your forgiveness.

Family of God, you are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Jesus has taken your sins away. God did not give us what we deserved. By his grace, he rescued us from our sins. Jesus went to the cross for you. As you face other crosses in this life, you do so with hope. God loves. God welcomes you as his child. God is with you through every hardship, and he's getting his children home.

Amen!

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Blue hymnal 624 sts. 1, 5



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -
a - tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is your
dore him! All that has life and breath, come now with
health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear now to his
prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men sound from his
tem - ple draw near, join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
peo - ple a - gain; glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneueren Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, alt
Text and tune: Public domain

Prayer

Almighty God, your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

¹⁵LORD, you understand;
remember me and care for me.
Avenge me on my persecutors.
You are long-suffering—do not take me away;
think of how I suffer reproach for your sake.

¹⁶When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart's delight,
for I bear your name, LORD God Almighty.

¹⁷I never sat in the company of revelers,
never made merry with them;
I sat alone because your hand was on me
and you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unending
and my wound grievous and incurable?
You are to me like a deceptive brook,
like a spring that fails.

¹⁹Therefore this is what the LORD says:

“If you repent, I will restore you
that you may serve me;
if you utter worthy, not worthless, words,
you will be my spokesman.
Let this people turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.

²⁰I will make you a wall to this people,
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you
but will not overcome you,
for I am with you to rescue and save you,”
declares the LORD.

²¹“I will save you from the hands of the wicked
and deliver you from the grasp of the cruel.”

God's Word

Matthew 16:21-26

²¹From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²²Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

²³Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

²⁴Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. ²⁶What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?"

Children's Message

Afflicted Saint, to Christ Draw Near

Blue hymnal 867



- 1 Af - flict - ed saint, to Christ draw near, your Sav - ior's
- 2 Your faith is weak, your foes are strong, and if the
- 3 Should per - se - cu - tion rage and flame, still trust in
- 4 When called to bear your weight - y cross, or sore af -



gra - cious prom - ise hear; his faith - ful Word you can be -
con - flict should be long, the Lord will make the tempt - er
your Re - deem - er's name. In fi - ery tri - als you shall
flic - tion, pain, or loss, or deep dis - tress, or pov - er -



lieve, that as your days your strength shall be. v. 2
flee, that as your days your strength shall be. Refrain
see that as your days your strength shall be. Refrain
ty, still as your days your strength shall be. Refrain



So, sing with joy, af - flict - ed one; the bat - tle's fierce, but the



vic - t'ry's won! God shall sup - ply all that you need;



yes, as your days your strength shall be.

Text (sts. 1-4): John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.; (Ref): Constance Dever, b. 1960

Tune: Constance Dever, b. 1960

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¹⁸I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. ¹⁹For the creation waits in eager expectation for the children of God to be revealed. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the freedom and glory of the children of God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. But hope that is seen is no hope at all. Who hopes for what they already have? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not yet have, we wait for it patiently.

Waiting for Glory

Statement of 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 truly 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.

Prayer & the Lord's Prayer

The Lord's Prayer follows the prayer spoken by the pastor.

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 Lord's Supper

The Bible teaches that receiving the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and other Christians, united by a common confession of faith. Therefore, we ask those who have made that public confession of faith by being a member St. Mark's or another WELS or ELS church come forward for Communion. Guests, please speak with our pastor to learn more, and we look forward to communing with you in the future.

Words of Institution

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."

**O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy on us, and grant us your peace. Amen.**

Distribution of the Lord's Supper

The ushers will direct those receiving Communion up the center aisle, returning down the outer aisle. You may receive a wafer in your hand from the Communion assistant. Those who require a gluten-free wafer may take one from the assistant's smaller tray. Tinted cups in the center of the wine trays contain grape juice. Your empty cup can be placed on the backside of the rail. When at the rail, you may kneel or stand. If you need Communion in the pew, please let an usher or the pastor know.

Draw Near and Take the Body of Your Lord *Blue hymnal 661*



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of your Lord,
 2 Christ our Re - deem - er, God's e - ter - nal Son,
 3 Let us ap - proach with faith - ful hearts sin - cere
 4 With heav'n - ly bread he makes the hun - gry whole,



and drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured.
 has by his cross and blood the vic - t'ry won.
 and take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
 gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.



Saved by his bod - y and his ho - ly blood,
 He gave his life for great - est and for least,
 Christ, who in this life all the saints de - fends,
 Lord of the na - tions, to whom all must bow,



with souls re - freshed we give our thanks to God.
 him - self the of - f'ring and him - self the priest.
 gives all be - liev - ers life that nev - er ends.
 in this great feast of love be with us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent., abr.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, Geneva, 1551, ed. Louis Bourgeois
 Text and tune: Public domain

Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me

Blue hymnal 831



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me? Christ is near
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me, though their weight
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness, and I will
 4 From God's joy can noth - ing sev - er, for I am
 5 Since I know God nev - er fails me, in his voice



with his cheer; nev - er will he leave me.
 may be great, they will not de - feat me.
 trust him still when he sends me sad - ness.
 his dear lamb, he, my Shep - herd ev - er.
 I'll re - joice when grim death as - sails me.



Who can rob me of the heav - en that God's Son
 God, my lov - ing Sav - ior, sees them; he who knows
 God is good; his love at - tends me day by day,
 I am his be - cause he gave me his own blood
 Trust - ing in my Sav - ior's mer - it, safe at last,



for me won when his life was giv - en?
 all my woes knows how best to end them.
 come what may, guides me and de - fends me.
 for my good, by his death to save me.
 trou - bles past, I shall heav'n in - her - it.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–1676, abr.; (sts. 1–3): tr. Christian Worship, 1993; (st. 4): tr. Stephen P. Starke, b. 1955; (st. 5): tr. Harlyn J. Kuschel, b. 1945

Tune: Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–1676

Text (st. 4): © 2004 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House; (st. 5): © 1993 Harlyn J. Kuschel, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 711071

Text (sts. 1–3) and tune: Public domain

Blessing

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.

Amen!

It Is Well with My Soul

Blue hymnal 850



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my
4 And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil-lows roll— what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to the cross, and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll; the trump shall re-sound, and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more: praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de-scent; e - ven so, it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt.

Tune: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–1876

Text and tune: Public domain

TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship

Worship Leader: Pastor Kurt Wetzel

Scripture Reader: Evret Miller

Musical Accompanist: Anne Press

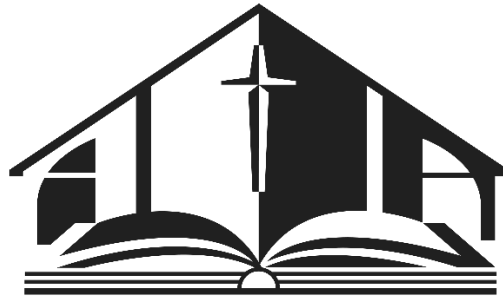
Audio/Visual: Curtis Roth

Altar Flowers: Flowers at the altar today are given by the Williamsons in celebration of their 44th wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	2:00 p.m.	Open Gym
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	GriefShare #5
Wednesday	8:20 a.m.	School Chapel Service
Next Sunday		LWMS Mission Box Offering
	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study

<i>Birthdays</i>		<i>Anniversaries</i>
Jill Vosberg	<i>Aug 30</i>	
Shirley Wright		
Loretta Sanders	<i>Aug 31</i>	
Gwendolyn Faljean	<i>Sept 1</i>	
Madelyn Faljean		
Tyler Vosberg		
	<i>Sept 2</i>	Carlos & Lisa Choto
	<i>Sept 4</i>	David & Elaine Kaul



St. Mark's
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