



St. Mark's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

15TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

September 6, 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.

Father, We Praise You

Blue hymnal 778



1 Fa - ther, we praise you, now the night is o - ver, ac - tive and
2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for your man-sions; ban - ish our
3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty



watch - ful, stand - ing now be - fore you; sing - ing, we of - fer
weak-ness, health and whole-ness send - ing; bring us to heav - en,
bless - ed, send us your sal - va - tion; yours is the glo - ry,



prayer and med - i - ta - tion: thus we a - dore you.
where your saints u - nit - ed joy with-out end - ing.
gleam - ing and re - sound-ing through all cre - a - tion.

Text: attr. Gregory I, c. 540–604; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936

Tune: Antiphoner, Paris, 1681

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!

In the Bible, God is quite honest with us about our sin and our need for a Savior. We all need a Savior—desperately. We all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. And Jesus came for all of us. When we acknowledge our sins together, we come as equals. And we put our trust in Jesus alone as the one who saves us from our sins.

Holy and merciful Father in heaven, you know my heart. You see everything in my life. No sin is hidden from you. And yet, you say you still love me. You didn't send me to face the punishment I deserved. Thank you for sending Jesus to save me. I look to him as I ask for your forgiveness.

Children of God, all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit! Jesus was punished in your place on the cross. Jesus was perfect for you. Jesus conquered death for you and gives you eternal life. By trusting in him, all is well with you and God. You are forgiven. You are loved. You are saved. You matter to God. And because of Jesus, you will live forever.

Amen!

Prayer

O Lord Jesus Christ, preserve the congregation of believers with your never-failing mercy. Help us avoid whatever is wicked and harmful, and guide us in the way that leads to our salvation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

God's Word

Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷"Son of man, I have made you a watchman for the people of Israel; so hear the word I speak and give them warning from me. ⁸When I say to the wicked, 'You wicked person, you will surely die,' and you do not speak out to dissuade them from their ways, that wicked person will die for their sin, and I will hold you accountable for their blood. ⁹But if you do warn the wicked person to turn from their ways and they do not do so, they will die for their sin, though you yourself will be saved.

¹⁰"Son of man, say to the Israelites, 'This is what you are saying: "Our offenses and sins weigh us down, and we are wasting away because of them. How then can we live?" ' ¹¹Say to them, 'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live. Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, people of Israel?' "

God's Word

Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵"If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over.

¹⁶But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that 'every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

¹⁸"Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

¹⁹"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.

²⁰For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Children's Message

God Loved the World So That He Gave *Blue hymnal 570 sts. 1-4*



1 God loved the world so that he gave his on - ly
2 Christ is the sol - id rock of faith, who was made
3 God would not have the sin - ner die; his Son with
4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son for - gives the



Son the lost to save that all who would in
flesh and suf - fered death. All who con - fide in
sav - ing grace is nigh. His Spir - it in the
sins that you have done. You're jus - ti - fied by



him be - lieve should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
him a - lone are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
Word de - clares that we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
Je - sus' blood; bap - tized, you are a child of God.

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens- Opfer, Stettin, c. 1778; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

Text and tune: Public domain

¹¹When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. ¹²For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. ¹³The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

¹⁴When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"

¹⁵"We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles ¹⁶know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified."

The Need to Speak Up

8:00 a.m. Service:

New Member Welcome

Enrique Arreula & Anna Kuske

10:45 a.m. Service:

Statement of Faith

“We Praise You, O God”

We praise you, O God, we acclaim you as Lord; all creation worships you, Father everlasting. To you all angels, all powers of heaven, cherubim and seraphim sing in endless praise: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of heavenly hosts, heaven and earth are full of your glory. The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you. The white-robed army of martyrs praise you. Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.

You, Christ, are the King of glory, the eternal Son of the Father. When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin. You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers. You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that you will come to be our judge.

Come then, Lord, and help your people, bought with the price of your own blood, and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting! 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

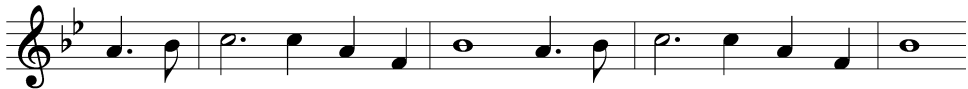
The ushers will direct those receiving Communion up the center aisle, returning down the outer aisle. You may receive a wafer in your hand from the Communion assistant. Those who require a gluten-free wafer may take one from the assistant's smaller tray. Tinted cups in the center of the wine trays contain 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.

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

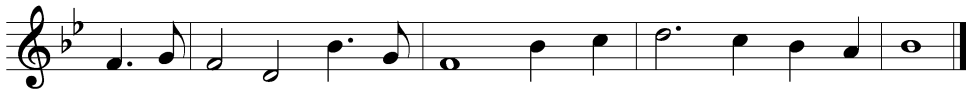
Blue hymnal 839



- 1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee;
- 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill thy law's de - mands;
- 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to thy cross I cling;
- 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine eye - lids close in death,



let the wa - ter and the blood, from thy riv - en side which flowed,
could my zeal no res - pite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
na - ked, come to thee for dress, help - less, look to thee for grace;
when I soar to worlds un - known, see thee on thy judg - ment throne,



be of sin the dou - ble cure: cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
all for sin could not a - tone; thou must save and thou a - lone.
foul, I to the foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

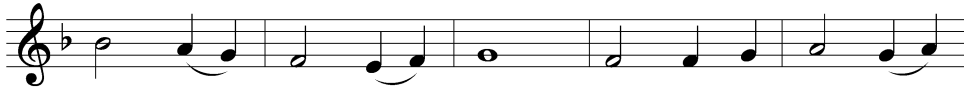
Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–1778, alt.
Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784–1872
Text and tune: Public domain

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Blue hymnal 407



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross on which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast save in the
 3 See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, that were a



Prince of glo - ry died, my rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God. All the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down. Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss and pour con-tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to his blood.
 sor - row meet or thorns com-pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, de - mands my soul, my life, my all.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872
 Text and tune: Public domain

Blessing

The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless you and keep you!

Amen!

His Mercy Is More

Blue hymnal 579



1 What love could re - mem - ber no wrongs we have done?
2 What pa - tience would wait as we con - stant - ly roam,
3 What rich - es of kind - ness he lav - ished on us;



Om - ni - scient, all - know - ing, he counts not their sum;
what Fa - ther so ten - der is call - ing us home!
his blood was the pay - ment, his life was the cost.



thrown in - to a sea with - out bot - tom or shore,
He wel - comes the weak - est, the vil - est, the poor;
We stood 'neath a debt we could nev - er af - ford;



our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.
our sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more.



Refrain
Praise the Lord! His mer - cy is more!



Strong - er than dark - ness, new ev - 'ry morn; our



sins they are man - y, his mer - cy is more!

Text: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983. Tune: Matt Boswell, b. 1979; Matt Papa, b. 1983
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TODAY AT ST. MARK'S

Serving at Worship

Worship Leader: Pastor Kurt Wetzel

Musical Accompanist: Rosemarie Boushek

Audio/Visual: Curtis Roth

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARK'S

Today		LWMS Mission Box Offering
	8:00 & 10:45	Worship Service with Holy Communion
	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study
Monday		Labor Day – No School
Tuesday	1:00 p.m.	GriefShare #6
	6:00 p.m.	Board of Child Discipleship Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Coordinating Council Meeting
Wednesday	8:20 a.m.	School Chapel Service
	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice begins
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	JOL Women's Bible Study begins
	6:30 p.m.	Starting Point # 1
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>
Peggy Cummins	<i>Sept 6</i>	
Betty Martin	<i>Sept 8</i>	
Clark Avery	<i>Sept 9</i>	
Andrea Loughlean	<i>Sept 10</i>	
Philip Sartori	<i>Sept 11</i>	

Acknowledgments

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