

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way.

The Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity

10 November A.D. 2019

Lutheran Service Book - Divine Service, Setting IV

✝ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✝

Today we observe the Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we consider the authority of Jesus' Word, rejoicing that we can trust His promises no matter what. Long ago, God created the entire universe by His Word alone, and today God continues to speak, proclaiming to all who repent of their sins a Word that is just as powerful and authoritative: We are forgiven by the blood of Christ and, through faith in Him, will live forever.

If you are a VISITOR here, offer you our warmest welcome! We pray that your experience among us is blessed, and that you depart filled with God's peace and life.

Also, toward the end of our service today we will be celebrating Holy Communion, in which we will eat and drink Jesus' body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:26-28). Therefore, we ask that you would please see the statement titled "On the Sacrament of Holy Communion," printed below, which describes our beliefs and practices regarding this sacred gift.

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter,
as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth,
I humbly pray that You would open my heart
to the preaching of Your Word so that I may
repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my
only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness.
Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

ON THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: We believe that receiving Holy Communion together is a sacred expression of Christian unity, which includes unity in doctrine (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:5). We also believe that if we receive this sacrament in unbelief, we risk God's judgment (1 Cor. 11:27-30).

Therefore, communion at this altar is reserved for those who believe and confess with us the teachings of our church body, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Those who have not been formally instructed in our teachings should wait to commune until completing a course of instruction with us.

If you are a VISITOR and would like to commune with us today, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you will not be communing, you are welcome to kneel at the altar with your arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing, or you may simply remain in your pew.

Candidate: Owen William Reynolds

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: 500 Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, by whose aid The world's foun - da - tions
 2 O Source of un - cre - at - ed light, The bear - er of God's
 3 Giv - er of grace, de - scend from high; Your sev'n - fold gifts to
 △ 4 Im - mor - tal hon - or, end - less fame At - tend the al - might - y



first were laid, Come, vis - it ev - 'ry hum - ble mind; Come,
 gra - cious might, Thrice - ho - ly fount, thrice - ho - ly fire, Our
 us sup - ply; Help us e - ter - nal truths re - ceive And
 Fa - ther's name; The Sav - ior - Son be glo - ri - fied, Who



pour Your joys on hu - man - kind; From sin and sor - row
 hearts with heav'n - ly love in - spire; Your sa - cred, heal - ing
 prac - tice all that we be - lieve; Give us Your - self that
 for all hu - man - kind has died; To You, O Par - a -



set us free; May we Your liv - ing tem - ples be.
 mes - sage bring To sanc - ti - fy us as we sing.
 we may see The glo - ry of the Trin - i - ty.
 clete, we raise Un - end - ing songs of thanks and praise.

Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 119:1, 38–40; antiphon: Liturgical Text

P The whole world is in your power;
O Lord, King Almighty, no one can gainsay you.

C For you have made heaven and earth;
you are Lord of all!

P Blessèd are those whose way is blameless,
who walk in the law of the LORD!

C Confirm to your servant your promise,
that you may be feared.

P Turn away the reproach that I dread,
for your just decrees are good.

C Behold, I long for your precepts;
in your righteousness give me life!

All: 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.

P The whole world is in your power;
O Lord, King Almighty, no one can gainsay you.

C For you have made heaven and earth;
you are Lord of all!

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your household, the Church, in continual godliness that through Your protection she may be free from all adversities and devoutly given to serve You in good works; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 1:1–5

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

Psalms 90:1–2

P Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

C Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and
the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Epistle

Ephesians 6:10–17

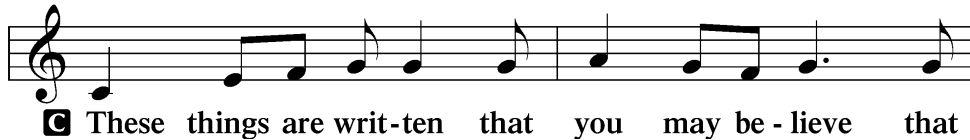
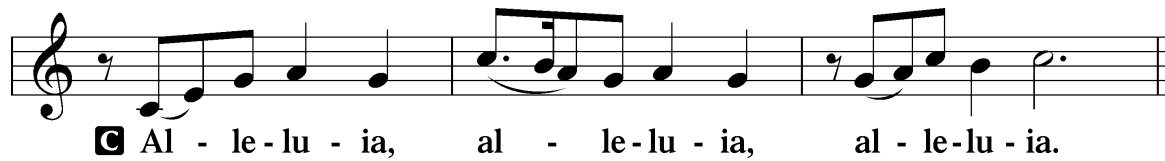
¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. ¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, ¹⁵and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. ¹⁶In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; ¹⁷and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand
Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31



Holy Gospel

John 4:46–54

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁶[Jesus] came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Capernaum there was an official whose son was ill. ⁴⁷When this man heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went to him and asked him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸So Jesus said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.” ⁴⁹The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” ⁵⁰Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way. ⁵¹As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was recovering. ⁵²So he asked them the hour when he began to get better, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” ⁵³The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live.” And he himself believed, and all his household. ⁵⁴This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit
Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 728 How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.
My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can He say than to you He has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,



Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne."

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

For the priesthood of the baptized, that through the ongoing reception of the Holy Word and Sacraments, their faith in the Lord's promises would be increased, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For all pastors, that they would be faithful in their duty to preach the whole counsel of God to the flocks they serve, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For an increase of workers sent out to serve in the Lord's vineyard of grace, that the proclamation of repentance and the forgiveness of sins in Christ's name would be heard by all, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For protection against the schemes of the devil, that God's children would, by the power of the Spirit, take up the whole armor of God to withstand all demonic assaults and remain steadfast in the Word, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For those who walk without faith in Christ, that the Holy Spirit would call them to repentance and grant them a confident trust in Jesus, who lived and died for them and for all the world, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For a culture of life to spread throughout our land, that all life from the womb to the grave would be cherished and protected, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For those whom God has placed in authority over us, that they would serve with integrity and honor, striving for peace and for the good of all, let us pray to the Lord:

- C Lord, have mercy.**

- P** For our congregation and for the saints at Peace Lutheran Church in Waterford as we explore a possible merger for the sake of the Gospel, that the Lord would direct our discussions, grant us confidence in Christ, build us together in love, and ensure that His fatherly will for His Church is accomplished:

- C Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who are sick or suffering in any way, and for all who have requested our prayers, [*including _____*], that they would be relieved of their afflictions, according to the Lord's will, or strengthened to endure, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For those who receive the body and blood of Christ in the fellowship of this altar, that they would be strengthened and preserved in body and soul to life everlasting, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Offering

During the Offering, we ask that you please sign a black attendance book located in your pew.

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

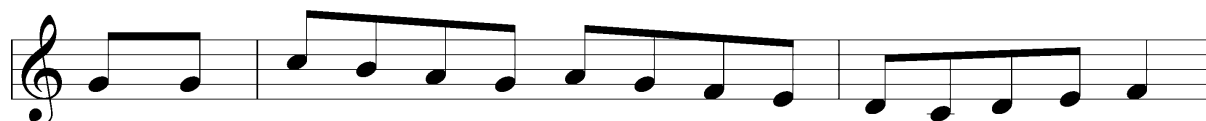
Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

☩ Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

☐ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☩ Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sit

Distribution

Visitors – Please see note on front of this service folder regarding our Holy Communion policy.

Distribution Hymn: 575 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less Than Je - sus'
2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I rest on
3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup - port me
4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh, may I



blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly
then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol-id rock, I stand; All oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.

Tune and text: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 842 Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and
2 As You, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and



truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us
oth - ers live. Free - ly have Your gifts been grant - ed;
Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion,
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



Hal - lows all our hu - man race, You our Head, who, throned in
Free-ly may Your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and Yours the
Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. By Your pa - tient years of
Hal - lows all our hu - man race: By Your pray - ing, by Your



glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your
sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stew - ards
toil - ing, By Your si - lent hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered
will - ing That Your peo - ple should be one, Grant, O grant our



love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.
of Your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.
thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.
hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth Your will be done.

Tune and text: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn: 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en
2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now
lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose
find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science
wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who
won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.
in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.
walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,
You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

Tune and text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

- Sun. 11/10** **Twenty-First Sunday after Trinity**
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Sunday School** 10:45 a.m., Library
 - **Set-up for today's Potluck** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall
 - **Mixer Potluck with Peace Lutheran** 12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall
- Mon. 11/11** **Veteran's Day**
Pastor's Day Off
- Tue. 11/12** **Pastor's Winkel** 9 a.m., St. Matthew, Walled Lake
Pastor out of office in p.m.
- Wed. 11/13** **Confirmation Class A** 4 p.m., Library
- Fri. 11/15** **Pastor out of the office**
Deadline to submit December's newsletter articles
- Sun. 11/17** **Twenty-Second Sunday after Trinity**
- **Divine Service** 9:30 a.m.
 - **Sunday School** 10:45 a.m., Library
 - **Adult Bible Class** 10:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall (basement)

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR THIS MORNING were placed to the glory of God by Rod & Leslie Oehring in honor of their daughter, Stephanie's, birthday. We thank the Oehrings for this floral tribute!

POTLUCK "MIXER" WITH THE MEMBERS OF PEACE LUTHERAN TODAY – A Potluck "Mixer" will be held in our basement fellowship hall today at 12:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome to attend! We will be joined by some members of Peace Lutheran Church also so that members of both congregations can begin to get to know each other as the Merger Exploration Committee researches the feasibility of St. Mark's merging with Peace. Set-up for the event will take place from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m., so if you can stick around after church to help, it would be appreciated. All attendees to the Potluck have been asked to bring food, if possible. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL TODAY – All kids age 4 through those in 5th Grade are welcome and encouraged to attend our weekly Sunday School class that starts **at 10:45 a.m.** in the Library. Here, children will join with others to learn the stories of the faith and the Truth of Christ in a fun and age-appropriate setting. Please consider getting your children or grandchildren involved in this program!

CONSIDER COMPLETING A "CONGREGATIONAL INPUT FORM" - As we move forward in exploring a merger with Peace Lutheran Church in Waterford for the sake of the Gospel, the Merger Exploration Committee would like your input. Therefore, the Committee has put together a "Congregational Input Form" for you to fill out. These forms will help guide the Committee as it discusses what such a merger might look like. Forms are available on the back table in the sanctuary and must be returned **no later than Sunday, November 17**. Completed forms should be placed in the box located on that same table. Anonymous forms will not be accepted. Input is reserved for Voting Members in good standing. Please consider helping the committee in this way, as it explores this exciting opportunity in Christ! We truly value your input! God bless!
Pastor Aaron Vergin

SEEKING YOUTH AND ADULT HANDBELL RINGERS FOR CHRISTMAS – We are planning to have 2 bell choirs for Christmas this year: one for elementary-aged school children, and one for adults. Both bell choirs will play during the Christmas Eve Worship Service at 6 p.m. We'd also like to have as many youth ringers as possible ring at our Christmas Day Divine Service at 10 a.m., but we will need some adult ringers to assist them with the little bells in order to have enough ringers. Handbell practices for the kids will be held on Sunday mornings from 11:30 a.m. until Noon **starting November 17**. Practices for the adults will take place on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. **starting November 18**. The kids will be playing a smaller set of colored, metal bells for the very first time. They will be able to ring according to bell color, and so don't need to be able to read music. The adults will be using the usual set of 2-octave brass bells, and no music reading ability is needed. If you, or your kids/grandkids, would be interested in joining either choir, **please let Debbie LoCascio (email: debbie@stmarkwb.org) know ASAP.**

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE - On **Wednesday, November 27** at 7 p.m. we will be holding our annual Thanksgiving Eve worship service. On this day, we will gather in the presence of God to reflect upon His many blessings and give sincere thanks to Him for them all. We will be singing several of your favorite hymns of praise, hearing God's Word of blessing, and lifting up our hearts to our Lord in prayer. Please join us! This is a great way to begin your Thanksgiving holiday! Also, the people of Peace Lutheran Church will be invited to this service, so it will be a good opportunity to get to know them, as well!

SEEKING MORE VIDEO TECHNICIANS FOR SUNDAYS – We are currently seeking a few more volunteers to help record Pastor Vergin's sermons on Sunday mornings during the Divine Service. This is a very simple job (turn the record button on, zoom in on pastor, turn the record button off after his sermon) that only requires you be in the choir loft for 20 minutes on the days you are scheduled to video. If you can help, please let Pastor or Debbie know ASAP.

SEMI-ANNUAL VOTERS' MEETING DATE CHANGE - St. Mark's Semi-Annual Voters' Meeting that had been scheduled for Sunday, December 1 directly following the Divine Service has been rescheduled for **Sunday, December 8** directly following the Divine Service. The meeting was moved because no one realized that December 1 is part of the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, and that some of our members will be out of town that weekend. We encourage all of our church members, ages 18+, to attend. Items on the Agenda will include financial reporting, traditional board reports, the approval of a 2020 budget, and elections for 2020 positions. Please make plans now to attend this important meeting.

ALL LADIES INVITED TO *ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT* – All women and girls are invited to attend Peace Lutheran Church's Advent by Candlelight event on **Thursday, December 5**. Please plan to join them for an evening of visiting, beautiful music and delicious desserts as they prepare their hearts for Advent and Christmas. Appetizers will be served starting at 6:30 p.m. The program begins at 7 p.m. Peace Lutheran is located at 7390 Elizabeth Lake Road (just east of Williams lake Road) in Waterford. If you'd like to attend, you must **R.S.V.P. no later than December 1** by emailing the church at peacewaterford@gmail.com, or calling them at (248) 681-9360. Peace's Parish Ladies' Guild will be collecting children's waterproof gloves and socks for their sponsored school, Houghton Elementary, at the event, so if you'd like to help, please bring these donations with you.

SIGN UP SOON FOR THE *EVERY ONE HIS WITNESS* WORKSHOP - It is the privilege of every Christian to witness to Christ in their daily lives. But for many of us, that is an intimidating thought. Therefore, on **Saturday, December 14**, we will be holding a training program at St. Mark's called *Every One His Witness*. This program was developed by the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and its purpose is to train us—as both pastors and laypeople—to share the Gospel with others in our daily vocations. We already held this program at St. Mark's once this year, and those who attended will surely tell you just how valuable and helpful it was! So if you haven't gone through it before, please plan to do so now! The program will take the form of an all-day workshop led by Pastor Vergin. We will begin at 9 a.m. and will end no later than 5 p.m. Lunch will be provided. A sign-up sheet will be available soon. Spots are limited, so reserve your place quickly! We hope to see you there!

ACCEPTING 2020 BOARD NOMINATIONS - We are now accepting nominations for open board positions for 2020. Would you consider serving on a board? The open positions include:

- Human Resources Coordinator
- Public Relations Coordinator
- Board of Gospel Outreach
- Board of Human Care
- Board of Parish Fellowship
- Board of Properties
- Board of Family & Youth

If interested, or if you have questions about what a position entails, we invite you to talk with Pastor Vergin **no later than November 15**.

LADIES' QUILTING GROUP SEEKING SHEETS & BLANKETS – Our Missionary League is continuing to make more blankets for Lutheran World Relief, but they could use some help. If you have any gently-used sheets, or blankets, that you are no longer using, please consider donating them to this cause! Items can be left in the Quilt Donations Box in the lobby. Thanks in advance!

OPEN DOOR'S ADOPT-A-FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - St. Mark's Board of Human Care is working with the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford again this year to help with their Adopt-A-Family Christmas program. There are three ways that our congregation can assist in this effort:

- As a congregation, we will sponsor 1 family. A wish list, completed by the family, will be given to us. This list will then be posted and we ask that those who'd like to help sign up next to the item to be purchased. Then return it to church no later than **December 19**. Gift receipts included with your donation(s) are a good idea when sizes are involved.
- All sponsors are asked to drop off their gifts to the Open Door on **December 17, 18 and 19**. St. Mark's will then pick up these items from the Open Door during those dates and bring them back to our building for storage until they are distributed to the families on December 21. If anyone would like to help with gift pick-up at Open Door, a sign-up sheet will be posted in the near future.
- Recipients of the gifts will be told to pick up their gifts at St. Mark's on Saturday, **December 21** between the hours of 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. We will be seeking help during these times for check-in and distribution of the gifts. Again, please look for the sign-up sheet to appear if you'd like to help.

Thanks so much for your support! Gail Hardy & Karen Kaufman - Board of Human Care

TOILETRY/HYGIENE DONATIONS FOR THE OPEN DOOR OUTREACH CENTER – We continue to receive hygiene & toiletry products year around for the Open Door Outreach Center in Waterford. There are two bins located on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs where you can place product donations. The Open Door is a non-profit organization that assists needy families in the Lakes Area. They are ALWAYS in need of toiletry and hygiene items, so **if you can provide any of these throughout the year, it would be appreciated.**

ST. MARK'S "WELCOME BASKET" OUTREACH PROGRAM – Our Board of Gospel Outreach has expanded their Welcome Basket program to include not only the neighborhood behind church, but also the Golf Manor Subdivision as well. Anyone who would like to help offset the cost of these baskets can place their donation in a pink envelope (found in the pew racks), write "Welcome Baskets" on the front, and place the envelope into our offering plates. An example of a filled basket is now located on the shelf at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs.

EYEGLOSS AND POSTAGE STAMP DONATIONS – The small, plastic bins used to collect eyeglasses for M.O.S.T. Ministries, and postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translators, are located on the bookshelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. M.O.S.T. Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term) provides recycled eyeglasses to people living in the developing nations around the world. Wycliffe Bible Translators provide Bibles that are written in peoples' native languages so that they can fully understand God's Word and, hopefully, come to faith in Christ. Used postage stamps should be cut out with ¼" of space around them and placed into the donation bin so they can be mailed to Wycliffe once a year and sold on auction websites. The proceeds are used to help with Bible translation projects.



SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Rev. Aaron Vergin

Altar Guild

Jennie Kaufman

Acolyte

Sophie Hurley

Elder on Duty

Tom LoCascio

Greeter(s)

Jennie & Karen Kaufman

Offering Counters

Debbie LoCascio & Nancy Salo

Organist

Rob Wheeler

Trumpeter

Chris Gerard

Ushers

Scott Miller

Video Technician

Jim O'Brien