

# ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

7979 Commerce Road

West Bloomfield, MI 48324

Phone: (248) 363-0741; Email: [info@stmarkwb.org](mailto:info@stmarkwb.org)

Website: [www.stmarkwb.org](http://www.stmarkwb.org)



## The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

11 October A✠D 2020

*Lutheran Service Book - Divine Service, Setting IV*

## ✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe the Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity. On this day, we look to Jesus Christ as humanity's one, true Teacher, who comes to us to enrich us in the knowledge of the eternal things of God. In His teaching, Jesus clearly reveals to us not only the commands of God in the Law, but also the good news that He has delivered us by His blood from all our transgressions. In this way, Jesus' teaching sets us free, and we rejoice to receive it.

If you are a VISITOR here, we 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.

*PLEASE NOTE: Due to COVID-19, the Sharing of the Peace that would normally take place at the beginning of the service has been temporarily suspended.*

## Confession and Absolution

*Stand*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*Kneel/Stand*

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

Stand

## Hymn of Invocation: 830 Spread the Reign of God the Lord



- 1 Spread the reign of God the Lord, Spo - ken, writ - ten, might - y Word;  
2 Tell how God the Fa - ther's will Made the world, up - holds it still,  
3 Tell of our Re-deem - er's grace, Who, to save our hu - man race  
4 Tell of God the Spir - it giv'n Now to guide us on to heav'n,



Ev - 'ry - where His crea - tures call To His heav'n - ly ban - quet hall.  
How His own dear Son He gave Us from sin and death to save.  
And to pay re - bel - lion's price, Gave Him - self as sac - ri - fice.  
Strong and ho - ly, just and true, Work - ing both to will and do.

- 5 Enter, mighty Word, the field;  
Ripe the promise of its yield.  
But the reapers, oh, how few  
For the work there is to do!
- 6 Lord of harvest, great and kind,  
Rouse to action heart and mind;  
Let the gath'ring nations all  
See Your light and heed Your call.

Text and tune: Public domain

## Service of the Word

### Introit (*spoken responsively*)

*Psalm 122:1, 6, 8–9; antiphon: Liturgical Text*

- P** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,  
and let your prophets be proven faithful.
- C** **Hear the prayer of your servants,**  
**according to the blessing of Aaron upon your people.**
- P** I was glad when they said to me,  
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”
- C** **Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!**  
**May they be secure who love you!**
- P** For my brothers and companions' sake  
I will say, “Peace be within you!”
- C** **For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,**  
**I will seek your good.**

**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** Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,  
and let your prophets be proven faithful.
- C** Hear the prayer of your servants,  
according to the blessing of Aaron upon your people.

### 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 - shiped 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 God, because without You we are not able to please You, mercifully grant that Your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Deuteronomy 10:12–21*

<sup>12</sup>“And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, <sup>13</sup>and to keep the commandments and statutes of the LORD, which I am commanding you today for your good? <sup>14</sup>Behold, to the LORD your God belong heaven and the heaven of heavens, the earth with all that is in it. <sup>15</sup>Yet the LORD set his heart in love on your fathers and chose their offspring after them, you above all peoples, as you are this day. <sup>16</sup>Circumcise therefore the foreskin of your heart, and be no longer stubborn. <sup>17</sup>For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great, the mighty, and the awesome God, who is not partial and takes no bribe. <sup>18</sup>He executes justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the sojourner, giving him food and clothing. <sup>19</sup>Love the sojourner, therefore, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. <sup>20</sup>You shall fear the LORD your God. You shall serve him and hold fast to him, and by his name you shall swear. <sup>21</sup>He is your praise. He is your God, who has done for you these great and terrifying things that your eyes have seen.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

*Psalms 122:1, 7*

**P** I was glad when they said to me,  
“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

**C** Peace be within your walls  
and security within your towers!

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 1:4–9*

<sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge—<sup>6</sup>even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>8</sup>who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Alleluia and Verse



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



**C** These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



**C** Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 22:34–46*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>34</sup>When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. <sup>35</sup>And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. <sup>36</sup>“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” <sup>37</sup>And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup>This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup>And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. <sup>40</sup>On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

<sup>41</sup>Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, <sup>42</sup>saying, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” <sup>43</sup>He said to them, “How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying,

<sup>44</sup>“The Lord said to my Lord,

Sit at my right hand,

until I put your enemies under your feet”?

<sup>45</sup>If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?” <sup>46</sup>And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**☩** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

## Hymn of the Day: 694 Thee Will I Love, My Strength, My Tower



1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tow - er; Thee will I  
2 Thee will I love, my life, my Sav - ior, Who art my  
3 I thank Thee, Je - sus, Sun from heav - en, Whose ra - diance  
4 O keep me watch - ful, then, and hum - ble; Per - mit me  
5 Thee will I love, my crown of glad - ness; Thee will I



love, my hope, my joy. Thee will I love with all my  
best and tru - est friend. Thee will I love and praise for -  
hath brought light to me; I thank Thee, who hast rich - ly  
nev - er - more to stray. Up - hold me when my feet would  
love, my God and Lord, A - mid the dark - est depths of



pow - er, With ar - dor time shall ne'er de - stroy. Thee will I  
ev - er, For nev - er shall Thy kind - ness end. Thee will I  
giv - en All that could make me glad and free; I thank Thee  
stum - ble, And keep me on the nar - row way. Fill all my  
sad - ness, And not for hope of high re - ward, For Thine own



love, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.  
love with all my heart— Thou my Re - deem - er art!  
that my soul is healed By what Thy lips re - vealed.  
na - ture with Thy light, O Ra - diance strong and bright!  
sake, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.

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*

Almighty God, bless Your Church here in this place and scattered throughout the world. Fill all who call upon Jesus' name with His love, that they might strive diligently to love You, one another and all their neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Gracious Lord, enrich all pastors in all speech and knowledge, that they would preach the Gospel in its purity and administer the Sacraments according to Christ's institution. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful Lord, You know how Satan prowls like a roaring lion, seeking to devour us. By the power of Your Word and Spirit, protect and defend those who are under Satan's attacks. Send Your holy angels to be with them, that the evil foe may have no power over them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Generous Lord, we thank You that You delight to give us all good gifts. Continue to bless us in both body and soul. Grant us generous hearts, that we would support Your ministry and mission among us and around the world with our tithes and offerings. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Eternal Father, give guidance, wisdom and safety to Donald, our president; Gretchen, our governor; and to all who make and judge our laws. Bless all civil servants as they carry out their offices and protect them in the line of duty. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Loving God, continue to be merciful to all those who are suffering or in any need [*especially \_\_\_\_\_*]. Strengthen and heal them, according to Your will, and bless all the hands that care for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Heavenly Father, grant that we would always be glad to go to the house of the Lord, where we are fed and strengthened by Your Son's body and blood at the holy altar. Fill us with Your Spirit, that we would receive the blessed Sacrament in repentance and faith, and to our abundant blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** God of gods and Lord of lords, we give You thanks for all who have preceded us in the faith and now rest from their labors. Sustain us in that same faith as we wait with them for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, that we would be found guiltless on the Day of Judgment. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** These things and whatever else we need, we place into Your hands, O Father, for You have instructed us to call upon You. Hear our prayer for the sake of Your Son, Christ Jesus, our Lord, who with You and the Holy Spirit are one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**NOTE REGARDING THE OFFERING** – *Offering plates are located at the sanctuary exit doors where you may leave your weekly offering as you depart today.*

## 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

**C** 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

**P** 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

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** 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 the inside front cover of this service folder regarding our practice of Holy Communion.*

### ***Directions for Holy Communion:***

- *Ushers will release you in small groups to approach the altar*
- *Please wear a mask as you approach the altar and as you depart (masks may be removed at the communion rail)*
- *Please space yourselves out at the communion rail (households may remain together)*
- *Please temporarily receive the host (wafer) in your hands rather than your mouth*
- *Use of the common cup will be temporarily suspended*
- *When you take an individual cup, please be careful not to touch any adjacent cups*
- *Hand sanitizer will be available on pedestals as you depart the Lord's Table*

## Distribution Hymn: 564 Christ Sits at God's Right Hand



1 Christ sits at God's right hand, His sav - ing work com - plete,  
2 Christ was that priest God swore, U - nique - ly First and Last,  
3 Christ's al - tar was the tree, Where on the world's be - half  
4 What cost - ly sac - ri - fice To cov - er hu - man sin!



To reign till ev - 'ry foe will lie Be - neath His feet—  
Who would in righ - teous - ness and love Be un - sur - passed:  
He shed a blood, un - like the blood Of goat or calf,  
Who but Christ Je - sus had the right To en - ter in?



All that the Fa - ther planned, The Son sought to ful - fill,  
"A priest for - ev - er - more," An oath God would not break,  
To seal God's guar - an - tee Of grace that can - not fail;  
His blood, that sprin - kled price, So we might be as - sured



When first He said, "Lord, here am I To do Your will."  
"A priest with - in the or - der of Mel - chiz - e - dek."  
With blood He en - tered for our good Be - hind the veil.  
That our in - her - i - tance in light Has been se - cured.

5 Then let us now draw near,  
Washed in that precious flood  
And enter the Most Holy Place  
By Jesus' blood.  
From hearts that are sincere,  
Let tongues our hope profess,  
And trust anew God's faithful  
grace  
That we confess.

△6 All praise to Christ we bring,  
Our Lord who intercedes,  
Our great High Priest enthroned  
above  
Who knows our needs;  
And to the Father sing  
Our songs of thankful praise,  
Who with the Spirit reigns in love  
For endless days.

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## 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 Son, All 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.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

Rite of Farewell & Godspeed: Sharon Miller

## 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn to Depart: 919 Abide, O Dearest Jesus



1 A - bide, O dear - est Je - sus, A - mong us with Your grace  
2 A - bide, O dear Re - deem - er, A - mong us with Your Word,  
3 A - bide with heav'n - ly bright - ness A - mong us, pre - cious Light;  
4 A - bide with rich - est bless - ings A - mong us, boun-teous Lord;



That Sa - tan may not harm us Nor we to sin give place.  
And thus now and here - af - ter True peace and joy af - ford.  
Your truth di - rect and keep us From er - ror's gloom - y night.  
Let us in grace and wis - dom Grow dai - ly through Your Word.

5 Abide with Your protection  
Among us, Lord, our strength,  
Lest world and Satan fell us  
And overcome at length.

6 Abide, O faithful Savior,  
Among us with Your love;  
Grant steadfastness and help us  
To reach our home above.

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## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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## THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

**Sun. 10/11** The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

- Divine Services at 8:30 & 10 a.m.

**Mon. 10/12** Pastor's Day Off

Columbus Day

**Tue. 10/13** Pastor out of office in p.m.

Board of Elders' Meeting 7 p.m.

**Wed. 10/14** Adult Bible Class 7 p.m.

**Fri. 10/16** Deadline to submit November's newsletter articles

**Sun. 10/18** The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

- Divine Services at 8:30 & 10 a.m.

## TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR EFFORTS TO HELP MITIGATE CORONAVIRUS – Here's what you can expect for each of our Divine Services:

1. Hand sanitizer will be distributed at the entryway, as well as before and after Communion.
2. We ask that people wear masks when moving about the building.
3. Certain pews will be closed to maintain spacing between congregants.
4. The "Sharing of the Peace," the passing of offering plates, and the common cup will be temporarily suspended.
5. Holy Communion will be distributed at the altar, but in smaller groups (the Pastor and elder will wear masks during distribution).

Please note that due to technology and time limitations, our online services will now be recorded **on Sundays**, so the services will not be available online until later Sunday afternoon or early the next week. Thank you for your gracious cooperation and your flexibility!

**NOTE REGARDING OUR CURRENT WORSHIP SERVICES:** During this time of COVID-19, some of our church members might feel it's better in their personal situations to wait a bit longer before returning to church. And we totally understand. Because of this, Pastor Vergin will continue to post an abbreviated version of our worship service online. Pastor is also available for private pastoral visits where Holy Communion will be given individually and COVID-19 safety precautions will be used (these can be held either at your home or at the church). Please call the church office if you would like to schedule a private visit with Pastor.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS – Due to having two worship services on Sunday mornings, our usual Sunday morning Adult Bible Class is now occurring on **Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.** Pastor will continue to teach on the book of Joshua. Please make plans now to join him for this educational study!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR “CHUTES & LADDERS” TRUNK-OR-TREAT - On **Saturday, October 24** from 2-4 p.m., St. Mark’s Board of Family & Youth will be hosting our annual Trunk-or-Treat event, but with a new twist! Keeping in mind the COVID-19 restrictions that are still in place for large gatherings, the theme of this year’s Trunk-or-Treat will be “Chutes & Ladders.” How will it work? Well, our costumed volunteers, who will be standing next to their decorated trunks, will wear food service gloves and cloth masks as they send individually-wrapped candy down a decorated “chute” (cardboard tube) into the bags/buckets of the children. The costumed kids will stay in their vehicles as their parents/friends drive them around the perimeter of our parking lot so they can collect candy. The board also hopes to have at least one fire truck on the premises (hence the ladders), as well as several Halloween-decorated ladders in the center of the parking lot that will help route traffic properly. Lots of assistance will be needed for this event including several people to help direct traffic, volunteers to dress up and decorate their trunks, and more! Volunteers should arrive at church on October 24 at 12:30 p.m. if they’d like to decorate their individual “chute” (supplied by St. Mark’s), or at 1 p.m. to start decorating trunks and setting up. A sign-up sheet for volunteers and supplies is now posted on the back table in the sanctuary. Cash donations will also be accepted to help cover miscellaneous expenses. This is looking to be a super fun event that will be safe for both the kids and the adults participating! We’d love to have a lot of decorated trunks this year, so please consider signing up to decorate your trunk if you can!

FESTIVAL OF THE REFORMATION - On **Sunday, October 25**, during both worship services, we will observe the Festival of Reformation Day! On this day, we remember how God worked so long ago through Martin Luther and the other reformers to renew the knowledge of the Gospel among His people, and we rejoice that God has sustained us in this saving Truth until the present day! We hope you will join us for this celebration! We will be singing many of your favorite hymns, and **we invite you to wear red in honor of the day.** Please note that on account of the pandemic, we will not be holding our annual Fall Harvest Potluck.

REMINDER: Don’t forget to periodically check out the BUDGET THERMOMETER located on the bulletin board outside of the church office to see how we’re doing financially for 2020! Thanks SO MUCH to all of you for continuing to regularly provide your offerings to St. Mark’s either by mailing in your contributions, or participating in our Kindrid online giving program.

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.**

IF YOU SHOP AT A KROGER STORE, please consider participating in their Community Rewards program and **link your shopper's bonus card to St. Mark's** so that our congregation will receive free cash each quarter! There is no cost to you! Kroger will send a percentage of what you spend to our congregation as a way of supporting the community. If interested (and we hope you will be!), please click on this URL below to see how you can link your Shopper's Bonus Card to our congregation: <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>. In order to locate St. Mark's Lutheran Church, search for business # 82449. Thanks so much!

*INVISIBLE DAD LUNCH PROGRAM AT KEITH ELEM.* – Although area schools will not be resuming in-person classes until sometime down the road, St. Mark's will continue to receive coin donations to help support Keith Elementary's "Invisible Dad" lunch program. This helpful program, started by a dad at Keith, keeps extra money in the school's Invisible Dad Lunch Fund so that if a student's personal lunch account falls too low, or if a student forgets to bring a lunch (or can't afford to bring a lunch), money is available for them to have the same lunch as other students at no cost. This saves the student the embarrassment of being offered only a sandwich wrap and/or cheese/cracker package (the state mandated free items that the school can provide). A clear, glass jar is located on the table at the back of the sanctuary where you can deposit any spare change you might have in order to help support this program. When school starts up again, the contents of the jar will be brought to the principal's office at Keith Elementary. Thanks in advance for your support!

WE CONTINUE TO COLLECT used postage stamps for Wycliffe Bible Translation Ministries, and used eyeglasses for MOST Ministries in the two plastic bins on the shelves at the bottom of the sanctuary stairs. Wycliffe sells the stamps to stamp collectors and then uses the proceeds to fund Bible translation projects throughout the world. MOST Ministries repairs/refurbishes used eyeglasses and distributes them via eyeglass clinics to the needy around the world. If you donate postage stamps, please be sure to leave ¼" of the envelope paper around the stamp so that the stamp isn't damaged. Thank you.







## SERVING THE LORD WITH GLADNESS THIS MORNING

Presiding Minister

Rev. Aaron Vergin

Acolyte (*either service*)

Sophie Hurley

Altar Guild

Gail Fitzgerald

Elder on Duty (*both services*)

Tom LoCascio

Greeters (*either service*)

Sharon Williams

Offering Counters (*after late service*)

Barbara Jewell & Lori Whitehead

Organist (*both services*)

Rob Wheeler

Trumpeter (*either service*)

Chris Gerard

Ushers (*see right*)

**8:30 a.m.** – Scott Miller; **10 a.m.** – John Reardon

Video Technician (*either service*)

Debbie Sidelinker