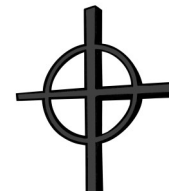




**Sunday, September 17, 2023
16th Sunday after Pentecost**



Welcome!

**St. Mark's is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.
We welcome you to our worship today
& hope you will worship with us again soon!**

**Items recommended to have available in preparations for this service:
Copy of this Sunday Service bulletin, in whatever format you prefer.**

Refer to this PDF bulletin as a guide for our Sunday - 10 AM Service.

To find us online, please visit our website or on YouTube:

<https://www.stmarkslutheran.us>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCSZGBTjTxsR3QcZ9YX0xNw>

**Mission of the Month
COOL Ministries**



The mission of COOL Ministries is to give comprehensive assistance to families in need, by reducing hunger and homelessness while encouraging personal growth and self-sufficiency.

We are serving the community Monday-Friday 10-2.
Appointments are no longer needed, walk ups will be served.

COOL Ministries Veterans Assistance program has continually grown over the last couple of years and is now serving over 130 active duty military & Veteran families each and every month!

Phone: 847.662.1340, Fax: 847-662-1255, info@coolministries.org

Please refer to the September/October issue of the Messenger for further information regarding the mission of the month.



Pastor Colin Cranmer - Welcome

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Gathering Song - God, turn it around

I'm praying, God come
 And turn this thing around
 God, turn it around
 God, turn it around
 God, turn it around
 I'm calling on the name
 That changes everything, yes
 God, turn it around
 God, turn it around
 God, turn it around

All of my hope
 Is in the name
 The name of Jesus
 Breakthrough will come
 Come in the name
 The name of Jesus

I'm praying, God come
 And turn this thing around
 God, turn it around
 God, turn it around
 God, turn it around
 I'm calling on the name
 That changes everything
 God, turn it around
 God, turn it around
 God, turn it around

'Cause all of my hope
 Is in the name
 The name of Jesus
 Breakthrough will come
 Come in the name
 The name of Jesus

God, turn it around
God, turn it around
God, turn it around

God, turn it around
God, turn it around
God, turn it around
He is up to something
He is up to something
God is doing something right now
He is up to something
He is up to something

God is doing something right now
He is healing someone
He is saving someone
God is doing something right now
He is healing someone
He is saving someone
God is doing something right now

He is moving mountains
Making a way for someone
God is doing something right now
He is moving mountains
Making a way for someone
God is doing something right now, right now

He is moving mountains
Making a way for someone
God is doing something right now

All of my hope
Is in the name
The name of Jesus
breakthrough will come in the name
Come in the name
The name of Jesus
All of my hope
Is in the name
The name of Jesus

Breakthrough will come
Come in the name
The name of Jesus

God, turn it around
Turn it around

God, turn it around
Turn it around
Turn it around

Confession and Forgiveness (ELW p. 94)

In the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✙ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Kyrie (ELW p. 184)

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all; for this holy house, for all who worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor; that we may live out truth and justice and grace, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family; for life and for love, for our work and our play, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word; that you nourish our souls with your body and blood, let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way, Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Job 38:22-38

A reading from Job.

Have you entered the storehouses of the snow, or have you seen the storehouses of the hail, which I have reserved for the time of trouble, for the day of battle and war? What is the way to the place where the light is distributed, or where the east wind is scattered upon the earth? Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain, and a way for the thunderbolt, to bring rain on a land where no one lives, on the desert, which is empty of human life, to satisfy the waste and desolate land, and to make the ground put forth grass? Has the rain a father, or who has begotten the drops of dew? From whose womb did the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven? The waters become hard like stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, or loose the cords of Orion? Can you lead forth the Constellations in their season, or can you guide the Bear with its children? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you establish their rule on the earth? Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you? Can you send forth lightnings,

so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'? Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind? Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together?

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation - Let Your steadfast Love Come To Us O Lord

Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
 Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
 Save us as you promised: we will trust your word.
 Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 6:5-13

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon Series Description

“Sacred Pathways: Embracing Our Unique Journeys with God”
 Sensates - Ascetics

Introduction: In the grand tapestry of faith, there's no one-size-fits-all. Every believer's journey to connect with God is unique, colored by personal experiences, inclinations, and passions. Inspired by the insights from the book "Sacred Pathways," by Gary Thomas, this sermon series delves into the diverse avenues through which we, as believers, resonate with and respond to God's call. By understanding these pathways, we aim to foster an atmosphere of respect, celebrate our differences, and deepen our personal walk with God.

Hymn of the Day: Restless

You dwell in the songs that we are singing
 Rising to the heavens, rising to Your heart, Your heart
 Our praises filling up the spaces
 In between our frailty and everything you are
 You are the keeper of my heart

And I am restless, I'm restless
 'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You
 I am restless, I'm restless
 'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You
 Oh God, I wanna rest in You

Oh, speak now for my soul is listening
 Say that You have saved me, whisper in the dark, the dark
 'Cause I know You're more than my salvation
 Without You I am hopeless, tell me who You are

You are the keeper of my heart
 You are the keeper of my heart

And I am restless, I'm restless
 'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You
 I am restless, I'm restless
 'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You
 I wanna rest in You

Still my heart, hold me close
 Let me hear a still small voice
 Let it grow, let it rise
 Into a shout, into a cry

Still my heart, hold me close
 And let me hear a still small voice
 And let it grow, let it rise
 Into a shout, into a cry

And I am restless, I'm restless
 'Til I rest in You, let me rest in You
 And I am restless, so restless
 'Til I rest in You, 'til I rest in You
 Oh God, let me rest in You

Creed (ELW p. 189)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

We pray for the church. Bless the missions and ministries of diverse congregations, that they uplift the good news of salvation in ways that can be understood.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for creation. Send rain to lands experiencing drought and healing to rivers clogged with pollution. Enrich the soil for trees and plants. Protect the crops needed to feed those who hunger.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for all who govern. Encourage those in positions of power to lead with empathy, practice forgiveness, and care for those who struggle.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for our neighbors who face illness of any kind. For those strained financially; for all living with chronic pain, mental illness, the disease of addiction, or otherwise afraid or in harm's way. Protect all who cry out for mercy.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation. Open our hearts to practice intentional invitation. Help us to forgive each other, practice patience, and choose welcome over judgment. Move us to care for those in our community seeking refuge and safety.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for the saints who died in faith. Show us how to live faithfully, creatively, and lovingly in your church and world.
Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Announcements

Offering Song - Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord,
And fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
That we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
Unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving / Dialogue

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Preface (ELW p. 190)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
 God of pow'r and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Thanksgiving at the Table (ELW p. 190)

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer (ELW p. 191)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Lamb of God (ELW p. 191)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
 have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
 grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Invitation to Communion

Communion Song - Let my Prayer Rise Up

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing

power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessing

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song: Simple Gifts

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gain'd,
To bow and to bend we will not be asham'd,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
Till by turning, turning we come round right.

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,
'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,
'Twill be in the valley of love and delight.
When true simplicity is gain'd,
To bow and to bend we will not be asham'd,
To turn, turn will be our delight,
Till by turning, turning we come round right.

Dismissal

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

Altar Flowers Presented By:
Dave & MaryAnne Striepling
In Honor of their Wedding Anniversary



For those visiting St Mark's today, if you would like more information,
 please check out our web page at: StMarksLutheran.us
 Or, visit us on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/StMarksLutheranWaukegan/>
 Services are also available online each Sunday at 10 AM.

Please feel free to join the following small groups:

Women of St. Mark's - 1st Monday of the month @ 7 PM.

Yarns of Compassion - 3rd Monday of the month @ 7 PM.

Reflections in the Spirit - 1st Tuesday of the month @ 7 PM.

Reflections of the Seasons - 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 12 PM

Zoom Weekly Bible Study - Wednesday Night @ 7 PM

Gather Bible Study - 2nd Friday of the month @ 7 PM. *With the exception of Sept. This meeting will take place on Friday, Sept. 15th. Please note the time change from 6 PM to 7 PM.*

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting - Friday Night @ 7 PM in the fellowship hall.

Reminders

Saturday, September 16th - WSM's Parking Lot Yard Sale from 9 AM - 4 PM. In the event of rain, the sale will be held in the Fellows Ship Hall. All proceeds benefit St. Mark's Stewardship, Foundations for the Future, & WSM's Missions.

Come as You Are, Whoever You Are

Everyone is welcome at St. Mark's, no matter what you have done, what has been done to you, what darkness or struggles you have faced, and regardless of whether you have been marginalized by society or denied involvement by other churches.

All are worthy of God's love and grace. We celebrate diversity, and seek to be inclusive of every race, ethnicity, faith background, age, economic status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental ability, or anything else that divides us.

Christ's church is not ours to control, nor is it our job to sort, divide, categorize or exclude.

But it is our place to love all our neighbors, aid the less fortunate, and to be a voice on their behalf. Welcome!

"Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7



St. Mark's Member/Visitor Information Card
 Please provide the following information:

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Physical Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

If you'd like more information about St. Mark's, please scan the QRC code below.

If you'd like to receive emails from St. Mark's or your contact information needs to be updated, please scan the QRC below. Or, fill out this form and drop it in the offering plate.



St. Mark's Website



Contact Form