

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 11, 2020

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Welcome and Worship Announcements

Invocation

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

Confession and Forgiveness

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister
of the church of Christ, and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father, and of the ✚ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

“O Day of Rest and Gladness”

1 O day of rest and glad - ness, O day of joy and light,
 2 On you, at earth's cre - a - tion, the light first had its birth;
 3 To - day on wea - ry na - tions the heav'n - ly man - na falls;
 4 New grac - es ev - er gain - ing from this our day of rest,

O balm for care and sad - ness, most beau - ti - ful, most bright:
 on you, for our sal - va - tion, Christ rose from depths of earth;
 to ho - ly con - vo - ca - tions the sil - ver trum - pet calls,
 we reach the rest re - main - ing to spir - its of the blest.

on you the high and low - ly, through a - ges joined in tune,
 on you, our Lord vic - to - rious the Spir - it sent from heav'n;
 where gos - pel light is glow - ing with pure and ra - diant beams
 We sing to you our prais - es, O Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son;

sing, “Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly,” to the great God tri - une.
 and thus on you, most glo - rious, a three - fold light was giv'n.
 and liv - ing wa - ter flow - ing with soul - re - fresh - ing streams.
 the church its voice up - rais - es to you, blest Three in One.

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.

Prayer of the Day

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance.
Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a
people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Psalm 23

Sung by all

¹The LORD | is my shepherd;
I shall not | be in want.
²He makes me lie down | in green pastures
and leads me be- | side still waters.
³He re- | vives my soul
and guides me along right pathways | for his Name's sake.
⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall | fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.
⁵You spread a table before me in the presence of those who | trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is | running over.
⁶Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD for ever.

First Reading

Isaiah 25:1-9

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt.
Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.
On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.
It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Second Reading

Philippians 4: 1-9

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way,
my beloved.
I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal
companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with
Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord
is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let
your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will
guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel Acclamation



1* 2 3

He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

He - le - lu - yan, he - le - lu - yan; he - le, he - le - lu - yan.
Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah; hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

* *May be sung in canon.*

Music: Muscogee (Creek) Indian; transc. Charles H. Webb, b. 1933
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Gospel

Matthew 22: 1-14

The Holy Gospel according to _____.
Glory to you, O Lord.

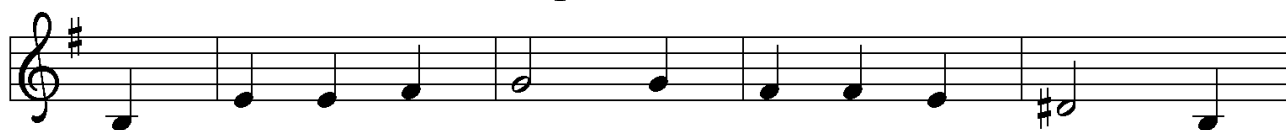
Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

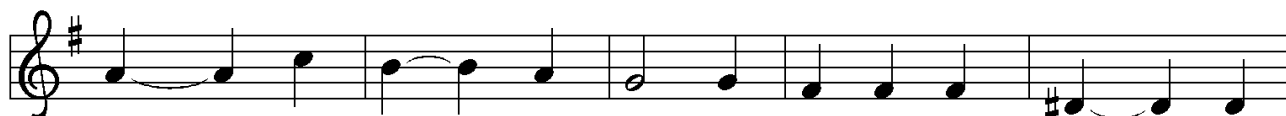
Silence for reflection follows the sermon



1 *La paz del Se - ñor, la paz del Se - ñor, la*
 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the
 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the



paz del Re - su - ci - ta - do: la paz del Se -
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the
 peace of the ris - en Lord Je - sus: the peace of the



ñor a ti ya mí, a to - dos al - can - za -
 Lord is for you and for me, and al - so for all of God's
 Lord is a - mong us right now, so o - pen your - selves to re -
 Lord kept with - in can - not live, so o - pen your - selves now to



rá; la paz del Se - ñor a ti ya
 chil - dren. The peace of the Lord is for you and for
 ceive it. The peace of the Lord is a - mong us right
 share it. The peace of the Lord kept with - in can - not



mí, a to - dos al - can - za - rá.
 me, and al - so for all of God's chil - dren.
 now, so o - pen your - selves to re - ceive it.
 live, so o - pen your - selves now to share it.

2 *La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
 la paz del Resucitado:
 se hace presente ahora y aquí
 apréstate a recibirla;
 se hace presente ahora y aquí
 apréstate a recibirla.*

3 *La paz del Señor, la paz del Señor,
 la paz del Resucitado:
 no puede vivir encerrada en sí,
 apréstate a compartirla;
 no puede vivir encerrada en sí,
 apréstate a compartirla.*

Apostles Creed

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 into hell.
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

Peace

Offering

Thanksgiving for the Word

We thank you, O God, for your life-giving Word,
for calling creation into being,
declaring forgiveness from the cross,
and delivering the spirit of rebirth.
We praise you, O God, for your Word:
we praise you, O God, for your Word.

Gen. 1:3
Luke 23:34
John 3:5

Your word is a lamp lighting our path,
a mirror reflecting our selves,
a shield providing us refuge,
a fire burning for justice and truth.
Your word is sweeter than honey:
it nourishes our bodies like milk,
it sustains your people like bread.
We receive your promises, more treasured than gold.
We bless you, O God, for your Word:
we bless you, O God, for your Word.

Ps. 119:105
James 1:23
Prov. 30:5
Jer. 23:29
Ps. 119:103
1 Pet. 2:2
Matt. 14:20
Ps. 19:10

Open our ears to your prophets, apostles, and saints,
and to all the cries of the needy.
Breathe into your church the mighty Spirit of Christ,
that heeding your voice of beauty and power
we are strengthened to serve wherever we are called.

Eph. 2:19-20
James 5:4
John 20:22
Ps. 29:9
Rom. 16:25-26

To you, Father, Son, and Spirit – the Source, Word, and Breath --
we offer our thanks for your life-giving Word:
we offer our thanks for your life-giving Word. Amen.

Lord's Prayer



Gathered into one by the Ho-ly Spir - it, let us pray as Je-sus taught us.



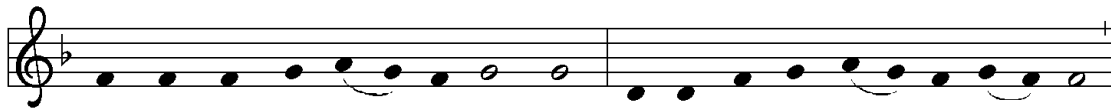
Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and for ever.

Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Lord Dismiss Us”

1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,

let us each, your love pos - sess - ing, tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace.
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.

Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.
 Music: SICILIAN MARINERS, Sicilian, 18th cent.

Announcements and Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

BEGINNING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY



Dear Friends at St. Mark's Lutheran Church:

Remember back in March when we thought that the coronavirus would impact our lives for a few weeks or maybe even a month? Now, six months later, we are intimately familiar with the challenges the virus has brought to into our lives.

Throughout this difficulty, the world has desperately needed the church and our message of grace- maybe needed it more than at any time during my lifetime. And in the face of this need, our congregation has responded. I am tremendously grateful for the giftedness of our leaders and for the ways this congregation has found opportunities to serve- making thousands of sandwiches and masks, supporting the Crop Walk, and increasing our giving to local helping agencies, to name a few examples.

Thank you for the ways in which you stepped up to continue to worship, to care for one another, and to look for opportunities to share the Gospel when our community so clearly needed the gospel.

What God has shown us through this crisis is our need to walk together, to continue to innovate, and to step up the ways in which we share God's love in a world that so desperately needs it.

Your generosity this year is as important as it has ever been- not just to keep our congregation healthy, but to also help us develop the church to continue to impact the world in significant ways.

As we enter into our stewardship drive this year, let's think about all the ways that we have seen generosity this year.

In Christ,
Pastor Matt

BEGINNING A CULTURE OF GENEROSITY



RECOGNIZE YOUR NEED TO GIVE

Life and its gifts are to be used and shared. Life cannot be hoarded or it turns in upon itself and you lose it. “Whoever would save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. (*Matthew 16:25*) We each have a deep inherent need to give. To give is to live!

All too often, instead of focusing on our own need to give, we center on the need of the church to receive. The church does seek our support, but we must remember it is God’s Church. It will prosper and flourish in God’s own good time whether we give to it or not. The wonder of it all is that God invites us to be a part of God’s church - to experience the joy and blessing of generously supporting and extending its mission.

Just as a coin, Christian giving has two sides. For too long, we centered mostly on the side entitled “The Need of the Church”. We need to begin concentrating on the side headed “My Need to Give” for giving is an integral part of spiritual life and growth.

