

Sunday, August 15, 2021

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

God's Good Creation



St. Mark Lutheran Church
One North Road
Circle Pines, MN 55014

Sunday August 15, 2021
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
9:30am

PRELUDE

MEDITATION

Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

C: Amen.

L: Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: God, our provider,

C: help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We turn away from your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. Amen.

L: Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C: Amen.

+OPENING HYMN

"Morning Has Broken"

+GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Lord of life and hope, we gather this day seeking nourishment for our souls and healing for our spirits. Give to us your living bread, that having been nourished in soul and spirit, we may be witnesses to your transforming love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Come and Eat This Bread"

Hopson

FIRST READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹⁵Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

+GOSPEL

John 6:51-58

In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.

L: The holy gospel according to John. C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." ⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

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

SERMON

Pastor Mollie Dvorak

+HYMN OF DAY

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

+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 power of 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

L: Rooted in Christ and sustained by the Spirit, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

After each portion of the prayers: L: God in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude:

L: We lift these and all our prayers to you, O God, confident in the promise of your saving love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**

+PEACE

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

The congregation may share a social distance sign of peace with one another.

OFFERING

An offering basket is in the back of the sanctuary for you to drop off your offering. At this time we will not be passing the plates but we continue to be grateful for your generosity.

+OFFERING PRAYER

L: Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world

C: Amen.

+GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION

+LORD'S PRAYER

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

The sacrament of Holy Communion is offered as part of our worship. If you did not grab an individual cup of Communion, please let an usher know and they will get you one. We will take communion together in our seats and Pastor Mollie will instruct us.

All are welcome to receive the bread and the grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

+POST COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

L: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.

C: Amen.

+BENEDICTION

L: Filled to the brim with the goodness of God; the nourishment of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life, and the power of the Holy Spirit, go now in peace to serve God in all that you think, do and say. God's peace will always be with you

C: Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

"On Our Way Rejoicing"

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COVID Update

The covid team met this last week due to the new information regarding the Delta variant that came out. The following changes will begin today.

- Masks - We are asking those who worship with us in person, wear a mask while in the building and observe social distancing.
- Worship will be livestreamed and in-person at 9:30am with proper mask wearing, and social distancing measures implemented. We ask each family to sign in when they arrive at church so we can track if needed. Music will be offered in worship and will be provided by a few singers. Congregational singing is not permitted at this time.
- Fellowship Hour - We invite you to fellowship hour outside in our parking lot. Treats and coffee will be offered.

Our hearts were heavy when making these decisions, and we know taking this step backwards is tough. We ask that you remain hopeful with us as we keep the safety of all of us as the priority. A copy of the full letter can be found on our website. If you have any questions or concerns about this we ask that you email our covid team at covidteam@stmarkcp.org and someone from the team will address it.

Fall Registration

It's that time of year! Registration for Sunday School and Confirmation are now available. Registration is all online now and the links can be found on our website or digital announcements. If you have questions, contact Jenny.

Backpack and School Supply Project

If you are interested in helping purchase school supplies for students, please head to www.adpotabackpack.org to find out more information. You may also donate cash/gift cards - those can be mailed or dropped off at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Collard. Thanks for your support!

Holiday Bazaar

We are so glad to be able to once again hold the Holiday Bazaar at St Mark on Nov. 13 after the pandemic cancellation last year. The coordinators this year will once again be Susan Koosmann, Nora Hemquist and Cindy Huseby. Consistent with our past schedule, letters were emailed to our loyal vendors last week and we are eagerly awaiting their responses. We are also very grateful for the long list of volunteers willing to help with the Bazaar this year. We will be contacting the volunteers in the weeks to come. If you wanted to help and haven't yet signed up just let us know what you would like to do. More hands can always be used for signs, set up and clean up. If you should have any questions or concerns please address them directly to Susan, Nora or Cindy.

Markings

Just a reminder - if you would like to add anything to our next Markings - today is the deadline! This issue will cover all that is happening until the end of the year. Thank you!

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Prayers: Nancy Richter

Lector: Ellie Mundale

Ushers/Greeters: Susan Koosmann, Karen Gregory

PRAYER AND CONCERN

Yvonne Guptill

Lisa Hutchinson's sister-in-law, Susan Bushey (and family) who's being treated for cancer,

We also pray for: Verna, Sherry, Sue Frieburg, Wendy, Kelly, Sandy, Mashell, Shannon, Larry, Leslie, Dave, Jeanette, Sandie, and Mark.

Please contact the office with any updates to this prayer and concern list—thank you!

St. Mark Giving

July 26th through August 1st giving totaled: \$6,908

Needed to cover Plan for Ministry: \$5,490

Worship Attendance

August 1: 134

July 25: 123

July 18: 122

July 11: 222

Join us for Sundae's outside following worship!

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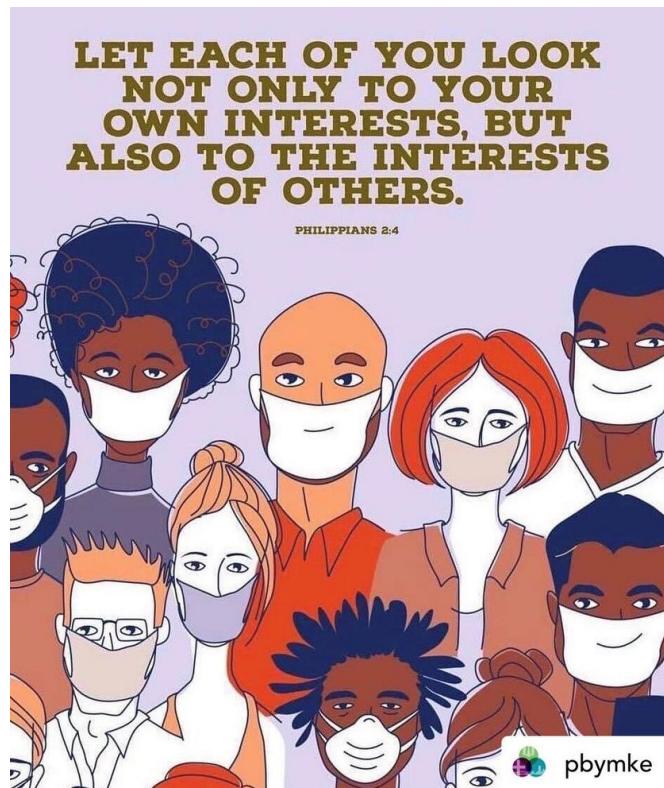
Church Website:

www.stmarkcp.org

***Growing
Together in
God's Love to
Serve Others***



SAINT MARK
Evangelical Lutheran Church



This week at St. Mark

Monday 8/16	Office hours: 10-3pm Men who love donuts: 9:30am Dick Rasmussen Funeral: 10:30am <i>Luncheon to follow</i>
Tuesday 8/17	Office hours: 10-3pm Staff Meeting: 10:30am Council Meeting: 6pm
Wednesday 8/18	Office Closed
Thursday 8/19	Memorial Team Meeting: 9:30am Morning Quilters: 9:30am
Saturday 8/21	AA: 10:30am
Sunday 8/22	Worship at 9:30am