



The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato, Presider

St. Mark's Episcopal Church

October 11, 2020

Service Participants: The People of God, The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato, The Rev. Susan York, Dr. Gregory Crowell, Rachel Xydis, Dilana Beilfuss, Judy Colby, Patrick Keenan

Prelude: Canzona

J.J. Froberger

Gathering Hymn: Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return
'til thy mercy's beams I see;
'til they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit, then, this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, Radiance divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato

Greeting

Presider: †Blessed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trinity.

People: And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.

People: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presider: Together, let us offer praise to God.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

Presider: Lord, have mercy upon us.

People: **Christ, have mercy upon us.**

All: **Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Presider: †May Almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life.

People: **Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Presider: Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

The Hebrew Scripture

Isaiah 25:1-9

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm Let us meditate on Psalm 23 as it is sung by the cantor.

1 The Lord is my shepherd; *
I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though 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.

5 You 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.

6 Surely 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.

The Christian Scripture

Philippians: 4:1-9

A reading from the Letter to the Philippians

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: Come, my way, my truth, my life

**Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
Such a way as gives us breath;
Such a truth as ends all strife;
Such a life as killeth death.**

**Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
Such a light as shows a feast;
Such a feast as mends in length;
Such a strength as makes his guest.**

**Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
Such a joy as none can move;
Such a love as none can part;
Such a heart as joys in love.**

Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Once more Jesus spoke to the people 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 Christ. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Homily

The Rev. Susan York

The Nicene Creed (Please note the language for the Spirit.)

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for
our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he
became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made a man. For our sake he
was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the
third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into
heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in
glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and
the Son. With the Father and the Son, the Spirit is worshiped and glorified. The
Spirit has spoken
through the Prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for
the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the
world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

During this Season of Pentecost, we ask God to hear our prayers.

For St. Mark's, the Vestry, all those in Parish leadership, and all that we do to offer ourselves and all we have to bring about the reign of God in our world. For grace in abundance as we prepare for in-person Sunday worship on Nov. 1, the Feast of All Saints.

We pray: *O God, hear us.*

For the President, the Governor and the Mayor. For a fair and just voting and electoral process. For the unemployed and under-employed. For an end to racism, gun violence and war.

We pray: *O God, hear us.*

For Archbishop Justin, Presiding Bishop Michael, The Rt. Rev. Wayne Houglund, Dana, his wife, and their family, and all who give of themselves for the sake of the Gospel.

We pray: *O God, hear us.*

For Mother Earth and our individual and collective responses to changes in the climate and for all those suffering from natural disasters in our land and throughout the world.

We pray: *O God, hear us.*

For our Stewardship Season, *Faith-filled Generosity*", as we prepare to give of our gifts for the mission of St. Mark's in 2021. May we give back in thanksgiving for the many blessings in our lives of faith at St. Mark's.

We prayer: *O God, hear us.*

For the sick, especially remembering those on our Parish Prayer List found in today's bulletin, those suffering due to the Corona Virus and all those for whom we have promised to pray.

(Pause to add additional prayers either silently or aloud)

We pray: *O God, hear us.*

For those who have died. Today, we remember Joe Pattok, who passed away this last week. May all the departed rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.

(Pause to add additional prayers either silently or aloud)

We pray: *O God, hear us.*

For what else or whom else shall we pray this day?

(Pause to add additional prayers either silently or aloud)

O God, hear these prayers which we have named aloud and those which lie deep within our hearts. In the Name of Jesus, we pray: *O God, hear us.*

The Peace

Presider: May the peace of Christ be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

- Many thanks to those participating in today's worship

- Invitation to in-person worship beginning Nov. 1 at 10:30 a.m.
- Nov. 1 Feast of All Saints and the reading of the names of those who have died
- Oct. 14 Second in-person session on the possible extension of the chancel at 3:30 p.m.
- Oct. 14, the second in the Fall Formation Series, 7:00 p.m.
- Oct. 18, the 184 Anniversary of the Parish, St. Mark's in the Park, Palmer Park, Wyoming

Invitation to this year's Stewardship Season

Dawn and David Buller

Invitation to Giving

Please, know that your monetary gift is vital to our ministry at St. Mark's. Contributions can be made online at www.stmarksgr.org, the 'Donate Now' button on Facebook or by mail. May God bless you for your generosity!

The Offertory - Laudamus Te

Antonio Vivaldi

Dilana Beilfuss, Rachel Xydis, sopranos

We Praise you, we bless you,

We adore you, we glorify you.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Invitation

Presider: My sisters and brothers, the table of bread and wine is now made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth in which Christ became incarnate. Come, it is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Presider: God be with you

All: And also with you.

Presider: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Presider: Eternal God, Source of all being, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful love. You call us into friendship with you and one another, To be your holy people, a sign of your presence in the world.

All: Loving God, through your goodness we have this bread and wine to offer which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of these gifts, and in all creation. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.

Presider: Therefore, we raise our voices, forever praising you and saying:

All: Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of God. Hosanna in the highest.

Presider: Blessed are you, most Holy, in Jesus Christ, who came among us as a servant and a friend to reconcile us to yourself. We thank you for that life of love, the good news of your reign, and the promise of a banquet where all your children will be free.

On the night before he died, your Son, Jesus, took bread; he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said: take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup of wine; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said: This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you; do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Therefore, loving God, recalling now Christ's death and resurrection, we ask you to accept this sacrifice of praise. † Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine and upon us, that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son and be filled with your life and goodness. Strengthen us to do your work, and to be your body in the world. Unite us in Christ and give us your peace.

Through Christ our Redeemer, in the power of the Spirit, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

All: Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: Please, pray whichever version of The Lord's Prayer you prefer as it is prayed aloud in Spanish.

Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre;
Venga a nosotros tu reino,
Hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo,
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día,
Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden,
No nos dejes caer en la tentación
Y libranos del mal
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria
Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

Traditional

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.

Contemporary

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.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

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.

Presider: [Alleluia.] Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore, let us keep the feast. [Alleluia.]

The Communion

The Directive from the Bishops of Michigan indicates that we are able to receive the consecrated bread of the Eucharist but not the consecrated wine due to the COVID Virus. Since we are not gathered in-person for worship, we will 'fast' from the consecrated bread and wine and receive them in spiritual union with Christ. We will celebrate and receive the Eucharist on Nov. 1, 2020, The Feast of All Saints when we return to worship as a community of faith at St. Mark's.

Presider: Christ whose table was open to all is now present in this bread and in this wine. He whose word welcomed friend and stranger offers himself to us.

Let us pray:

O Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Altar. We love you above all things and long for you in our hearts. Until we can all gather again as a community around the Table of the Lord, we will fast from receiving you in these elements of the Eucharist at this time. Come spiritually, O Jesus, into our hearts. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen

The Consecrated Bread and Wine are removed from the Altar at the Crossing and taken to the Sacristy by the Presider and Assisting Minister.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray together:

**Living God, in this Sacrament, we have shared in your eternal kingdom.
May we who taste this mystery forever serve you in faith, hope, and love. Amen.**

The Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of the †God who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us be with us now and forever we pray,
Amen.

Hymn of Sending Forth: Rejoice, ye pure in heart

**Rejoice, O pure in heart,
rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.**

Refrain:

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

**Bright youth and snow-crowned age,
both men and women, raise
on high your free, exulting song,
declare God's wondrous praise. [Refrain]**

**Still lift your standard high,
still chanting as you go,
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe. [Refrain]**

The Sending Forth

Let us go forth to love and serve God and all God's people. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude: Toccata

Girolamo Frescobaldi

Thank you for being with us today. Please, see the Parish's website at www.stmarksgr.org for information on Parish life and activities, links to our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel, the Calendar and the latest newsletter, eNews, for messages and announcements of the Parish. Join us again next week and for other Services offered Monday through Thursday each week on Facebook. May God bless you on your journey of faith. Thanks, again, for being with us. May God bless you!



Announcements

Please, see the weekly newsletter, eNews, sent out via email to the address we have on file. It is our primary form of weekly communication and an important source of information on parish life.

Please, join us on Sundays at 10:30 for the regular broadcast of worship and on upcoming Sundays for outdoor worship and fun:

October 18: 184th Anniversary Celebration, Palmer Park, Wyoming - Grandville area

October 25th Millennium Park - Grand Rapids, NW area

Many thanks to Michelle Gordon for arranging these outdoor venues for us.

Hope you can be with us!

Sustaining St. Mark's Ministry in 2020

Thanks to all those who financially sustain our ministry together at St. Mark's with pledges and offerings. The total budget for 2020 is \$782,838, which requires an estimated \$15,055 income per week, an amount arrived at through a variety of resources. During these weeks of the Pandemic, the average weekly collection has been around \$6,000, an obvious downturn in giving.

Last week, we received \$9,494 in pledges and offerings. That amount included pledges paid by mail, online through Give Plus, PayPal, and regular giving. To date, we have a shortfall in pledged income of \$44,420. If you are able, please keep up your pledge. If you do not pledge, we ask you to consider giving as you are able to support the ministry of St. Mark's. We project a shortfall of \$40,000 or greater, if the level of giving remains the same.

Weekly Contributions Needed:	\$ 15,055
Contributions Received this past week:	<u>\$ 9,494</u>
Difference:	\$ 5,561 (Shortfall)

Year to Date: Contributions Needed:	\$ 598,722
Contributions Received:	<u>\$ 578,990</u>
Difference:	\$ 19,732 (Shortfall)

We are truly grateful to all of you who donated, paid your pledge in full during this time, those of you who have kept up to date on your pledges and those of you who continue to give even though you have not pledged. We have been blessed by the donations we have been receiving during this pandemic while very conscious of the financial future if the level of giving remains the same.

Thank you for maintaining your pledges and giving whether pledged or not.
Stay safe, and healthy!

Pam Stevenson, St. Mark's Finance Manager

October 11 - November 15 Stewardship Season for 2021

October 14

12:00 p.m. Mid-Week Eucharist (Please, call to register in advance)

3:30 p.m. Information Session on possible chancel extension project (Please, call to register in advance)

7:00 p.m. Adult Formation Series via Zoom (See Facebook or eNews for Zoom Invitation and Link)

November 1 - Return to In-Person Worship at St. Mark's, 10:30 a.m. (Please, call to register in advance)

The St. Mark's Prayer List

Prayers are requested:

Lynn & Tony Burk
The Casines-Abreu family
Marge Dickinson
Roger Faber
Art Freeman
Kari Ingersoll
Ty Karsen
Barb Kent
Tom Klein
Cathy Mahoney
Len Mahoney
Sarah McIntire & Kate Goebbert
Alissa Monsalvo
Bill Nasser
Andrea Nowak
John Oatley
Aila Olivia
John Ritchey
Jesse Roby
Elise Rossell
Mary Slew
Tom Soehl
Heidi Stoneman
Tom West
Helena and Ken Westrate
Nancy Woudstra

Our inbound and semi-inbound parishioners:

Irene Haizman
Jane Jawahir
Earle Slenker
Shari Takus
Margarett Tanase
Jean Zylstra
Sue Allen
Gertrude DeAguire
Nita DeGraaf
John Gracki
Arlene Griffin
Larry Manglitz
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara
Shirley VanDerBos

Those in Military Service

LTC Timothy Brower Sr. USA

LCpl Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC
Maj Todd Murray, USAF
1/Sgt Deidre Piechocki, USA

Prayer for Discernment
Bea Rocco