



# ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 2, 2018 AT 10:30 A.M.

TRADITIONAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

## INTRODUCTION

*Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We, having been washed in the word when we were born in the font, return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.*



"For it is from within,  
from the human heart,  
that evil intentions come."

Mark 7:21a



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:30 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

*\*Please stand if able*

*P: Pastor; A: Assisting Minister; C: Congregation*

*(ELW—Red Book)*

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Sandra Tallant

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Gary Haddock

\*CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

ELW p. 116-118

\*SHARING THE PEACE P: The peace of the Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

\*GATHERING HYMN

**"Gather Us In"**

**ELW #532**

\*APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: 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.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the feast of victory for our God ..."

ELW p. 122-123

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God our strength, without you we are desperately weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside. Empower us to take up our baptismal calling, to do battle with the old Adam and Eve alive within us, that we may be preserved and prove to be faithful through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Rev. Gary Haddock

LESSONS

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9; Psalm 15; James 1:17-27

Zach Gardner

\*HOLY GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia, Alleluia ..."

ELW p. 124

\*GOSPEL READING

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Mark. C: **Glory to you, O Lord**

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Rev. Gary Haddock

\*HYMN OF THE DAY

**"Remember and Rejoice"**

**ELW #454**

\*APOSTLES' CREED

ELW p. 127

\*INTERCESSORY PRAYER

A: Lord in your mercy. C: **Hear our prayer.**

Zach Gardner

MEAL

THE OFFERING/OFFERTORY

Sandra Tallant

\*OFFERING PRESENTATION/RESPONSE "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW #182

**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 the 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.**

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Zach Gardner

A: God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. C: **Amen.**

**\*THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER V**

ELW p. 65-66

**\*THE LORD’S PRAYER**

P: Lord, teach us to pray . . .

**C: 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.**

**DISTRIBUTION**

*Holy Communion Invitation: We welcome all who are baptized to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Communion is served by Intinction. You will be given a wafer, which you then dip into the chalice of wine. If unable to come forward, stand where you are, and you will be served there. Children who are baptized are welcome to commune.*

**AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)**

ELW p. 135

**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.**

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

**“In Christ There Is No East or West”**

ELW #650

**\*POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

*After all have returned to their places, the congregation stands and the presiding minister says these words:*

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **C: Amen.**

**\*POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Zach Gardner

A: Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. **C: Amen.**

**SENDING**

**\*BLESSING** P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

**\*SENDING HYMN**

**“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”**

ELW #547

**\*DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

Sandra Tallant

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**FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD** and in memory of Charles Pope on his birthday (September 1) by Connie Pope.

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**LITURGY -THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE**

**Presiding Pastor:** Rev. Gary Haddock

**Assisting Minister:** Zach Gardner

**Organist:** Sandra Tallant

**Communion Assistants:** Hal Sigmon, Nick Setzer

**Acolyte:** Quentin Caudill

**Deacons:** Nick Setzer, Kerri Nash

**Altar Guild:** Jo Marilyn Hewitt, Linda Hewitt, Maria Wright, Vanessa Arndt

**Tabulators:** Mike & Donna Evans, Cathy Sigmon, Nick Setzer

**Tech:** Carol Schaefer, Camille Patrick, Tamarah Hefner, Randy Sherrill, Terry Hefner, Tim Sigmon, Barry Bumgarner

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 550, 3216 W. Main Street, Claremont, NC 28610 (828-459-2161)

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30-4pm; Friday, 8:30-12:30pm (lisa@smarklc.org or deanna@smarklc.org)

### **DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2, 6-9**

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

### **PSALM 15**

LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill? Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart; who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors; in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt; who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

### **JAMES 1:17-27**

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore, rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, ongoing away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

### **MARK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around [Jesus], they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile." For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."