



ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

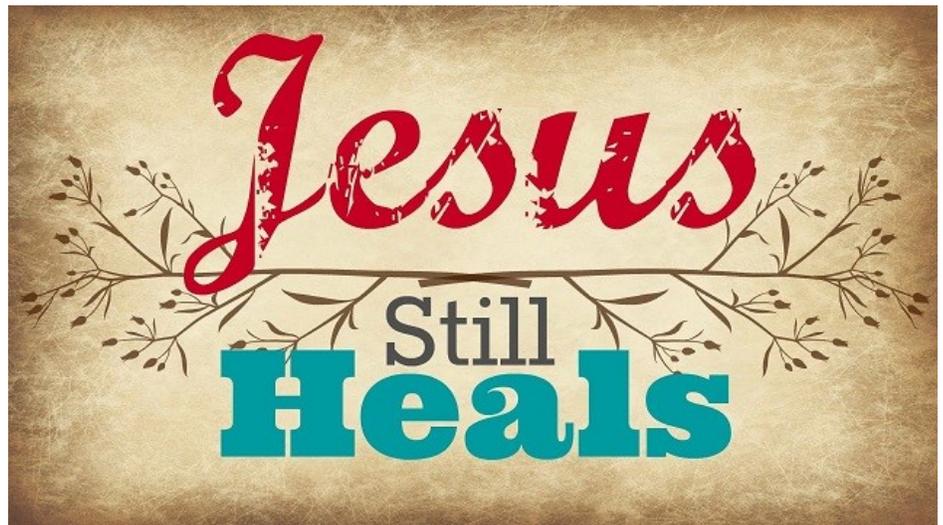
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 9, 2018 AT 10:30 A.M.

TRADITIONAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

INTRODUCTION

James tells us to stop showing favoritism in the assembly, treating the rich visitor with more honor than the poor one. Jesus himself seems to show partiality in his first response to the Syrophenician woman in today's gospel. Was he testing her faith in saying Gentiles don't deserve the goods meant for God's children? Or was he speaking out of his human worldview, but transcended those limits when she took him by surprise with her reply? Either way, the story tells us that God shows no partiality. Everyone who brings her or his need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:30 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 9, 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

"Give to Our God Immortal Praise!"

ELW #848

*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: Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. C: **Amen.**

WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Vicar Frank Waugh

LESSONS

Isaiah 35:4-7a; Psalm 146; James 2:1-10, 14-17

David Tucker

*HOLY GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia, Alleluia ..."

ELW p. 124

*GOSPEL READING

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

Mark 7:24-37

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

SERMON

Vicar Frank Waugh

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

ELW #810

*APOSTLES' CREED

ELW p. 127

*INTERCESSORY PRAYER

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

David Tucker

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

David Tucker

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

"Children of the Heavenly Father"

ELW #781

***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**

David Tucker

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**

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

ELW #545

***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 Clyde Fisher's birthday on September 7 and in honor of Jim Carpenter's 90th birthday on September 14, by Denise Arndt.

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LITURGY -THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Gary Haddock

Preacher: Vicar Frank Waugh

Assisting Minister: David Tucker

Organist: Sandra Tallant

Communion Assistants: Kermit Nash, Ginger Carpenter

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)

ISAIAH 35:4-7A

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

PSALM 146

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul! I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long. Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help. When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish. Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous. The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

JAMES 2:1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill," and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So, faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

MARK 7:24-37

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So, she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."