



ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION:

TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

TO MAKE DISCIPLES

TO EMBODY GOD'S LOVE

Introduction

Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church.

By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table.

When, by the power of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more inviting still.



AUGUST 31, 2025

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM

YOUTUBE LIVE STREAM 10:00 AM

Humility

is not thinking less of yourself
but thinking of yourself less

- CS Lewis

Assisting in Worship Today

Preaching: Pastor Quentin Surace

Organist: Emily Schuttenberg

Acolyte: Silas Carpenter

Lay Reader: Carol Schaefer

Greeters: Hilka Cox, Linda Hewitt

Ushers: Deb Crawford

Assisting Minister: Carol Schaefer

Crucifer:

Communion Assistants: Matthew Watkins

Council Duties: Tim Carpenter, Terry Hefner

Attendance last Sunday, August 24th was **86** (includes YouTube Live viewers).

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM

AUGUST 31, 2025

**Please stand as able*

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

GATHERING

Setting 3 ELW

GATHERING MUSIC (9:45AM)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (9:55AM)

PRELUDE AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES BY ACOLYTE

Instrumental

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: In the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,

C: you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. Amen.

P: 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. **C: Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN**

"Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

ELW #335

***KYRIE (Setting 3) (Pastor will sing petitions. All sing "Lord, have mercy")**

ELW p.138-139

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

LESSONS

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Philemon 1-21

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

"Alleluia"

ELW p.142

GOSPEL READING

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

Luke 14:25-33

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Quentin

SERMON

Pastor Quentin

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

"Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

ELW #802

***APOSTLES' CREED**

ELW p.127

***PRAYERS BY ASSISTING MINISTER**

A: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near. For the leaders of the church, we pray. Inspire deacons, pastors, Sunday school teachers,Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

***SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

MEAL

THE OFFERING

"Take My Life, That I May Be"

vs. 1-4

ELW #685

OFFERING PRESENTATION/RESPONSE "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessing flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **C: Amen.**

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.	C: And also with you.
P: Lift up your hearts.	C: We lift them to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.	C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***PROPER PREFACE FOR SUNDAY:**

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (sung)**

ELW p.144

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION : # II**

ELW p.108

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** P: Lord, teach us to pray . . .

DISTRIBUTION

We welcome all who believe Jesus is Lord to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. An usher will guide you to the center aisle to receive communion. You may return to your seat by the outer aisle. If you are not able to come forward, please notify an usher by raising your hand and communion will be brought to you. After communing all who wish may go to the altar for prayer. You may also come forward for a blessing.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

ELW p.146

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

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

ELW #810

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION BY ASSISTING MINISTER**

A: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **C: Amen.**

SENDING

***BLESSING** P: The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit **✠** bless you and give you peace. Together let us proclaim our mission:
C: To proclaim the Gospel. To make disciples. To embody God's love. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

"Lift High the Cross"

ELW #660

***Dismissal:** P: Go in peace. Live by the Spirit. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

“See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

Philemon 1-21

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To our beloved coworker Philemon, to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus, and to the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. I pray that the partnership of your faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the right thing, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for the long term, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I ask.

Luke 14:25-33

Now large crowds were traveling with [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

Church Staff

Pastor: Pastor Quentin F. Surace
Music Director: Emily Schuttenberg
Family Ministries Director: Wendy Hefner
Finance Secretary: Deanna Butcher
2025 Church Council President: Terry Hefner

Custodian: Larry Smyre/Mark Oakley
Secretary: Patricia Hoke
Preschool Co-Director: Randyl Abernathy
Preschool Co-Director: Maria Wright