



ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION:

TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL
TO MAKE DISCIPLES
TO EMBODY GOD'S LOVE

Introduction

Called to contemplate the cost of discipleship, we might be helped by translating Paul's request to Philemon into our prayer of the day:
Refresh my heart in Christ. Strengthened by the company and forgiveness of Christ in holy communion and recalling God's grace in remembrance of baptism, we can be strengthened in this hour to "choose life"—to choose life in God as our own.



SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

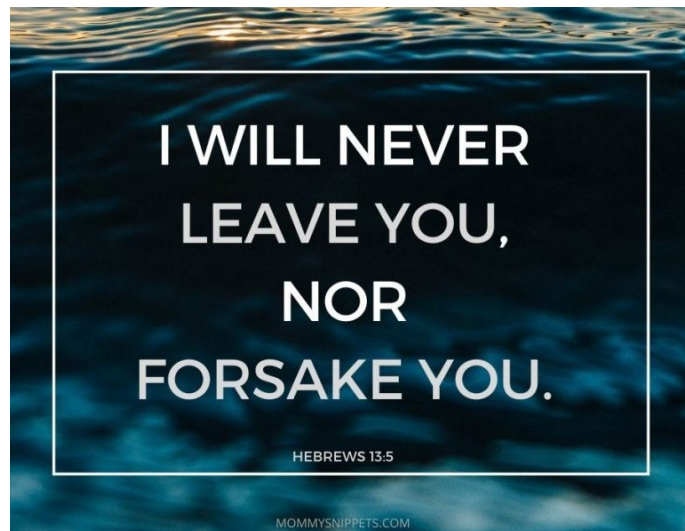
13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY MORNING FELLOWSHIP 9:00AM

BIBLE STUDY & SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM

YOUTUBE LIVE STREAM 10:00 AM



Assisting in Worship Today

Preaching: Seminarian Zach Lindler
Organist: Emily Schuttenberg
Acolyte: Sadie Hendren
Lay Reader: Kermit Nash
Greeters: Hilka Cox, Cathy Sigmon

Ushers: Hilka Cox, Deb Crawford
Assisting Minister: Kermit Nash
Crucifer:
Communion Assistants: Carol
Council Duties: Carol Schaefer, Matthew Watkins

Attendance last Sunday, August 31st was **76** (includes YouTube Live viewers).

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

13TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

10:00 AM

SEPTEMBER 7, 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: Blessed be the holy Trinity, **+** one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of GodMerciful and loving God,

C: we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. Amen.

P: Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found. In the name of **+** Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C: Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"God is Here!"

vs. 1, 3, 4

ELW #526

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

ELW p.138-139

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORD

LESSONS

Proverbs 25:6-7a, Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

"Alleluia"

ELW p.142

GOSPEL READING

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

Luke 14:1, 7-14

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Seminarian Zach Lindler

SERMON

Seminarian Zach Lindler

***HYMN OF THE DAY**

"O God Beyond All Praising"

WOV #797

***APOSTLES' CREED**

ELW p.127

***PRAYERS BY ASSISTING MINISTER**

A: Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need....God of grace,

C: receive our prayer.

***SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE**

MEAL

THE OFFERING

Instrumental

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: Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

"In the Singing"

ELW #466

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION BY ASSISTING MINISTER

A: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. C: Amen.

SENDING

*BLESSING P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever. Together let us proclaim our mission:

C: To proclaim the Gospel. To make disciples. To embody God's love. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

"If You But Trust in God to Guide You"

ELW #769

*Dismissal: P: Go in peace. Do not lose heart. C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Instrumental

Proverbs 25:6-7a

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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