

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – June 25, 2023

Responsive Call to Worship

To you, O God, we lift our hearts.

Listen to our voices and answer.

The Lord is good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love.

God does wondrous things with grace and mercy.

So let us glorify God's holy name together!

We come to worship God in love and loyalty.

Hymn 328 This is my Father's world

**1. This is my Father's world;
and to my listening ears,
all nature sings, and 'round me rings
the music of the spheres.**

**This is my Father's world,
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas
God's hand the wonders wrought.**

**2. This is my Maker's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Maker's world;
God shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass, God's footsteps pass
God speaks to me everywhere.**

**3. This is my Saviour's world,
oh let me not forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Saviour's world,
the battle is not done;
Jesus, who died, shall be satisfied,
and earth and heaven be one.**

Hymn 611 For all the saints

**1. For all the saints who from their labours rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
thy name, o Jesus, be forever blest.**

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might,
thou, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight,
thou in the darkness drear their one true light.**

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**3. Oh may thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
and win with them the victor's crown of gold.**

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**4. O blest communion! fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet all are one in thee, for all are thine.**

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**5. And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
and hearts are brave again, and arms are strong.**

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**6. The golden evening brightens in the west;
soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest;
sweet is the calm of paradise the blest.**

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**7. But lo! there breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way.**

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

**8. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:**

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

O God, we confess that we have neglected your instructions. You told us to speak your words of truth and life in the daylight and to proclaim your good news from the rooftops, but self-consciousness and fear have held us back. Forgive us, O God, and give us courage that we may be your sent people in our own time.

- silent confession -

The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

**For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory. For ever
and ever. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon *(minister)*

Hymn 211 Take up your cross

**1. Take up your cross, the Saviour said,
if my disciple you would be;
deny yourself, the world forsake,
and humbly follow after me.**

**2. Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill frightened spirit with alarm;
his strength shall bear your spirit up,
and brace your heart, and nerve your arm.**

**3. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame,
nor let your foolish pride rebel:
for you the Saviour bore the cross,
to save your soul from death and hell.**

**4. Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,
and every danger calmly brave;
'twill guide you to a heavenly home,
and lead to victory o'er the grave.**

5. Take up your cross and follow Christ,

**nor think till death to lay it down,
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 p. 535 NT & Psalms

¹ Bend down, O Lord, and hear my prayer;
answer me, for I need your help.

**² Protect me, for I am devoted to you.
Save me, for I serve you and trust you.
You are my God.**

³ Be merciful to me, O Lord,
for I am calling on you constantly.

**⁴ Give me happiness, O Lord,
for I give myself to you.**

⁵ O Lord, you are so good, so ready to forgive,
so full of unfailing love for all who ask for your help.

**⁶ Listen closely to my prayer, O Lord;
hear my urgent cry.**

⁷ I will call to you whenever I'm in trouble,
and you will answer me.

**⁸ No pagan god is like you, O Lord.
None can do what you do!**

⁹ All the nations you made
will come and bow before you, Lord;
they will praise your holy name.

**¹⁰ For you are great and perform wonderful deeds.
You alone are God.**

¹⁶ Look down and have mercy on me.
Give your strength to your servant;
save me, the son of your servant.

**¹⁷ Send me a sign of your favor.
Then those who hate me will be put to shame,
for you, O Lord, help and comfort me.**

New Living Translation (NLT)

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Scripture Lessons

Genesis 21:8-21 p. 15 pew Bible

Romans 6:1b-11 p. 264 NT & Psalms

Matthew 10:24-39 p. 19 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon It's grace

Prayers of the People (*minister*)

Hymn 275 **Jesus shall reign where're the sun**

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

2. For him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like fragrance sweet shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

3. People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains;
The weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

5. Let every creature rise and bring
the honours due our glorious King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the long Amen.

Offering Announcement

Offering & Offertory

***Doxology** 830 **Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication (*congregation*)

O God, we offer you our gifts in thanksgiving. Pour out your Spirit upon them and upon us. May the gifts we offer bear

the fruit of your Spirit in every life we touch in Jesus' name.
Amen.

Hymn 670 Amazing grace

1. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed.
3. Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,
and grace will lead me home.
4. The Lord has promised good to me:
His word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be,
as long as life endures.
5. What thanks I owe you, and what love
a boundless, endless store
shall echo through the realms above
when time shall be no more.
6. When we've been there a thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise than
when we'd first begun.

Choral Blessing

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will be with you each hour of every day.
God will be there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Benediction

Three-fold Amen

Piano Postlude