

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost – October 22, 2023

Responsive Call to Worship

God knows us by name, and calls us to follow.

The presence of the Lord is with us as we venture out.

Just as Moses was led by God's goodness, so are we guided.

God's ways are sure and lead the faithful to righteousness.

Together let us seek God's leading in Word and in prayer.

Let us worship God together!

Hymn 65 All people that on earth do dwell

**1. All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.**

Him serve with mirth; his praise forth tell.

Come ye before him and rejoice.

2. Know that the Lord is God indeed;

without our aid he did us make;

we are his flock, he doth us feed,

and for his sheep he doth us take.

3. Oh enter then his gates with praise;

approach with joy his courts unto;

praise, laud and bless his name always,

for it is seemly so to do.

4. For why, the Lord our God is good;

his mercy is forever sure;

his truth at all times firmly stood,

and shall from age to age endure.

Prayer of Praise *(minister)*

Hymn 299 Holy, holy, holy

**1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.**

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,

God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy, all the saints adore thee,

casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;

cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,

who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

3. Holy, holy, holy, though the darkness hide thee,
though our eyes in sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty!
all thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and
sea.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty,
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

Holy God, we confess we need your mercy. We claim to be your people, but we forget to love as you do. We claim to seek your guidance, but we often turn from your ways. We ask for your forgiveness, but we fail to forgive as you forgive. We claim to listen for your Word, but we ignore your wisdom. Hear us as, in this silence, we offer you our personal confessions . . .

- 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 240 Rock of ages, cleft for me

1. Rock of ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood,
from thy riven side which flowed,
be of sin the double cure:
cleanse me from its guilt and power.

**2. Not the labours of my hands
can fulfil thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know,
could my tears forever flow,
all for sin could not atone;
thou must save, and thou alone.**

**3. Nothing in my hand I bring,
simply to thy cross I cling:
naked, come to thee for dress;
helpless, look to thee for grace;
foul, I to the fountain fly;
wash me, Saviour, or I die.**

**4. While I draw this fleeting breath,
when my eyelids close in death,
when I soar through tracts unknown,
see thee on thy judgement throne,
rock of ages, cleft for me,
let me hide myself in thee.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 99 p. 546 NT & Psalms

The Lord is king!

Let the nations tremble!

He sits on his throne between the cherubim.

Let the whole earth quake!

**The Lord sits in majesty in Jerusalem,
exalted above all the nations.**

Let them praise your great and awesome name.

Your name is holy!

**Mighty King, lover of justice,
you have established fairness.**

**You have acted with justice
and righteousness throughout Israel.**

Exalt the Lord our God!

Bow low before his feet, for he is holy!

**Moses and Aaron were among his priests;
Samuel also called on his name.**

**They cried to the Lord for help,
and he answered them.**

He spoke to Israel from the pillar of cloud,

and they followed the laws and decrees he gave them.

O Lord our God, you answered them.

You were a forgiving God to them,

but you punished them when they went wrong.

Exalt the Lord our God,

and worship at his holy mountain in Jerusalem,

for the Lord our God is holy!

New Living Translation (NLT)

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Scripture Lessons

Exodus 33:12-23

p. 72 pew Bible

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

p. 352 NT & Psalms

Matthew 22:15-22

p. 44 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon **Whose is it?**

Prayers of the People *(minister)*

Hymn **661 We give thee but thine own**

**1. We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.**

**2. May we thy bounties thus
as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us,
to thee our first fruits give.**

**3. To comfort and to bless,
to find a balm for woe,
to tend the lonely in distress
is angels' work below.**

**4. The captive to release,
to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace,
it is a Christlike thing,**

**5. and we believe thy word,
though dim our faith may be:
whate'er for thine we do, O Lord,**

we do it unto thee.

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)

God of abundance, we bring what we have to share, a portion of your goodness to us. Bless our gifts and our lives, so that generosity and justice will join hands, and your goodness touches those in need, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn 687 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine

**1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

Refrain:

**This is my story; this is my song:
praising my Saviour all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song:
praising my Saviour all the day long.**

**2. Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

Refrain:

**This is my story; this is my song:
praising my Saviour all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song:
praising my Saviour all the day long.**

**3. Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Saviour am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

Refrain:

**This is my story; this is my song:
praising my Saviour all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song:
praising my Saviour all the day long.**

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