

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Third Sunday after Pentecost – June 9, 2024

Responsive Call to Worship

We give you thanks, O Lord, with our whole hearts.

We give thanks for your steadfast love and faithfulness.

O God, we call on you, for you will increase our strength of soul.

Though we walk in the midst of troubling times, you will stretch out your hand to us.

So we gather to worship God, trusting in God's goodness and guidance.

We come to offer our prayers and praise, seeking God's renewing love day by day.

Hymn 411 Stand up and bless the Lord

- 1. Stand up and bless the Lord;
God's people now rejoice;
stand up and bless the Lord your God
with heart and soul and voice.**
- 2. Though high above all praise,
above all blessing high,
who would not fear God's holy name,
and praise and magnify?**
- 3. Oh for the living flame
from God's own altar brought,
to touch our lips, our minds inspire,
and wing to heaven our thought.**
- 4. God is our strength and song;
now is salvation ours.
God's love in Christ we now proclaim
with all our ransomed powers.**
- 5. Stand up and bless the Lord;
the Lord your God adore;
stand up and bless God's glorious name
henceforth forevermore.**

Prayer of Praise (minister)

Hymn 290 Immortal, invisible, God only wise

- 1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**
- 2. Unresting, unhasting and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**
- 3. To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither, and perish; but naught changeth thee.**
- 4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: oh help us to see
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.**

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

O God, we confess and ask you to forgive us for our failures and sins. We admit that while you are always present, we lose sight of you in the rush of our lives. We forget to place our troubles at your feet, and instead carry on as if we are the ones sustaining our lives by our strength alone. We fear the cost of your call to kindness and generosity and behave in thoughtless and selfish ways with others. Forgive us.

- 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.**

Hymn 367 Jesus, the very thought of thee

1. Jesus, the very thought of thee
with sweetness fills my breast,
but sweeter far thy face to see,
and in thy presence rest.

2. Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
nor can the memory find
a sweeter sound than thy blest name,
O Saviour dear and kind.

3. O hope of every contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
to those who fall how kind thou art,
how good to those who seek!

4. But what to those who find? Ah, this
nor tongue nor pen can show;
the love of Jesus, what it is
none but the loved ones know.

5. Jesus, our only joy be thou,
as thou our prize wilt be;
Jesus, be thou our glory now
and through eternity.

Responsive Reading

Psalm 138

p. 478 NT & Psalms

¹ I give you thanks, O Lord, with all my heart;
I will sing your praises before the gods.

² **I bow before your holy Temple as I worship.**

**I praise your name for your unfailing love and faithfulness;
for your promises are backed
by all the honor of your name.**

³ As soon as I pray, you answer me;
you encourage me by giving me strength.

⁴ **Every king in all the earth will thank you, Lord,
for all of them will hear your words.**

⁵ Yes, they will sing about the Lord's ways,
for the glory of the Lord is very great.

⁶ **Though the Lord is great, he cares for the humble,
but he keeps his distance from the proud.**

⁷ Though I am surrounded by troubles,
you will protect me from the anger of my enemies.
You reach out your hand,
and the power of your right hand saves me.

⁸ **The Lord will work out his plans for my life—
for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever.
Don't abandon me, for you made me.**

New Living Translation (NLT)

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Scripture Lessons

1 Samuel 8:4-20, 11:14-15

2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Mark 3:20-35

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon We Don't Get Discouraged – Rev. John Borthwick

Prayers of the People (minister)

Hymn 677 My faith looks up to Thee

**1. My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Saviour divine:
now hear me when I pray;
take all my guilt away;
oh let me from this day
be wholly thine.**

**2. May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart;
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me,
oh may my love to thee
pure, warm and changeless be,
a living fire.**

**3. While life's dark maze I tread,
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray**

from thee aside.

4. When ends life's transient dream,
when death's cold sullen stream
shall o'er me roll,
blest Saviour, then, in love,
fear and distrust remove;
oh bear me safe above,
a ransomed soul.

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 growing gardens and growing hope, receive our gifts
and our gratitude this day. Bless what we bring and what we
do, so that we become expressions of your abundant love, in
Jesus' name. Amen.**

Hymn 291 Thou whose almighty word

**1. Thou whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight,
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray
let there be light!**

**2. Saviour who came to bring
on thy redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind
let there be light!**

**3. Spirit of truth and love,
lifegiving, holy Dove,**

**speed forth thy flight;
move o'er the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light!**

**4. Blessed and holy Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world, far and wide,
let there be light!**

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