

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost – October 13, 2024

Responsive Call to Worship

The banquet table is prepared: God calls us to feast together.

We have come from east and west, from north and south, to sit together at the Lord's table.

Compassion, love and grace pour out like fine wine.

God's Word is bread for our journey.

Let us join Christians around the world to share in God's gifts.

Let us taste and see that the Lord is good!

Hymn 457 Now thank we all our God

**1. Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom God's world rejoices,
who from our mother's arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

**2. Oh may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with everjoyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us all with grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

**3. All praise and thanks to God
who reigns in highest heaven,
the Father and the Son
and Spirit now be given,
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore,
for thus it was, is now
and shall be evermore.**

Prayer of Praise (minister)

Hymn 364 Approach, my soul, the mercy seat

**1. Approach, my soul, the mercy seat,
where Jesus answers prayer;
there humbly fall before his feet,
for none can perish there.**

**2. Thy promise is my only plea,
with this I venture nigh;
thou callest burdened souls to thee,
and such, O Lord, am I.**

**3. Bowed down beneath a load of sin,
by Satan sorely pressed,
by war without and fears within,
I come to thee for rest.**

**4. Be thou my shield and hiding place,
that, sheltered near thy side,
I may my fierce accuser face,
and tell him thou hast died.**

**5. O wondrous love! to bleed and die,
to bear the cross and shame,
that guilty sinners, such as I,
might plead thy gracious name.**

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

**Ever present God, when you invite us to your table, you ask
us to come with clean hands and clean hearts.**

**You ask us to come in peace, seeking reconciliation with you
and with each other. We confess that the church has not
always sought reconciliation within or beyond its walls.**

**In this silence, we hand over to you the broken relationships,
disagreements and disappointments that keep us from living
in your peace.**

- 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 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!**

Responsive Reading Psalm 22:1-15 p. 472 NT & Psalms

¹ My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
Why are you so far away when I groan for help?

**² Every day I call to you, my God, but you do not answer.
Every night I lift my voice, but I find no relief.**

³ Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

**⁴ Our ancestors trusted in you,
and you rescued them.**

⁵ They cried out to you and were saved.
They trusted in you and were never disgraced.

**⁶ But I am a worm and not a man.
I am scorned and despised by all!**

⁷ Everyone who sees me mocks me.
They sneer and shake their heads, saying,

**⁸ "Is this the one who relies on the Lord?
Then let the Lord save him!
If the Lord loves him so much,
let the Lord rescue him!"**

⁹ Yet you brought me safely from my mother's womb
and led me to trust you at my mother's breast.

**¹⁰ I was thrust into your arms at my birth.
You have been my God from the moment I was born.**

¹¹ Do not stay so far from me,
for trouble is near,
and no one else can help me.

**¹² My enemies surround me like a herd of bulls;
fierce bulls of Bashan have hemmed me in!**

¹³ Like lions they open their jaws against me,
roaring and tearing into their prey.

**¹⁴ My life is poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.
My heart is like wax,**

melting within me.

¹⁵ My strength has dried up like sunbaked clay.

My tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth.

You have laid me in the dust and left me for dead.

New Living Translation (NLT)

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Scripture Lessons

Job 23:1-9, 16-17 p. 417 pew Bible

Hebrews 4:12-16 p. 381 New Testament with Psalms

Mark 10:17-31 p. 81 New Testament with Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon Is it hard being rich?

Prayers of the People (*minister*)

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*)

Generous God, we offer you our thanks for all the goodness we enjoy in Christ and in creation. Bless the gifts we bring and use them to relieve the need and anxiety many feel these days. May anxious lives see signs of your love and joy in what we can offer them in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and friend. Amen.

Hymn 537 'Twas on that night

**1. 'Twas on that night when doomed to know
the eager rage of every foe,
that night in which he was betrayed,
the Savior of the world took bread,**

**2. and after thanks and glory given
to God who rules in earth and heaven,
that symbol of his flesh he broke,
and thus to all his followers spoke:**

3. "My broken body thus I give

**for you, for all; take, eat, and live;
and oft the sacred rite renew
that brings my wondrous love to view.”**

**4. Then in his hands the cup he raised,
and God anew he thanked and praised;
the fullness of God’s grace he showed
and from his lips salvation flowed.**

**5. “My blood I thus pour forth,” he cries,
“to cleanse the soul in sin that lies;
in this the covenant is sealed,
and heaven’s eternal grace revealed.”**

**6. “With suffering love this cup is given;
let all partake the wine of heaven,
and when you gather, let it pour,
in living memory of this hour.”**

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Lord God, Creator and Sustainer of heaven and earth, it is our great calling and joy to give you thanks and praise. You spoke, and all things came into being: the sun, moon and stars, the sky, earth and waters and all they contain. Holy Mother Spirit you swept over creation, and brought order out of chaos, life from the formless void. From the elements of the earth, you created humankind, each unique, all made in your holy image. Your breath gave us life and called us to live with you in loving service to neighbour and stranger alike.

When we turned from you, you never turned from us. Through the prophets, you called us back. You sent Jesus, born of a mother’s flesh, to reveal the full extent of your grace and love. Again and again, you welcome us to your side with the open arms of a loving parent.

Therefore, we join our voices with those from every time and place, to proclaim your glory in the unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy is Jesus the Christ, O God. Walking this earth, feeding the hungry, calling the lost and lonely, caring for the outcast and downtrodden, he brought healing and wisdom to those who sought him out, and revealed your kingdom taking shape in this world.

As we break this bread and share this cup in Jesus' name, with your people here and in every place, we recall the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died;

Christ is risen;

Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and cup. Gather your church together, scattered to the ends of the earth into your kingdom where peace and justice are realized. Show us the hope that joy will be shared at the banquet you prepare for us when heaven and earth join hands. Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honour and glory are yours, Generous and Mighty God, now and forever.

The Breaking of the Bread

The Pouring of the Cup

The Revelation

Partaking of the Bread

Partaking of the Cup

Prayer after Communion (Unison)

Lord Jesus Christ, you have nourished us, body, and soul, in this meal. We have heard your love and hope proclaimed, now send us out to speak it to others. We have seen your love and hope poured out, now send us out to show it in everything we do. We have been fed by your love and hope

at your table, now send us out to share it so the world may believe. And let all things be done for your glory. Amen.

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.

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