

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost – November 17, 2024
Responsive Call to Worship

The God of wisdom calls us to worship;

in humility, we have come to offer our praise.

The God of peace calls us to let go of all our angst and worry;

in faith, we offer our praise and our prayers.

The God of past, present and future offers us hope and direction.

in joy, we celebrate life in God's presence; hallelujah!

We have come to listen for God's teachings;

let us worship God together.

Hymn 652 Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go

**1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go
my daily labour to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know,
in all I think, or speak, or do.**

**2. The task thy wisdom hath assigned
oh let me cheerfully fulfil;
in all my works thy presence find,
and prove thy good and perfect will.**

**3. Thee may I set at my right hand,
whose eyes my inmost substance see,
and labour on at thy command,
and offer all my works to thee.**

**4. Give me to bear thy easy yoke,
and every moment watch and pray,
and still to things eternal look,
and hasten to thy glorious day.**

Prayer of Praise *(minister)*

Hymn 638 Take time to be holy

**1. Take time to be holy; speak oft with thy Lord.
Abide in him always, and feed on his word.
Make friends of God's children; help those who are weak,
forgetting in nothing his blessing to seek.**

2. Take time to be holy; the world rushes on;

spend much time in secret with Jesus alone.
By looking to Jesus, like him thou shalt be;
thy friends in thy conduct his likeness shall see.

3. Take time to be holy; let him be thy guide,
and run not before him, whatever betide.
In joy or in sorrow, still follow thy Lord,
and, looking to Jesus, still trust in his word.

4. Take time to be holy; be calm in thy soul,
each thought and each motive beneath his control.
Thus led by his Spirit to fountains of love,
thou soon shalt be fitted for service above.

Prayer of Confession (congregation)

God of justice and mercy, you call us to take part in our community, loving our neighbours and serving your purposes. We confess this is easier said than done. We often sit in judgment on those who serve in public life, criticizing any who fall short of our expectations. Yet we confess we too fall short of your loving purpose for us. Forgive us when we have been too quick to criticize, and too slow to join in what needs to be done.

- 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 209 O Love that wilt not let me go

1. O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thine ocean depths its flow

may richer, fuller be.

**2. O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
my heart restores its borrowed ray,
that in thy sunshine's blaze, its day
may brighter, fairer be.**

**3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain
that morn shall tearless be.**

**4. O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
and from the ground there blossoms red,
life that shall endless be.**

Responsive Reading Psalm 16 p. 466 NT & Psalms

¹ Keep me safe, O God,
for I have come to you for refuge.

**² I said to the Lord, "You are my Master!
Every good thing I have comes from you."**

³ The godly people in the land
are my true heroes!
I take pleasure in them!

**⁴ Troubles multiply for those who chase after other gods.
I will not take part in their sacrifices of blood
or even speak the names of their gods.**

⁵ Lord, you alone are my inheritance, my cup of blessing.
You guard all that is mine.

**⁶ The land you have given me is a pleasant land.
What a wonderful inheritance!**

⁷ I will bless the Lord who guides me;
even at night my heart instructs me.

**⁸ I know the Lord is always with me.
I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me.**

⁹ No wonder my heart is glad, and I rejoice.
My body rests in safety.

**¹⁰ For you will not leave my soul among the dead
or allow your holy one to rot in the grave.**

**¹¹ You will show me the way of life,
granting me the joy of your presence
and the pleasures of living with you forever.**

New Living Translation (NLT)

Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House
Foundation

Scripture Lessons

1 Samuel 1:1-20 p. 213 pew Bible

Hebrews 10:11-25 p. 388 New Testament with Psalms

Mark 13:1-8 p. 87 New Testament with Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon But what do we do?

Prayers of the People (minister)

Hymn 642 O Master, let me walk with thee

**1. O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.**

**2. Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.**

**3. Teach me thy patience; still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong,**

**4. in hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way,
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.**

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, with time spent with you we become freshly aware of the many blessings we receive from you in Jesus and through the power of your Spirit. We respond with these offerings and the service of our lives, and we pray that you will transform them in ways that bless others and glorify you. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

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.**

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