

St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
Sixth Sunday of Easter – May 25, 2025

Responsive Call to Worship

May God be gracious and bless us;

May God's face shine upon us.

May God's ways be known throughout all the earth,

and his salvation experienced among all nations.

Let people of all nationalities be glad and sing for joy

for God judges them justly and gives guidance to all nations.

Let the peoples of the world praise God;

let all people praise God.

May God continue to bless us;

let all people worship you, O God.

Hymn 39 God of mercy, God of grace

**1. God of mercy, God of grace,
show the brightness of your face.
Shine upon us, Saviour, shine;
fill your world with light divine,
and your saving health extend
unto earth's remotest end.**

**2. Let the people praise you, Lord;
be by all that live adored.
Let the nations shout and sing
glory to their gracious King;
at your feet their tribute pay,
and your holy will obey.**

**3. Let the people praise you, Lord;
earth shall then its fruits afford.
Unto us your blessing give;
we to you devoted live,
all below and all above,
one in joy and light and love.**

Prayer of Praise (*minister*)

Hymn 647 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

**1. Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;**

**guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee,
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our guide shall be.**

**2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe;
lone and dreary, faint and weary
through the desert thou didst go.**

**3. Spirit of our God descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy;
thus provided, pardoned, guided
nothing can our peace destroy.**

Prayer of Confession (*congregation*)

**God of diversity and detail, the wonders of your
creation amaze us. Yet we confess we often fail to
honour its beauty and variety in the details of our lives.
When voices differ in opinion, we listen to those we
agree with. We fail to honour experience different than
our own. We resist calls to honour the earth as if it were
ours for the taking. Forgive our narrow perspectives.
Open our eyes and our hearts to the pain and
perspectives of others and renew us all with your
healing grace.**

- 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 825 Saviour, again to your dear name

1. Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise:
we join to bless you, ere our worship cease,
then, in the silence, wait your word of peace.
2. Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day;
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.
3. Grant us your peace as day turns into night;
stay with us until the coming of the light;
keep safe all those who call upon your name,
for dark and light are both the same to you.
4. Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;
then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O God, to your eternal peace.

Responsive Reading Psalm 67 p. 512 NT & Psalms

- ¹May God be merciful and bless us.
May his face smile with favor on us.
- ²**May your ways be known throughout the earth,
your saving power among people everywhere.**
- ³May the nations praise you, O God.
Yes, may all the nations praise you.
- ⁴**Let the whole world sing for joy,
because you govern the nations with justice
and guide the people of the whole world.**
- ⁵May the nations praise you, O God.
Yes, may all the nations praise you.
- ⁶**Then the earth will yield its harvests,
and God, our God, will richly bless us.**
- ⁷**Yes, God will bless us,
and people all over the world will fear him.**

Scripture Lessons

Acts 16:9-15 p. 231 NT & Psalms

Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5 p. 451 NT & Psalms

John 14:23-29 p. 188 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Hymn 416 Blessed Jesus, at your word

- 1. Blessed Jesus, at your word
we are gathered all to hear you;
let our minds and wills be stirred
now to love you and revere you;
by your teachings true and holy
drawn from earth to love you solely.**
- 2. All our knowledge, sense and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till your Spirit breaks our night
with the beams of truth unclouded;
you alone to God can win us;
you must work all good within us.**
- 3. Glorious Lord, yourself impart,
light of light, from God proceeding,
open now each mind and heart;
help us by the Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry your church now raises;
Lord, accept our prayers and praises.**

Sermon **Where does peace come from?**

Prayers of the People (*minister*)

Prayer of Dedication (*congregation*)

Generous God, we thank you for your gift of new life in Christ Jesus. Receive our gifts this day and bless each gift and each giver. Use each one to witness to your purposes through our congregation and throughout the world you love, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn 611 For all the saints [and yes there are eight verses 😊]

- 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!

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