

**St. Mark's Presbyterian Church**  
**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost – August 3, 2025**

**Responsive Call to Worship**

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

**God's faithful love endures forever.**

Has the Lord redeemed you? Then say so!

**God has redeemed us from trouble and led us by straight paths.**

Praise the Lord for God's steadfast love is great!

**God satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.**

**Hymn 691 My shepherd is the King of love**

**1. My shepherd is the King of love  
whose goodness fails me never.  
for all things good from God above  
restore my soul forever.**

**2. Where streams of living water flow,  
my ransomed soul is guided,  
and where the verdant pastures grow,  
with heavenly food provided**

**3. Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,  
but yet in love you sought me,  
and on your shoulder gently laid,  
and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**4. In death's dark vale I fear no ill,  
with you, dear Lord, beside me;  
your rod and staff my comfort still,  
your cross before to guide me.**

**5. You spread a table in my sight;  
anointing grace bestowing,  
and oh, what rapture of delight;  
your cup is overflowing.**

**6. And so through all the length of days,  
your goodness fails me never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise  
within your house forever.**

## **Prayer of Praise (*minister*)**

### **Hymn 467 Praise, my soul, the God who crowns you**

**1. Praise, my soul, the God who crowns you,  
crowns with mercy all your days;  
bless the God whose good surrounds you,  
rescues, heals, forgives, reclaims.**

**Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
all within me, bless and praise.**

**2. Praise God's mighty works of justice,  
for, as far as east from west,  
God removes transgression from us  
and restores the sore oppressed.**

**Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
may the Holy One be blest!**

**3. Praise the Lord in highest heavens,  
mighty ones who do God's will;  
angels, cry through all dominions,  
God is sovereign over all.**

**Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
praise your Maker, O my soul.**

**4. Mortal days are few in number;  
soon our place is known no more.  
God eternal will remember,  
and the faithful will restore.**

**Hallelujah, hallelujah,  
children's children will adore.**

## **Prayer of Confession (*congregation*)**

**God of justice and generosity, we trust that all life flows  
from your hand, yet we confess we often worry about  
how much life costs us. We like to have much more  
than enough, and we hesitate to share. Forgive us when  
our hearts long for the security of this world, not the  
security of your love.**

**- 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 49:1-12 p. 498 NT & Psalms**

<sup>1</sup>Listen to this, all you people!

Pay attention, everyone in the world!

**<sup>2</sup>High and low,  
rich and poor—listen!**

<sup>3</sup>For my words are wise,  
and my thoughts are filled with insight.

**<sup>4</sup>I listen carefully to many proverbs  
and solve riddles with inspiration from a harp.**

<sup>5</sup>Why should I fear when trouble comes,  
when enemies surround me?

**<sup>6</sup>They trust in their wealth  
and boast of great riches.**

<sup>7</sup>Yet they cannot redeem themselves from death  
by paying a ransom to God.

**<sup>8</sup>Redemption does not come so easily,  
for no one can ever pay enough**

<sup>9</sup>to live forever  
and never see the grave.

**<sup>10</sup>Those who are wise must finally die,  
just like the foolish and senseless,  
leaving all their wealth behind.**

<sup>11</sup>The grave is their eternal home,  
where they will stay forever.

They may name their estates after themselves,

**<sup>12</sup>but their fame will not last.  
They will die, just like animals.**

New Living Translation (NLT)

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## **Scripture Lessons**

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23 p. 539 pew Bible

Colossians 3:1-11 p. 349 NT & Psalms

Luke 12:13-21 p. 130 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

***People: Thanks be to God!***

**Sermon** What to do with “stuff” and what is “stuff” anyway?

**Prayers of the People** (*minister*)

**Prayer of Dedication** (*congregation*)

**Abundant God, we bring you our gifts in gratitude for  
your generosity. Bless and multiply these gifts in Jesus’  
name, so that they can spread your goodness in the**

world and touch lives of those in need, for Christ's sake.  
Amen.

## Hymn 193 Out of my bondage, sorrow and night

1. Out of my bondage, sorrow and night,  
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;  
into thy freedom, gladness and light,  
Jesus, I come to thee;  
out of my sickness into thy health,  
out of my want and into thy wealth,  
out of my sin and into thyself,  
Jesus, I come to thee.

2. Out of my shameful failure and loss,  
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;  
into the glorious gain of thy cross,  
Jesus, I come to thee.  
out of earth's sorrows into thy balm,  
out of life's storms and into thy calm,  
out of distress to jubilant psalm,  
Jesus, I come to thee.

3. Out of unrest and arrogant pride,  
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;  
into thy blessed will to abide,  
Jesus, I come to thee;  
out of myself to dwell in thy love,  
out of despair into raptures above,  
upward for aye on wings like a dove,  
Jesus, I come to thee.

4. Out of the fear and dread of the tomb,  
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come;  
into the joy and light of thy home,  
Jesus, I come to thee;  
out of the depths of ruin untold,  
into the peace of thy sheltering fold,  
ever thy glorious face to behold,  
Jesus, I come to 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**