**St. Mark's Presbyterian Church**
**Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost – November 15, 2026**

## Land Acknowledgement

I acknowledge we are worshipping on the territories included in Treaties 4, 6, and 7 the traditional homelands of the Cree, Ojibwe, Saulteaux, Dakota, Nakota, Lakota, Assiniboine, Kanai (Blood), Siksika (Blackfoot), Piikani (Peigan), Nakoda (Stoney) and Tsuu T'ina (sarcee) and the traditional homeland of the Métis Nations

## Responsive Call to Worship

God of all times and places, we gather to worship you.

**We turn our eyes to you and rejoice in your presence.**

God of all gifts and blessings, we gather to sing your praise.

**We turn our eyes to you and marvel at your power and your promise.**

God of all might and mercy, we gather to learn how to follow your Son.

**We turn our eyes to you and seek the way you have set before us in Christ.**

## Hymn 81 Unto the hills around

**1. Unto the hills around do I lift up**
**my longing eyes:**
**oh whence for me shall my salvation come,**
**from whence arise?**
**From God the Lord doth come my certain aid,**
**from God the Lord who heaven and earth hath made.**

**2. He will not suffer that thy foot be moved:**
**safe shalt thou be.**
**No careless slumber shall his eyelids close,**
**who keepeth thee.**
**Behold, he sleepeth not, he slumbereth ne'er,**
**who keepeth Israel in his holy care.**

**3. Jehovah is himself thy keeper true,**
**thy changeless shade;**
**Jehovah thy defence on thy right hand**
**himself hath made,**
**and thee no sun by day shall ever smite;**

**no moon shall harm thee in the silent night.**

**4. From every evil shall he keep thy soul,**
**from every sin:**
**Jehovah shall preserve thy going out,**
**thy coming in.**
**Above thee watching, he whom we adore**
**shall keep thee henceforth, yea, forevermore.**

## Prayer of Praise *(minister)*

## Hymn 461 Be thou my vision

**1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;**
**naught be all else to me, save that thou art.**
**Thou my best thought, by day or by night,**
**waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**2. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;**
**I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;**
**thou my great Father, thine own may I be,**
**thou in me dwelling and I one with thee.**

**3. Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight.**
**be thou my armour, and be thou my might**
**thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower,**
**raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.**

**4. Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise;**
**thou mine inheritance, through all my days;**
**thou and thou only, first in my heart,**
**high King of heaven, my treasure thou art!**

**5. High King of heaven, when the battle is won**
**grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heaven's Sun!**
**heart of my own heart, whatever befall,**
**still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

## Prayer of Confession (*congregation*)

**Trusting God, you placed your mission in our hands and gave us gifts to accomplish amazing things in Jesus' name. We confess sometimes we've taken credit for what your love has done. Sometimes we've called our own desires your will. Sometimes we've stepped back**

**and let others carry responsibilities. Forgive us when we've failed to honour your trust in 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.**

## Assurance of Pardon *(minister)*

## Hymn 767 Lord, speak to me

**1. Lord, speak to me, that I may speak**
**in living echoes of your tone;**
**as you have sought, so let me seek**
**your erring children lost and lone.**

**2. Oh lead me, Lord, that I may lead**
**the wandering and the wavering feet;**
**oh feed me, Lord, that I may feed**
**your hungering ones with manna sweet.**

**3. Oh teach me, Lord, that I may teach**
**the precious truths that you impart,**
**and wing my words, that they may reach**
**the hidden depths of many a heart.**

**4. Oh fill me with your fullness, Lord,**
**until my heart shall overflow**
**in kindling thought and glowing word,**
**your love to tell, your praise to show.**

**5. Oh use me, Lord, use even me**
**just as you will, and when, and where,**
**until at last your face I see,**
**your rest, your joy, your glory share.**

## Responsive Reading Psalm 123 p. 575 NT & Psalms

[1]I lift my eyes to you,
O God, enthroned in heaven.
**[2]We keep looking to the Lord our God for his mercy,
just as servants keep their eyes on their master,
as a slave girl watches her mistress for the slightest signal.**
[3]Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy,
for we have had our fill of contempt.
**[4]We have had more than our fill of the scoffing of the proud
and the contempt of the arrogant.**

New Living Translation (NLT)
*Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation

## Scripture Lessons

| | |
|---|---|
| Judges 4:1-7 | p. 192 pew Bible |
| 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 | p. 355 New Testament & Psalms |
| Matthew 25:14-30 | p. 50 New Testament & Psalms |

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.
***People: Thanks be to God!***

## Sermon The future is coming . . . no matter what

## Prayers of the People *(minister)*

## Prayer of Dedication (*congregation*)

**Faithful God, we offer humble thanks today for your generosity to us through the Church that bears Christ's name. Receive our gifts as tokens of our love and loyalty. Use them to sustain the mission of the Church in ways we cannot yet imagine, in a future that you are creating through Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen.**

## Hymn 490 God of grace and God of glory

**1. God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown the ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

**2. Lo! the hosts of evil round us,
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!**

**From the fears that long have bound us,**
**free our hearts to love and praise.**
**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,**
**for the living of these days,**
**for the living of these days.**

**3. Cure thy children's warring madness,**
**bend our pride to thy control;**
**shame our wanton, selfish gladness,**
**rich in things and poor in soul.**
**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,**
**lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,**
**lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.**

**4. Set our feet on lofty places;**
**gird our lives that they may be**
**armoured with all Christlike graces,**
**pledged to set all captives free.**
**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,**
**that we fail not them nor thee,**
**that we fail not them nor thee!**

**5. Save us from weak resignation**
**to the evils we deplore;**
**let the search for thy salvation**
**be our glory evermore.**
**Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,**
**serving thee whom we adore,**
**serving thee whom we adore.**

## 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

## Postlude