



“So the last will be first, and the first will be last”

9/24/2023

**St. Mark Lutheran Church**  
**Office Phone: 419-691-3597**  
**FAX: 419-691-8952**

**611 Woodville Road**  
**Toledo, Ohio 43605**  
**Website: StMarkToledo.com**

Traditional Worship: 8:30 am  
Contemporary Worship: 10:30 am  
Pastor: Beth Giller

Youth & Family Life Director: Emily Hemminger  
Music Director: Cheryl Dunlap  
President: Tom Ritter

Pastoral Care: Cindy Ritter  
Organist: Kim Fletcher  
Vice President: Andrew English

**WELCOME TO ST. MARK!** If you are a visitor please worship with us again. Please send us an email if you are a guest, or need to update your information or you need assistance to [smlc.office@yahoo.com](mailto:smlc.office@yahoo.com). We also want to know if there have been any changes to your address or phone number, you can call the office or email with the new information.

Upon entrance to the lobby from the parking lot, **AN ELEVATOR** is located down the corridor immediately to the right. It will take you to the sanctuary. **ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES** are available from an usher.

**IF YOU ARE HOSPITALIZED** please have someone call the church as we are not notified by the hospital.

**SIMPLY GIVING** provides an automated way for your commitment to St. Mark to be carried out. Your offering through Simply Giving can be withdrawn weekly, semi-monthly, monthly or any number of ways. Forms can be found at the Welcome Center, or through the church office, or by visiting [www.stmarktoledo.com](http://www.stmarktoledo.com) and clicking on “Give” at the top of the page.

**10:30 AM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE**  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

September 24, 2023

*(Lyrics & liturgy will be available on the  
screen or at the page numbers listed below)*

**Prelude**

**Announcements**

**Opening Song** – “Here I Am to Worship” *page 7*

**Confession And Forgiveness** *page 1*

**Prayer Of the Day** *page 3*

**Children’s Sermon**

**Song** – “Amazing Grace/ My Chains Are Gone” *page 8*

**Scripture** – *starts on page 3*

**Sermon** – Emily Hemminger

**Offering** – “Gratitude” *page 8*

**Prayers & Lord’s Prayer** *page 6*

**Closing Song** – “10,000 Reasons” *page 9*

**Benediction**

**Dismissal**

**Postlude**

## 8:30 AM TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE

SEVENTEENTH DAY OF PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #824 – “THIS IS MY FATHER’S WORLD”

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be God,  
the one who forms us,  
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility,  
confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.**  
**We are overwhelmed  
by the world’s violence and suffering.  
We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.**  
**For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.**  
**For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.**  
**For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**  
**Lead us back to you  
and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**  
**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,  
God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.  
God's compassion is beyond compare.  
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.  
In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.  
**Amen.**

## **GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
**And also with you.**

## **KYRIE** (*Sung responsively. Music on p. 147 in front of hymnal*)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above,  
and for our salvation,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of God,  
and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house,  
and for all who offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **CANTICLE OF PRAISE** (*Music on p. 148 in hymnal*)

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you,  
we give you thanks,**

**we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

The first reading is from Jonah chapter 3, verse 10, & chapter 4, verses 1-11.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

<sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” <sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

<sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

<sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

The word of the Lord.

*The assembly responds:*

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 145:1-8** (*Read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my <sup>1</sup> God and king,  
and bless your name forev- <sup>1</sup> er and ever.

<sup>2</sup>**Every day <sup>1</sup> will I bless you  
and praise your name forev- <sup>1</sup> er and ever.**

<sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD and greatly <sup>1</sup> to be praised!  
There is no end <sup>1</sup> to your greatness.

<sup>4</sup>**One generation shall praise your works <sup>1</sup> to another  
and shall de- <sup>1</sup> clare your power.**

<sup>5</sup>I will speak of the glorious splendor <sup>1</sup> of your majesty  
and all your <sup>1</sup> marvelous works.

<sup>6</sup>**They shall tell of the might of your <sup>1</sup> wondrous acts,  
and I will re- <sup>1</sup> count your greatness.**

<sup>7</sup>They shall publish the remembrance of <sup>1</sup> your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully <sup>1</sup> of your righteousness.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD is gracious and full <sup>1</sup> of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in <sup>1</sup> steadfast love.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (*Music on p. 151 of hymnal*)

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia.**

The holy gospel according to Matthew chapter 20, verses 1-16.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**EMILY HEMMINGER**

**HYMN #588 – “THERE’S A WIDENESS IN GOD’S MERCY”**



## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **OFFERING**

### **PRAYERS**

**P. Lord, in your mercy,  
C. Hear our prayer.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

## HYMN #618 – “GUIDE ME EVER, GREAT REDEEMER”

## POSTLUDE

## LYRICS

### HERE I AM TO WORSHIP

Words and music by Tim Hughes © Thankyou Music CCLI license #1526594

#### Chorus

*Here I am to worship  
Here I am to bow down,  
Here I am to say that You're my God,  
You're altogether lovely,  
Altogether worthy,  
Altogether wonderful to me (repeat)*

#### Verse 1

Light of the world  
You stepped down into darkness  
Opened my eyes let me see  
Beauty that made this heart adore You  
Hope of a life spent with You (repeat  
chorus)

#### Verse 2

King of all days,  
Oh so highly exalted,  
Glorious in heaven above  
Humbly You came to the earth You  
created,  
All for love's sake became poor.  
(repeat chorus)

#### Bridge

And I'll never know how much it cost  
to see my sin upon that cross (repeat)

*(Chorus and repeat chorus)*

## AMAZING GRACE / MY CHAINS ARE GONE

Chris Tomlin

### Verse 1

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
That saved a wretch like me  
I once was lost, but now I'm found  
Was blind, but now I see

### Verse 2

'Twas grace that taught my heart to  
fear  
And grace my fears relieved  
How precious did that grace appear  
The hour I first believed

### Chorus

*My chains are gone, I've been set free  
My God, my Savior has ransomed me  
And like a flood His mercy reigns  
Unending love, amazing grace*

### Verse 3

The Lord has promised good to me  
His word my hope secures  
He will my shield and portion be  
As long as life endures

### Chorus 2 x's

### Verse 4

The earth shall soon dissolve like  
snow  
The sun forbear to shine  
But God who called me here below  
Will be forever mine  
Will be forever mine  
You are forever mine

## GRATITUDE

Brandon Lake

### Verse 1

All my words fall short  
I got nothing new  
How could I express  
All my gratitude

### Verse 2

I could sing these songs  
As I often do  
But every song must end  
And You never do

### Chorus

*So I throw up my hands*

*And praise You again and again  
'Cause all that I have is a hallelujah,  
hallelujah  
And I know it's not much  
But I've nothing else fit for a king  
Except for a heart singing hallelujah  
Hallelujah*

### Verse 3

I've got one response  
I've got just one move  
With my arms stretched wide  
I will worship You

## Bridge

Come on my soul

Oh don't you get shy on me

Lift up your song

Cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs

Get up and praise the Lord

## Chorus

## **10,000 REASONS**

CCLI Song # 6016351 Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

## Chorus

*Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul*

*Worship His holy name*

*Sing like never before O my soul*

*I'll worship Your holy name*

## Verse 1

The sun comes up it's a new day  
dawning

It's time to sing Your song again

Whatever may pass and whatever lies  
before me

Let me be singing when the evening  
comes

## Verse 2

You're rich in love and You're slow to  
anger

Your name is great and Your heart is  
kind

For all Your goodness I will keep on  
singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to  
find

## Verse 3

And on that day when my strength is  
failing

The end draws near and my time has  
come

Still my soul will sing Your praise  
unending

Ten thousand years and then  
forevermore

## Tag

Worship Your holy name

Lord I'll worship Your holy name

## Ending

Sing like never before O my soul

I'll worship Your holy name

Worship Your holy name

Worship Your holy name

**LECTOR** (8:30 Service) – Dianna Reamsnyder

**ALTAR FLOWERS** – are given to the glory of God in memory of the birthday of Paul Frantz (Denise Hahn’s father) on September 25<sup>th</sup> by Fred & Denise Hahn.

**IT’S TIME FOR OUR NEW DIRECTORY!** – We haven’t had a church photo directory in a while, and we are excited to announce that we are preparing for our new one! We will soon be setting up a sign-up table in the lobby for you to schedule your photo session time slot. Photos will be taken on Thurs. Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> 2 - 8:30 pm, Fri. Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 2 - 8:30 pm, and Sat. Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> 10 am - 4 pm. There is also an online scheduling option available! To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com), click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **oh2684** the Church Code field and enter **photos** in the photos Password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family’s appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time. Call the church office if you have any questions (419) 691-3597.

**LITTLE FREE LIBRARY** – St. Mark is getting a Little Free Library for neighborhood kids and adults to utilize in closer proximity than the closest public library! It will be placed outside near the big tree. If you are willing to help us build a collection of new or gently used books to fill the library (a large mailbox sized area) there are a few ways to help. 1) bring in books and give to Sam English (or Andrew) - think all reading abilities and levels from birth-teen, 2) bring monetary donations to Sam or Andrew to go toward purchasing books, 3) visit Amazon.com and search “registries and gift lists” using the name Samantha English and find the one labeled “St Mark Little Library” to purchase from a small wish list. Email or talk to Sam with questions! Thanks! [Sam.english1105@gmail.com](mailto:Sam.english1105@gmail.com)

**BOOK STUDY** – On Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, we began a 5-week session on “The Book of Forgiving” by Desmond & Mpho Tutu. It is written for those who need forgiveness, whether they want to forgive or to be forgiven. In person sessions will be held in the ladies lounge at 9:30 am. Evening online ZOOM sessions will be held at 7:11pm. Anyone who is interested in attending please call the church office to sign up (419) 691-3597 or email Pastor Cindy to sign up [PastorCindyRitterToledo@Gmail.com](mailto:PastorCindyRitterToledo@Gmail.com).

**FOOD PANTRY** – We are currently looking for boxes of macaroni and cheese, if you can help, please place them in the pantry bins by the welcome desk. Thank you!



### “Dying Well” Adult Class

We all have to face the inevitable, so how prepared are you? This six-week class will focus on legal, financial and spiritual preparation. Each class will be offered on Sunday morning from 9:30 – 10:20 a.m. in the Brotherhood Room, and then repeated on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 in the St. Mark Lounge.

Sun. Sep. 24/Tues. Sep. 26      Hospice Care: End of Life Concerns

Led by Larry Oberdorf, Jr. Larry is a hospice chaplain with Elara Caring Hospice

Sun. Oct. 1/Tues. Oct. 3      Planning and Legacy: Forms Review, Notarization

Sun. Oct. 8/Tues. Oct. 10      The Funeral Home: What to Expect

Led by Jason Fletcher, Licensed Funeral Director at Eggleston-Meinert-Pavley Funeral Home.

Sun. Oct. 15/Tues. Oct. 17      The Grieving Process and Talking to Kids about Death

Led by Laura Merrithew, Co-Founder of Donna’s Village Grief Community

Sun. Oct. 22/Tues. Oct. 24      Financial Considerations for the End of Life

Led by Brent Shimman, Financial Adviser and Co-Founder of S and D Capital

**At St. Mark, we glorify Jesus Christ when we KNOW, LIVE,  
and SHARE the Word.**

**We KNOW the Word through study of the Bible, worship, and developing and  
nurturing relationships with Jesus and others.**

**We LIVE the Word through prayer, perseverance,  
and the power of the Spirit.**

**We SHARE the Word by boldly crossing boundaries, welcoming all.**