THE GOSPEL AND Disney FROZEN

AUGUST 9, 2026

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

611 Woodville Road Toledo, OH 43605
Office: 419-691-3597
StMarkToledo.com

Summer Worship – One service on Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Pastor: Beth Giller
Youth & Family Director: Emily Hemminger
Organist: Kim Fletcher
Pastoral Care: Cindy Ritter
Choir Director: Cheryl Dunlap
Council President: Diane Lorenzen

WELCOME! 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! If you are a visitor and would like to be more involved with St. Mark's ministry or would like more information, please send us an email at Smlc.Office@Yahoo.com, or call the office at (419) 691-3597. Thank you for worshiping with us!

CONTRIBUTE – We've seen the people of St. Mark band together to help each other and to reach out intentionally to our East Toledo community. If you feel led to support the mission of St. Mark, we encourage you to use our secure eGiving tools to make your offering. To learn more, visit **www.StMarkToledo.com** and look for the "Give" option at the top of the page, or use the QR code on the back of this bulletin. The ***"Still Ringing the Bell"*** Capital Campaign has received commitments of $763,995 with $724,009 cash received as of Friday, August 7th. This is an extraordinary response to God's grace and a powerful statement of the congregation's commitment!

KEEP IN TOUCH – Please remember to keep the church office informed of any hospitalizations or address/status changes so we can stay connected and updated.
Call (419) 691-3597 or email us at Smlc.Office@Yahoo.com.

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **AUGUST 9, 2026**

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELW HYMN #641 – "ALL ARE WELCOME"

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 the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.
Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.
Restore us to dwell in your peace.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.
Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we thank you for your sacrificial and steadfast love. Pour into our hearts such love for you that it overflows into the lives of our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOODNESS OF GOD

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Verse 1
I love You Lord, Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up, Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus
All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

Verse 2
I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire
In darkest night You are close like no other
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Bridge
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after, It's running after me

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 53:1-6

[1] Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? [2] For he grew up before him like a young plant and like a root out of dry ground; he

had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. [3] He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity, and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. [4] Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases, yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. [5] But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. [6] All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:1-8 (Read responsively)

[1] Praise the Lord, my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.
[2] Praise the Lord, my soul,
and forget not all his benefits—
[3] who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,
[4] who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,
[5] who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
[6] The Lord works righteousness
and justice for all the oppressed.
[7] He made known his ways to Moses,
his deeds to the people of Israel:
[8] The Lord is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.

SECOND READING: 1 JOHN 4:7-12, 16b-21

[7] Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. [8] Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. [9] This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. [10] This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. [11] Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. [12] No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

16b God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. 17 This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. 18 There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. 21 And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: JOHN 15:9-17

Glory to you, O Lord.

9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

12 "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants[d] any longer, because the servant[e] does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE **EMILY HEMMINGER**

OFFERING

RECKLESS LOVE

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Verse 1
Before I spoke a word
You were singing over me
You have been so so good to me
Before I took a breath
You breathed Your life in me
You have been so so kind to me

Chorus
(And) O the overwhelming
never-ending reckless Love of God
O it chases me down fights 'til I'm found
Leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it
Still You give Yourself away
O the overwhelming never-ending reckless
Love of God yeah

Verse 2
When I was Your foe still
Your love fought for me
You have been so so good to me
When I felt no worth You paid it all for me
You have been so so kind to me

Bridge
There's no shadow
You won't light up
Mountain You won't climb up
Coming after me
There's no wall
You won't kick down
Lie You won't tear down
Coming after me

PRAYERS

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.

ELW HYMN #631 – "LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING"

POSTLUDE

LECTOR – Jan Tipton

ALTAR FLOWERS – Are given to the glory of God in memory of the 90th heavenly birthday of Glen Hamilton by his family.

KID'S NIGHT – Our next Kid's Night event will take place this Wednesday, **August 12th** from 3:30 pm - 6 pm. Kid's Night is for PreK-8th grade. We provide fun activities, homework help, and dinner. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office.

NEIGHBORHOOD DINNER EVENT – Our next Neighborhood Dinner event will take place on Wednesday, **August 26th** at 5 pm, doors open at 4 pm. We are always in need of volunteers, a sign-up sheet is in the lobby on the bulletin board.

JUNE INCOME & EXPENSE

General: $37,006 *(May $44,015)*
Dedicated: $18,020 *(May $11,174)*
Capital Campaign: $22,320 *(May $19,481)*
Expenses: $37,451 *(May $40,455)*

Week of 8/2/26 – 8/7/26

Weekly amount needed to meet annual budget.....	*$8,293*
General Fund Giving.....	$5,600
Dedicated Funds Giving.....	$1,545
Capital Campaign Giving.....	$904
Total.....	$8,049

"*General Fund" contributions are used for everyday church expenses.*

"Dedicated Funds" contributions that are directed to specific ministry areas and can only be used for those areas.