THE GOSPEL AND Disney's Lilo & Stitch

SEPTEMBER 6, 2026

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

611 Woodville Road Toledo, OH 43605
Office: 419-691-3597 **StMarkToledo.com**
Office hours: Mondays & Fridays **1 p.m. – 4 p.m.**
Tuesday through Thursday **9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

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

Fall Worship begins September 13th with two services:
Traditional Service at 8:30 a.m. Praise & Worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor: Beth Giller
Youth Director: Emily Hemminger
Council President: Diane Lorenzen

Pastoral Care: Cindy Ritter
Choir Director: Cheryl Dunlap
Organist: Kim Fletcher

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 $727,082 cash received as of Friday, September 4th. 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.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST **SEPTEMBER 6, 2026**

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOOD GOOD FATHER

Words and music by Anthony Brown, Pat Barrett © Capitol CMG Paragon CCLI license #1526594

Verse 1
Oh I've heard a thousand stories,
of what they think You're like
but I've heard the tender whisper,
of love in the dead of night
and You tell me that You're pleased,
and that I'm never alone

Chorus
You're a good good Father,
it's who You are,
it's who You are,
it's who You are

And I'm loved by You,
it's who I am,
it's who I am,
it's who I am

Verse 2
Oh and I've seen many searching
for answers far and wide
but I've known we're all searching
for answers only You provide
'cause You know just what we need,
before we say a word

Chorus

Bridge
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
to us

Verse 3
Oh this love so undeniable,
I, I can hardly speak
peace so unexplainable,
I, I can hardly think

As You call me deeper still,
as You call me deeper still
as You call me deeper still into love,
love, love

Chorus 2 x's

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 Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

ELW HYMN #658 – "O JESUS, JOY OF LOVING HEARTS"

FIRST READING: EZEKIEL 33:7-11

7 So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word
from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. 8 If I say to the wicked, "O wicked
ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways,
the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. 9 But if you
warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall
die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

10 Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and
our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" 11 Say to
them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the
wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will
you die, O house of Israel?

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:33-40 (Read responsively)

33 Teach me, O LORD, the way | of your statutes,
and I shall keep it | to the end.
34 **Give me understanding, and I shall | keep your teaching;**
I shall keep it with | all my heart.
35 Lead me in the path of | your commandments,
for that is | my desire.
36 **Incline my heart to | your decrees**
and not to | unjust gain.
37 Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;
give me life | in your way.
38 **Fulfill your promise | to your servant,**
which is for | those who fear you.
39 Turn away the reproach | that I dread,
because your judg- | ments are good.
40 **Behold, I long for | your commandments;**
by your righteousness en- | liven me.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 13:8-14

[8] Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled
the law. [9] The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you
shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this
word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." [10] Love does no wrong to a neighbor;
therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

[11] Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake
from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; [12] the night is far
gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of
light; [13] let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex
and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. [14] Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and
make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 18:15-20

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] [15] "If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the
fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. [16] But if
you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be
confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. [17] If that person refuses to listen to them,
tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to
you as a gentile and a tax collector. [18] Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be
bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. [19] Again, truly I
tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my
Father in heaven. [20] For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

The gospel of the Lord.

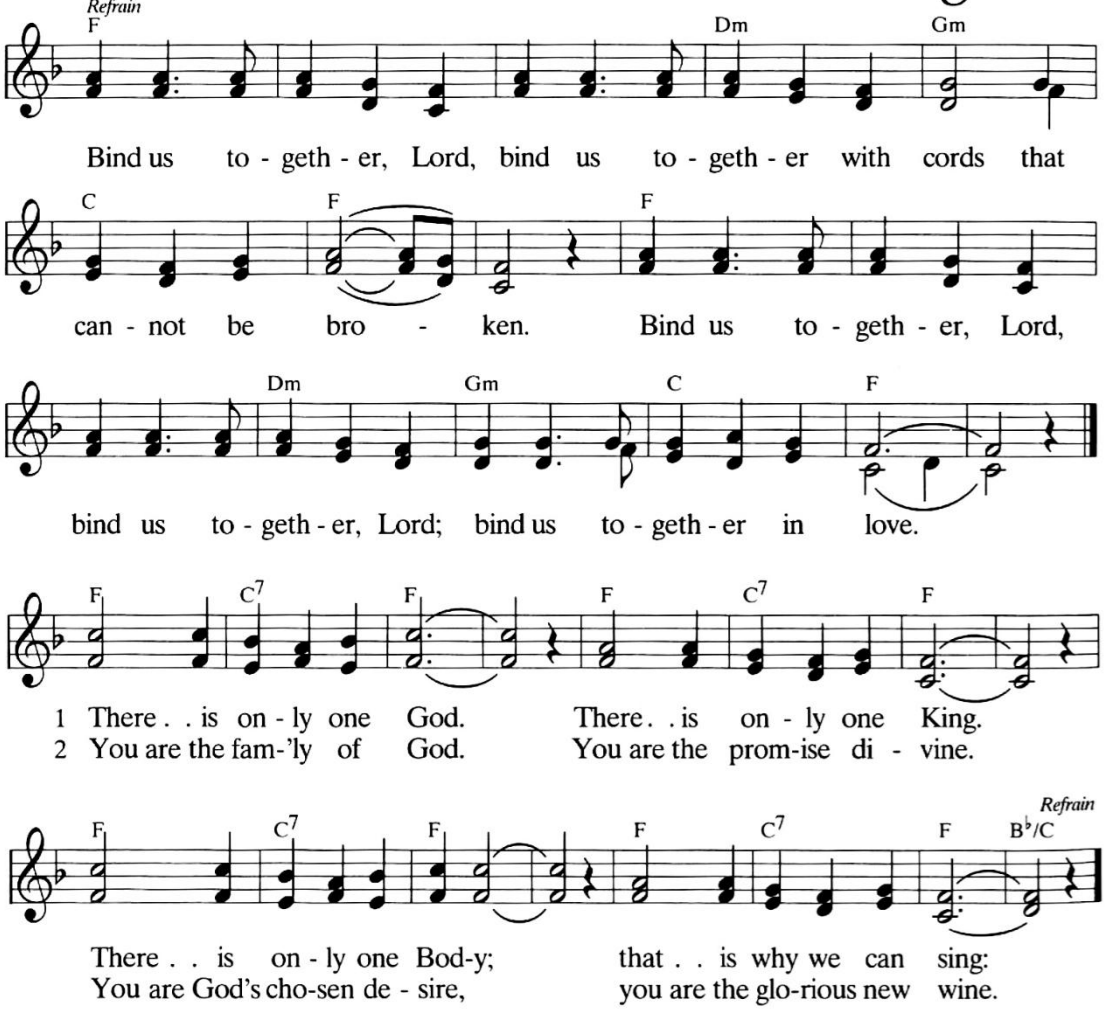
Praise to you, O Christ.

MESSAGE **EMILY HEMMINGER**

OFFERING

748 Bind Us Together

Text: Bob Gillman, b. 1946
Music: Bob Gillman, b. 1946
© 1977 Thankyou Music, admin. (in Western Hemisphere) Integrity's Hosanna! Music



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.

HOUSE OF THE LORD

Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham CCLI Song #7168995 © Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Phil Wickham Music

Verse 1
We worship the God who was
We worship the God who is
We worship the God who evermore will be
He opened the prison doors
He parted the raging sea
My God He holds the victory yeah

Chorus
There's joy in the house of the Lord
There's joy in the house of the Lord today
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise
There's joy in the house of the Lord
Our God is surely in this place
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise

Interlude 1
Oh oh oh
We shout out Your praise

Verse 2
We sing to the God who heals
We sing to the God who saves
We sing to the God who always makes a way
'Cause He hung up on that cross
Then He rose up from that grave
My God's still rolling stones away

Bridge
('Cause) We were the beggars
Now we're royalty
We were the prisoners
Now we're running free
We are forgiven accepted
Redeemed by His grace
Let the house of the Lord sing praise

Interlude 2
There is joy in this house oh yeah
There is joy there is joy
And we won't be quiet
We're gonna shout out Your praise

Ending
We shout out Your praise
There is joy in this house
There is joy in this house today
We shout out Your praise
We shout out Your praise

POSTLUDE

LECTOR – Reed Reamsnyder

ALTAR FLOWERS – Are given to the glory of God in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Ed & Karen Johansen on September 4th.

KID'S NIGHT – Our next Kid's Night event will take place this Wednesday, **September 9th** from 3:30 p.m. - 6 p.m. 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, **September 30th** 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.

FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE – Next Sunday, **September 13th** we will begin our Fall worship schedule. There will be two services with our Traditional starting at 8:30 a.m., and our Praise and Worship starting at 10:30 a.m.

FOOD PANTRY – We are in need of donations of 1-pound boxes/packages of spaghetti. Please leave them in the bin in the church lobby. Thank you.

NEIGHBORHOOD GIVEAWAY – We are looking for donations of feminine products and toilet paper for the monthly neighborhood dinner giveaway. The St. Mark Free Store is looking for donations of men's clothing such as blue jeans and casual pants, shirts, tennis shoes and boots. No dress clothes please. We also need bedding & pillows, household misc. items, jewelry, purses, lotions and perfumes (more than half full). Items can be dropped off at the church either on Sundays before and after services or during office hours. Thank you!

COMMUNION CONNECTION – Tuesday, October 13th from 5 - 8 p.m. at St. Mark. We are offering our "Communion Connection" instruction to anyone who wishes to learn more about the sacramental gift of Holy Communion. We will look at the Scriptural basis of the sacrament, examine Luther's Small Catechism's definition, and do several interactive, intergenerational activities. This event is open to current fifth graders and ANY adult who wishes to revisit and expand their knowledge of Holy Communion, and younger students whose parents feel that they are ready to receive the sacrament. (All students fifth grade and under should be accompanied by at least one parent or guardian.). Dinner will be provided. The First Communion Welcome rite will be on November 1st at the 10:30 a.m. service. You must RSVP for this event by calling the church office at 419-691-3597 or emailing the office at Smlc.Office@Yahoo.com.

OFFICE CLOSED – The office will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 7th.

OWLS (OLDER WISER LUTHERANS) – Will be meeting for lunch this month at Danny's Café 600 Dixie Highway in Rossford on Thursday, September 17th 11:30 a.m. Please RSVP to Bob or Kathy Agoston or by calling the church office 419-691-3597.

FALL FESTIVAL – On Sunday, October 25th we will host a festival to celebrate the Fall season. Come join us at 12pm in the parking lot for Trunk-or-Treat, a costume parade, delicious food and activities! We invite you to volunteer with set up, clean up, participation and donating bags of candy to help us create a memorable and joyful experience for our church family and surrounding community.

REFIT EXCERCISE GROUP – Refit is back at St. Mark starting September 10th! Classes will be on Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. presenting Refit's "Rev & Flow". Rev & Flow is a low impact exercise with strength building without the pounding stress on your joints through intense movements. Bring a yoga mat and one or two pound dumbbells (optional). First class attendees get in free, then each class after is $5 or choose a $25 punch card for 6 classes.

JULY INCOME & EXPENSE

General: $23,105 *(June $37,006)*
Dedicated: $2,237 *(June $18,020)*
Capital Campaign: $6,499 *(June $22,320)*
Expenses: $29,944 *(June $37,451)*

Week of 8/30/26 – 9/4/26

Weekly amount needed to meet annual budget.....	*$8,293*
General Fund Giving…….	$3,051
Dedicated Funds Giving……...….	$1,748
Capital Campaign Giving.…….....	$657
Total……..	$5,456

"*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.