



ST. MARK'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

August 23, 2026
13th Sunday after Pentecost
Worship Service 9:30 AM

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Jen Beamsley

NURSERY – *is staffed today and is located across from the Children's Clubhouse.*

NURSING NOOK – *A private room for nursing mothers is available on the upper level of the sanctuary to the right of the elevator.*

NOAH'S ARK FOR CHILDREN – *There are books, puzzles, lacing and tracing cards, and weekly activity packets for use during the service for children. Reusable items are returned to the ark at the end of the service.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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.**

GATHERING SONG

"Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord"

Praise Band

GREETING & PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

INVITATION TO CHILDREN'S SERMON & CLUBHOUSE

The Children are invited forward for the Children's Sermon and following children in kindergarten – 6th grade are invited to the Clubhouse with Ms. Shannon.

CHANGE FOR CHARITY COLLECTION – Branches of Washington

FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6

¹ Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug.² Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.

³ For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴ Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples.⁵ I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

⁶ Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM: Psalm 138

Read Responsively.

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

³ When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

Please stand for the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"I Love to Tell the Story"

Hymn #661

**1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings as nothing else would do.**

Refrain

**I love to tell the story; 'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story of Jesus and his love.**

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Jen Beamsley

Please stand as you are able.

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

The ministries of St. Mark's are made possible through the generosity of God's people. If you would like to make an offering today, offering boxes are located at the entrances to the sanctuary near the main aisles. You may also give online at www.stmarkswashington.org.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

"Take My Life That I May Be"

Hymn #583

Refrain

Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

1 Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee. *Refrain*

2 Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use every power thou shalt choose. *Refrain*

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our lives. Help us trust in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good. **Thanks be to God!**

COMMUNION AT HOME & IN THE PEWS

All are welcome to communion, if you need a communion packet, raise your hand and an usher will bring it to you. Children & adults who do not receive Holy Communion are invited forward for a blessing by crossing their arms. If you desire to commune, extend your hand to the pastor.

Then, move to the communion assistant next to the pastor to take a cup of wine (DARK COLOR) or grape juice (LIGHT COLOR). The disposable cups can be thrown away in receptacles.

The congregation may be seated.

COMMUNION SONGS

Praise Band

"Here I am to Worship"

"Remind Me Who I Am"

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING & POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

"What a Friend"

Praise Band

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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CHANGE FOR CHARITY

Branches of Washington
Empowering Growth & Fostering Success
Branches of Washington

Every child deserves to walk into school feeling confident, fueled, and ready to learn. But for many students in Washington, the school day starts with a struggle—lack of basic toiletries, outgrown clothes, or an empty stomach. Branches of Washington, located in Sunnyland, was founded to change that. What started in 2024 as a mission between local churches has grown into a community-wide movement. We don't just provide supplies; we bridge the gap between a child's current circumstances and their future potential.



END OF SUMMER POTLUCK BRUNCH!
AUGUST 23, IMMEDIATELY AFTER WORSHIP!
Bring your favorite brunch dish for all to enjoy!
Table settings and drinks will be provided.