

ST. MARK'S

LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 15, 2026
25TH 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

TEMPLE TALK – LSSI CHRISTMAS GIVING

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy, O God. **Against you, we have sinned. In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt. Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit. Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit. Restore your joy within us. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you. In Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven. By the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

OPENING SONG *"Glorious Day"* 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.**

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All Children are invited forward for the Children's Sermon and following it are invited to the Children's Clubhouse with Ms. Shannon.

THE READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have
anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will
come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden
destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there
will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to
surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not
of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep
awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get
drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate
of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for
wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that
whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another
and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

THE PSALM: Psalm 90:1-12

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

1 Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.
2 **Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were**
born, from age to age you are God.
3 You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."
4 **For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past**
and like a watch in the night;
5 you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:
6 **in the morning it is green and flourishes;**
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
7 For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.
8 **Our iniquities you have set before you,**

and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
9 When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
10 **The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;**
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly
and we are gone.
11 Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?
12 **So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

Please stand for the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Lord.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

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

Jesus said to the disciples: 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and

hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26] But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? [27] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Congregation may be seated.

SERMON Pastor Jen Beamsley

Please stand as you are able.

SONG OF THE DAY *"10,000 Reasons"* Praise Band

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

God, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

PEACE

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

PRESENTATION OF 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.

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING RESPONSE *"Take My Life That I May Be"* Hymn #685

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

2 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.

OFFERING PRAYER

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

The gifts of God for the people of God; **Thanks be to God.**

The congregation may be seated.

COMMUNION AT HOME AND 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.

COMMUNION SONGS

"Beautiful Things"
"Goodness of God"

Please stand as you are able.

POST COMMUNION BLESSING & PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG *"Freedom"* Praise Band

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to serve and love the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

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GIVING TO GROW
A BETTER WORLD
A DEEPER LIFE
A CHURCH ALIVE!

Thank you to everyone who has already made a pledge to support St. Mark's Ministry in 2027.

In early October, members received a packet of information about our Giving to Grow stewardship appeal and an invitation to make a financial commitment for the coming year.

We know many of you are still planning to return your pledge cards, and we are still receiving pledges through the end of the year.

Thank you for being part of this community and for all the ways you support its ministry.

Extra packets are available at the table in the gathering space. Pledges and Ministry Fair cards can be placed in the designated box or turned in to the church office.

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRY GATHERING

Sunday, November 15
10:45 -11:45 am
in Beckwith Hall

Join Pastor Jen for our last gathering this Sunday to learn more about our mission, ministries, and life together. You'll meet others who are exploring St. Mark's, ask questions, and discover how your gifts, experiences, and faith can take root in a community that seeks to follow Jesus together. There is no obligation to become a member by attending. Those who choose to become members will be welcomed during worship on Sunday, November 22.