



ST. MARK'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 12, 2026
7th 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

"This is My Father's World"

Hymn #824

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.**

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The congregation may be seated.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

Shannon Hermanson

All children are invited forward for the Children's Sermon following kids in Kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to join Ms. Shannon in the children's Clubhouse for a portion of the service. Kids will be dismissed back into the Sanctuary following today's sermon.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:10 – 13

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

PSALM: Psalm 65: 9 – 13

Read Responsively.

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water. You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

¹¹ You crown the year with your goodness, and your paths overflow with plenty.

¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1 – 11

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of

the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

Please stand for the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *"I Love to Tell the Story"*

**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.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

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

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!"

¹⁸ "Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no

root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

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

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Dick Hanson

Please stand as you are able.

SONG OF THE DAY

“This Little Light of Mine”

Hymn #677

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 of grace, **hear 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

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

Hymn #674

Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

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

"Here is Bread"

Hymn #433

"Amazing Grace"

Hymn #779

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING & POST COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

Hymn# 857

DISMISSAL

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

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EVANGELISM MEETING

SUNDAY, JULY 12
FOLLOWING WORSHIP
THE CONFERENCE ROOM

Quentin Scherr our Evangelism chair, extends an invitation to the next Evangelism meeting on July 12. They will be discussing and planning future outreach opportunities and Evangelism events. This meeting is open to the entire congregation and will meet in the conference room following service. If you have any question contact Quentin:
Evangelism@stmarkswashington.org