



ST. MARK'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

July 19, 2026
8th 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

"Something Good"

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.**

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

THE CHILDREN'S SERMON

Jill Goldhammer

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: Genesis 28:10-19a

¹⁰ Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹ He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹² And he dreamed that there was a stairway set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring, ¹⁴ and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south, and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵ Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go and will bring you back to this land, for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶ Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!" ¹⁷ And he was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

¹⁸ So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ^{19a} He called that place Bethel.

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

PSALM: Psalm 139: 1-12, 23-24

Read Responsively.

¹ LORD, you have searched me out; O LORD, you have known me.

² **You know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.**

³ You trace my journeys and my resting-places and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ **Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, but you, O LORD, know it altogether.**

⁵ You encompass me, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.**

⁷ Where can I go then from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence?

⁸ **If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.**

⁹ If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
¹⁰ **even there your hand will lead me and your right hand hold me fast.**
¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me, and the light around me turn to night,"
¹² **darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.**
²³ Search me out, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my restless thoughts.
²⁴ **Look well whether there be any wickedness in me
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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 13:24-30, 36-43

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

²⁴ Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

Jill Goldhammer

Please stand as you are able.

SONG OF THE DAY

"One Thing Remains"

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 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 & 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

"Sanctuary"

"Lord, I Need You"

Please stand as you are able.

BLESSING & POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BENEDICTION

SENDING SONG

"The Lord's Prayer"

DISMISSAL

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

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