



St. Mark's since 1848

**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Morning Prayer and Homily
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
September 6, 2020**

Service Participants: The People of God, The Rev. Susan York, The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato, Dr. Gregory Crowell, Nancy Dodge and Gloria Lara

Prelude: Prelude in D Major

J.K.F Fischer

Gathering Hymn: Holy, Holy Holy *Stanzas 1 and 4*

Nicaea

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Welcome

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato

Greeting

Presider: †Blessed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trinity.

People: **And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.**

People: **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid:
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly
love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Presider: Together, let us offer praise to God.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Let us pray:

Grant us, O Lord, to trust in you with all our hearts; for, as you always resist the proud who confide in their own strength, so you never forsake those who make their boast of your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

The Hebrew Scripture

Ezekiel 33:7-11

A reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

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. 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. 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.

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?" 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?

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm Let us meditate on Psalm 119 as it is sung by the cantor.

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 law; *
I shall keep it with all my heart.

35 Make me go 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 watching what is worthless; *
give me life in your ways.

38 Fulfill your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.

39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgments are good.

40 Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.

The Christian Scripture

Romans 13:8-14

A reading from the Letter to the Romans

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. 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, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s People. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn: Christ is made the sure foundation

Westminster Abbey

**Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,
binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever,
and her confidence alone.
All that dedicated city,
dearly loved of God on high,**

**in exultant jubilation
pours perpetual melody;
God the One in Three adoring
in glad hymns eternally.**

**To this temple, where we call thee,
come, O Lord of hosts, today:
with thy wonted loving-kindness
hear thy people as they pray;
and thy fullest benediction
shed within its walls alway.**

**Here vouchsafe to all thy servants
what they ask of thee to gain,
what they gain from thee forever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory
evermore with thee to reign.**

Gospel

Matthew 18:15-20

The Holy Gospel of our Savior, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said, "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. 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. If the member 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. 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. 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. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

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

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Christian Brocato

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Please, pray whichever version of The Lord's Prayer you prefer as it is prayed aloud in Spanish.

Padre nuestro, que estas en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre;
Venga a nosotros tu reino,
Hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo,
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día,
Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden,
No nos deyes caer en la tentación
Y libranos del mal
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria
Por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

Traditional

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemporary

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Prayers of the People

During this Season of Pentecost, we ask God to hear our prayers.

For St. Mark's, the Vestry and all those in Parish leadership, and all that we do to offer ourselves and all we have to bring about the reign of God in our world.

We pray: ***O God, hear us.***

For the President, the Governor and the Mayor. For a fair and just voting and electoral process. For the unemployed and under employed. For an end to racism, gun violence and war.

We pray: ***O God, hear us.***

For Archbishop Justin, Presiding Bishop Michael, The Rt. Rev. Wayne Hougland, Dana, his wife and family, and all who give of themselves for the sake of the Gospel.

We pray: ***O God, hear us.***

For the sick, especially remembering those on our Parish Prayer List found in today's bulletin, those suffering due to the Corona Virus and all those for whom we have promised to pray.

(Pause to add additional prayers either silently or aloud)

We pray: ***O God, hear us.***

For those who have died. We remember those who have died due to the pandemic. May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them.

(Pause to add additional prayers either silently or aloud)

We pray: ***O God, hear us.***

For what else or whom else shall we pray this day?

(Pause to add additional prayers either silently or aloud)

O God, we ask you to hear our prayers, those we have named aloud and those which lie deep within our hearts. **Amen.**

The Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you and all those whom you love. **Amen.**

Announcements

Invitation to Giving

Please, know that your monetary gift is very important to our ministry at St. Mark's. Contributions can be made online at www.stmarksgr.org or by mail. May God bless you for your generosity!

The Offertory – Crown the Altar

H. Purcell

A Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

A Prayer to End Racism

O God, create in us a new mind and heart that will enable us to see brothers and sisters in the faces of those divided by racial categories. Give us the grace and strength to rid ourselves of racial stereotypes that oppress some of us while providing entitlements to others. Help us to create a Church and nation that embrace the hopes and fears of oppressed People of Color where we live, as well as those around the world. Heal your family God and make us one with you in union with our brother Jesus and empowered by your Holy Spirit. Free us from racism, gun violence and brutality of any kind through the power of the Holy Spirit and in the Name of Jesus. **Amen.** <https://spsmw.org/prayer/prayer-dismantling-racism/>

A Prayer for the End of the Pandemic

O God, hear the prayers of your people all over the world who are crying out in need for an end to the virus pandemic. Comfort those in isolation, those who have lost livelihoods, those who are sick and those who may die this day unloved or unattended. Comfort those in mourning, those for whom the virus has brought deep and utter sadness, families, villages, cities and countries. Give strength to those in the rescue and medical professions to keep them safe from harm as they work to bring safety and health to those in need. Give us all a greater sense of connectedness as we strive to be safe from harm and as we await the end of the suffering of millions of people throughout the world. **Amen.**

The Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of the God †who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us be with us now and forever we pray. **Amen.**

Hymn of Sending Forth: All creatures of our God and King

Lasst uns erfreuen

**All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
alleluia, alleluia!**

**Bright burning sun with golden beams,
pale silver moon that gently gleams,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Great rushing wind and breezes soft,
you clouds that ride the heavens aloft,
O praise him, alleluia!**

**Fair rising morn, with praise rejoice,
stars nightly shining, find a voice,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**All you with mercy in your heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing now, alleluia!
All you that pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and cast on him your care,
O praise him, O praise him,
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship him in humbleness,
O praise him, alleluia!
Praise God the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in one,
O praise him, O praise him,**

alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Sending Forth

Let us go forth to love and serve God and all God's people. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

Postlude: Toccata Undicima

G. Frescobaldi

Thank you for being with us today. Please, see the Parish's website at www.stmarksgr.org for information on Parish life and activities, links to our Facebook Page and YouTube Channel, the Calendar and the latest newsletter, eNews, for messages and announcements of the Parish. Join us again next week and for other Services offered Monday through Thursday each week on Facebook. May God bless you on your journey of faith. Thanks, again, for being with us.

Special Announcement: Parishioners are invited to the St. Mark's in the Park day next Sunday at Ada Park from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please, see the information on Facebook and plan to join us for fun, fellowship, worship and bring your own lunch event. The horn section of the Grand Rapids Symphony will be with us at worship. A regular Sunday Morning Prayer with Preaching will be presented on Facebook, the website and YouTube at 10:30 a.m. as usual. Many thanks!



The St. Mark's Prayer List

Prayers are requested:

Jacob Blake
Lynn & Tony Burk
The Casines-Abreu family
Marge Dickinson
Roger Faber
Art Freeman
Judy Freeman
Patricia Hoxie
Kari Ingersoll
Ty Karsen
Barb Kent
Tom Klein
Cathy Mahoney
Len Mahoney
Sarah McIntire & Kate Goebbert
Alissa Monsalvo
Bill Nasser
John Oatley

Aila Olivia
John Ritchey
Jesse Roby
Elise Rossell
Mary Slew
Tom Soehl
Heidi Stoneman
Tom West
Helena and Ken Westrate

Our inbound and semi-inbound parishioners:

Irene Haizman
Jane Jawahir
Earle Slenker
Shari Takus
Margarett Tanase
Jean Zylstra
Sue Allen
Gertrude DeAguire
Nita DeGraaf
John Gracki
Arlene Griffin
Larry Manglitz
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara
Shirley VanDerBos

Those in Military Service

LTC Timothy Brower Sr. USA
LCpl Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC
Maj Todd Murray, USAF
1/Sgt Deidre Piechocki, USA

Prayer for Discernment

Bea Rocco

**St. Mark's Episcopal Church
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