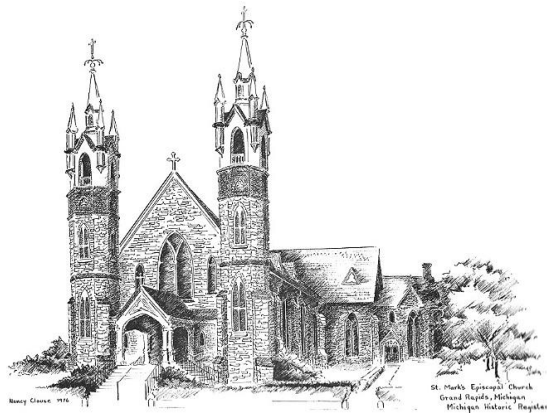


The Ninth Sunday After Pentecost



**August 10, 2025
8:00 and 10:30 a.m.**



St. Mark's Episcopal Church
134 N. Division Ave
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
www.stmarksgar.org
616.456.1684

Welcome to St. Mark's!

... a vibrant community of faith, which has gathered for worship since 1836 and in the current building since 1848. If this is your first visit with us, know that we are delighted you are here. Please introduce yourself and be sure to sign our guest sign-in sheet in the foyer and/or fill-out a Information packed from a welcome folder inside the lobby podium.

Church Office Hours: Monday—Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday— 9 a.m. to noon.

Weather Policy: St. Mark's will post closures to WZZM 13, WOOD TV8, Facebook and our website by 7:00 a.m. or as soon as possible. The decision on afternoon and evening activities will be made separately, posted by noon.

Reserved Accessible Spaces: There are three shorter pews, two in the north transept and one on the north side of the nave. Please only sit there or in the adjoining pews if you have assistive devices or need of extra space.

Safety: The outer doors to the Parish House will be locked fifteen minutes after Services begin with a security guard on duty to be of assistance. Please pay attention to the nearest exit in the Sanctuary. In an emergency, an announcement will be made and children will be ushered to a designated place for safety away from the Church complex.

Parking on Sundays: Limited parking is available in the Parish Lot. If you are able, please consider not parking in the Parish Lot to reserve access for those less mobile. Consider the free metered parking on Pearl, Ionia, Lyon, Fountain and other streets near the church, the Kendall Lot across the street when the gate is up, the upper levels of the GRCC building on Fountain Street (only until 2 p.m.), and the Ellis Parking Lot at 210 Ionia just west of Lyon Street. For the Ellis Lot: vouchers for free parking on Sundays are available from an Usher (must be used with original parking ticket).

Rest Rooms are located on the main level of the Parish House under the exit sign at the top of the Foyer ramp. More rest rooms are available on the second level of the Parish House, if you are able to use the stairs.

Weekly Worship and Prayer at St. Mark's: Eucharist on Sundays at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Midweek Eucharist on Wednesdays at noon from September through May. Compline (Night Prayer) on Mondays at 8:00 p.m. via Facebook.

Sunday School: Currently on a summer break. For more information please contact Jeff Brown, Director of Faith Formation, at jeffb@stmarksgo.org. Children's and youth formation, including Make a Joyful Noise with Mr. Alex, is from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Nursery care for children under kindergarten is available from 9:15 a.m. through the 10:30 a.m. Service.

Youth Ministry: Grand Rapids Episcopal Youth: G.R.E.Y. is a joint youth ministry between St. Mark's and St. Andrew's Episcopal Churches for grades 6-12. We have regular formation gatherings during the school year and service as well as social activities throughout the year. Our Director of Faith Formation is Jeff Brown, jeffatgrey@gmail.com.

Adult Formation Ministry: *Adult Forums* are offered on Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings at different times of the year. *Episcopal 101: An Inquirer's Journey* is offered yearly for adults especially those seeking Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church or to Reaffirm one's faith. A multi-year seminar, *Education for Ministry* (EFM), is offered during the program year: contact Doug Karsen for more information at karsendc@gmail.com.

Breakfast Café Ministry: A program to nourish our neighbors with a hot meal every Saturday at 8:15 a.m.. If you would like more information and to possibly volunteer, please contact Judy Freeman at judyfw@comcast.net.

Land Acknowledgment: St. Mark's recognizes that our property sits on land of the indigenous people of the Three Fires, Anishinaabi, Odawa and Bodéwadmi. It is our privilege to occupy this land while recognizing and acknowledging with sadness the deep wounds that continue to exist and we pray and work for reconciliation.

eNews: For the fullest expression of St. Marks' activities, get the weekly eNews in your email or from our homepage.

Cell Phones: We ask that you silence your cell phone; if you are on call, please turn it to vibrate.

St. Mark's Staff

The Rev. Jedediah "Jed" Fox, Rector
The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon

Pam Stevenson, Finance Manager
Kate Assarian, Administrative Associate
Dr. Gregory Crowell, Director of Music
Jeff Brown, Director of Faith Formation
Alexis VanZalen, Organ Scholar

Mike Armour, Operations Manager
Ronnie Hammond, Sexton
Craig Mosley, Sexton Associate, Video
Marquice Jackson, Weekend Sexton
C, Temporary Weekend Sexton
Jamie Interrial, Security Representative
Eric Gable, Webmaster

The Gathering of the People

Prelude —

Liliana Mahave, violin

Welcome

Gathering Hymn — Blue Hymnal No. 636: How Firm a Foundation

Foundation

Salutation

Presider: Blessed be God: Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Presider: Let us pray:

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.

Gloria

Frank E. White

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, He is the might-y King, mas-ter of
ev'r-y thing. The cap-tain of my soul, the u-ni-verse con-trol, God is the one
true ex-pres-sion of life. He's the cre-a-tor, a great cre-a-tor,
Hea-ven and earth His great-ness pro-claim. The cap-tain of my
soul, the u-ni-verse con-trol, ho-nor and ma-jes-ty se-cond to none.

Collect

Presider: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: Let us pray.

Grant to us, Lord, we pray, the spirit to think and do always those things that are right, that we, who cannot exist without you, may by you be enabled to live according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Reading (*You may sit.*)

Genesis 15:1-6

Lector I: A reading from the Book of Genesis.

The word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir."

But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Lector I: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 33:12-22

Exultate, justi

Lector: Let us pray the Psalm responsively by half verse.

Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! *

happy the people he has chosen to be his own!

The Lord looks down from heaven, *

and beholds all the people in the world.

From where he sits enthroned he turns his gaze *

on all who dwell on the earth.

He fashions all the hearts of them *

and understands all their works.

There is no king that can be saved by a mighty army; *

a strong man is not delivered by his great strength.

The horse is a vain hope for deliverance; *

for all its strength it cannot save.

Behold, the eye of the Lord is upon those who fear him, *

on those who wait upon his love,

To pluck their lives from death, *

and to feed them in time of famine.

Our soul waits for the Lord; *

he is our help and our shield.

Indeed, our heart rejoices in him, *

for in his holy Name we put our trust.

Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be upon us, *

as we have put our trust in you.

The Second Reading

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Lector II: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old — and Sarah herself was barren — because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Lector II: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn — Blue Hymnal 701, vv. 1, 2: Jesus, All my Gladness (*continues below*) *Jesu, meine Freude*

The Gospel

Luke 12:32-40

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: Glory to you, O Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Deacon: The Gospel of Christ.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Hymn (*continued*) — **Blue Hymnal No. 701, v. 3: Jesus, All my Gladness**

Jesu, meine Freude

Homily (*You may sit.*)

The Rev. Jan Gockerman, Deacon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God From God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People (*You may stand.*)

Lector I: We ask God to hear our prayers with our response: O God, hear us. During the periods of silence I invite you to add additional prayers either silently or aloud.

O God: We pray in thanksgiving for all those gathered here today. We pray for St. Mark's and our many ministries. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons: Sean, Presiding Bishop; the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of the Great Lakes; Anne, incoming Assisting Bishop for the diocese; Bonnie and Rayford, Bishops of Michigan and Northern Michigan; Moises, Bishop of the Dominican Republic and Julie, ELCA Bishop-Elect of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod; St. Elizabeth's of Higgins Lake and its Senior Warden, Linda Mires; Grace Church of Ludington and its Rector, Mick Shriver. We remember the Anglican Church of Rwanda. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For the President, Congress, our Governor, our judicial system, our Mayor and for all in authority, that they may be people of justice, integrity and truth. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For the good earth which God has entrusted to us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve it. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For the poor and the oppressed, the unemployed, the homeless, refugees and for all who seek a better way of life. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For those who suffer from any grief or trouble. Give us grace to respond to the needs of those in distress, especially those who suffer because of hatred, racism, bigotry, violence and war. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For our new rector and his family, in this season of new life for our St. Mark's community. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For those who celebrate birthdays or anniversaries this week. Bless them with joy and well-being. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For all those on our Parish Prayer List, our military personnel, the sick, all those for whom we have promised to pray and those we now name silently or aloud. (*Pause to add additional names silently or aloud.*) We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II: For all who have died in the hope of the resurrection. May they rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them. (*Pause to add additional names.*) We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I: For what else or whom else shall we pray today? (*Pause.*) We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Deacon: For all these prayers we have named aloud and those which lie deep within our hearts. We pray: **O God, hear us.**

The Confession of Sin

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All: **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Absolution

Presider: †Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider: May the peace of the Risen Christ be always with you.

People: **And always with you.**

Presider: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Announcements

The Liturgy of the Table

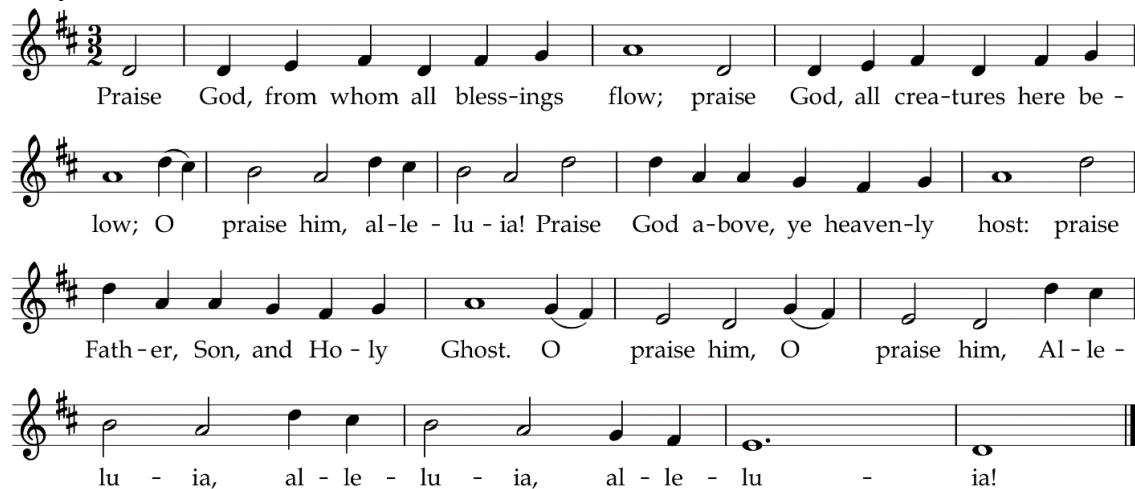
Reception of Gifts

Offertory Music — Panis Angelicus

Cesar Franck

Angie Brown, soprano

Presentation Hymn



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here be -
low; O praise him, al-le - lu - ia! Praise God a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise
Fath-er, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. O praise him, O praise him, Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A (BCP)

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

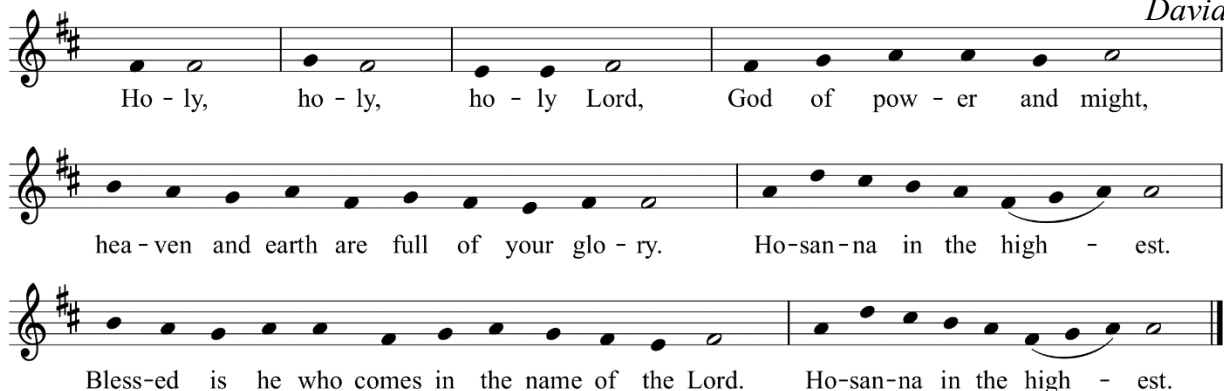
Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty. For you are the source of light and life; you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

David Hurd



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. †Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

†Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Presider: Let us pray the Lord's Prayer in whichever language or version you prefer.

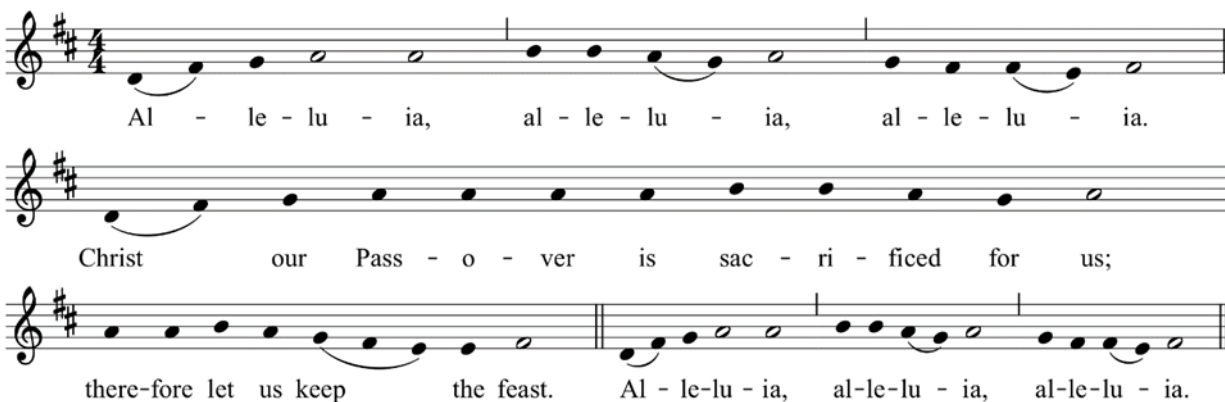
(Traditional) Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. 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 it is 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.

(Spanish) Padre nuestro, que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre; venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy el pan de este día y perdona nuestras deudas, como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores y no nos dejes caer en la tentación mas libranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria por los siglos de los siglos. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread and Reception of the Sacrament

David Hurd



Presider: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

People: Let us take them in remembrance that Christ died for us and feed on him in our hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Instruction for Receiving Holy Communion: *All are invited to receive the Sacrament of the Eucharist. You may receive either the Common cup or by intinction (dipping). Indicate your desire for intinction by hold your host up your host after it has been given to you. You may indicate your desire to drink from the common cup by consuming the host immediately after it is given to you. Gluten-free bread is available upon request. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. Follow the Ushers' direction to the communion rail and fill in from right to left.*

Healing Prayer: *When present in the South Transept, healing ministers offer a brief and simple prayer.*

Communion Music — Fantasie

Dubuisson

Post-Communion Prayer *(You may stand.)*

Presider: Let us pray.

People: Almighty and ever-living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Holy God, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Presider: Go out into God's world filled with the spark of the Holy Spirit. Let love guide your actions. Listen for the Spirit of Truth. Spread the peace of Christ and remind everyone you meet that each one is a beloved child of God. In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Hymn of Sending Forth — Blue Hymnal No. 68: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

Llangloffan

Sending Forth

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude — Toccata

J.J. Froberger

Thank you for being with us today. We are all invited to participate in St. Mark's tradition to remain seated until candles are extinguished and the postlude has ended. Then please join us in the Parish Hall for further fellowship.

The St. Mark's Prayer List

Contact the church office to add names to the prayer list. Names may be removed after one month unless requested.

The Sick and Other Needs

Alissa Almonte
Jayne Austin
Sally Bowie
Christopher Brewer
Ed Cox
Terry Dusendang
Doug Karsen
The family of Shirley Klein
Mike Krushinsky
Margaret Lara
David Leach
The family of Laura Maslonka
Jackie McCarthy
Kerry Morey
Bill Nasser
Ed Nicholson
Rich Oehrl
Joe Pinto
Linda Radke
Chris Reale
Julie Renauldo
Javier Ronquillo
Beverly Roye
Jennifer Ruberto
Dan Sripsema
Meghan VanderMale
Roger York

Sue Allen
Susan Andrews
Nita DeGraaf
John Gracki
Jennifer Julius
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara

In Military Service

B.G. Timothy Brower, Sr. USA
SPC. Cailen W. Donahue-McLea
Spc. Henry Dykema, ARNG
Cpt. Nathan Gaggin, USAF
PFC Kayla Gilardi
Cpt. Charles Lewis, USAF
Col. Todd Murray, USAF
2LT. John Nicholson, USA

Members of the Vestry

Ben Busman, Sr. Warden
Judy Freeman, Jr. Warden
Emily Krueger, Clerk
Gloria Lara, Treasurer
Steve Bell
Scot Gugle
Laura Kozminski
Penny Larsen
Dan McDonald
Carmela McIntire
Rex Miller
Michael Reale

Postulant for Holy Orders

Thon Deng

Offerings and Multiple Ways to Give to St. Mark's

Place check or cash in the offering plate

Electronic giving (email pams@stmarksgr.org)



Vanco Mobile App from any mobile device:

Pay by text – text 616-205-9714 from your phone to send a payment

Mobile App Square Cash – Cashtag: \$stmarksgr Web address: [cash.me/\\$stmarksgr](https://cash.me/$stmarksgr)



Mail a check to the church

Online at our website at www.stmarksgr.org through PayPal

Remember St. Mark's in your estate planning (A brochure is available at the Welcome Desk.)

Gifts or transfer of stock



Church Spotlight: Join us in celebrating our Director of Music Dr. Gregory Crowell! So many of us were drawn to St. Mark's by the outstanding musical offerings, and we've all had our hearts and musical experiences expanded by Sunday Services and the Sacred Sounds series. The Vestry and Parish Life are co-hosting festive Social Hours on his last official Sunday with us on **August 31st**. Donations for a gift "purse" for Greg can be put in the lock box inside the half wall by the front desk, mailed in Attn: Pam, or submitted using Cash App or Paypal. Include "Gift for Greg" on the memo or comment line.

Today!

Video Study Group, Sundays at 9:15 a.m. Meet in the Canterbury Room for "How Jesus Became God."

Blessing of the Backpacks during the 10:30 a.m. Service.

Garden Social Hour, noon: We invite all to enjoy refreshments in St. Mary's Garden next Sunday. A new ramp beyond the Sanctuary soft space will make our gem of a wildlife habitat fully accessible.

Family Park Picnic, 1:00 p.m. We invite families with children or youth to meet at Wilcox Park. Gather yourself some lunch and join! Wilcox Park has a splash pad and plenty of seating for eating! ~ Jeff

Plainsong Farm "Sabbath at the Farm," 4:30 p.m.: All are invited to Plainsong Farm in Rockford for singing, scripture, "Sabbath Slow Down" activities, a potluck dinner (no pressure to contribute) and fellowship.

Parish Notes

Welcome! Guests, please sign the book in the front lobby. Fill out the new parishioner information sheet (in the lobby podium) to get name tags, receive weekly eNews or officially join the St. Mark's Family in Faith.

Experience *Godspell* This Week at St. Andrew's! Support our youth in their fun musical worship event, August 15th at 6:30 p.m. and 16th at 2:00 and 6:30 p.m. No tickets needed. A goodwill offering will take place.

Creation Care Ministry News: We are excited to announce that St. Mark's secured a Bishop Whittemore Foundation grant for two sustainability projects: an energy audit to help us understand our building's energy use and identify energy-saving opportunities — and a project to reduce the amount of waste the church sends to the landfill through composting, recycling and reducing single-use plastics. Stay tuned for more on these exciting initiatives, and contact Steve, steven.mark.mulder@gmail.com, to learn more or get involved.

All Ministries Planning Meeting: Thank you to all ministry Chairs who respond to the email poll by tonight.

Parking Reminder: The Kendall College lot was recently closed for resurfacing. Other free Sunday options are the GRCC parking ramp entrance off Fountain St. and asking an usher to validate the 210 Ionia Ave. Ellis lot.

Congregational Care: St. Mark's Congregational Care team shows love and care in many ways, such as prayer, visits, Eucharistic ministry and meals. If you know anyone (including yourself!) who needs support during times of joy or difficulty, please reach out to the church office or Deacon Jan, jangoc@mac.com. If you are interested in either receiving or helping provide organized meals, email Nancy, Nancy.mulder@gmail.com.

Building Project Groundbreaking: See recent eNews for full message. Excerpt: "Our efforts will broaden very soon into a full congregational campaign. ... Please plan to attend the Monday, September 15th 5:30 p.m. ground-breaking ceremony as we begin the work to make our building accessible. If you would like to know more about the project, please contact one of the co-chairs: Bob Connors, Judy Freeman or Gloria Lara."

Miles for Mel's, September 14th: This Bridge Run event goes beyond a race — it's an opportunity to support neighbors experiencing homelessness and raise funds for Mel Trotter Ministries. Sign up at milesformels.com.

Welcome Back Sunday, September 14th

Groundbreaking Ceremony, Monday, September 15th at 5:30 p.m.

Celebration Sunday and Parish Picnic, September 21st

Church Anniversary Dinner at Kent Country Club, October 19th