

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST PROPER 12

JULY 26, 2026 10:00 AM YEAR A

Welcome

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church! Whether this is your first time or thousandth time in worship with us, we are so glad you are here. St. Mark's is an inclusive community of faith, committed to celebrating God's creative love in all people. Together, we strive to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. You are welcome here—in worship, at the communion table, and in our walk together.

As we prepare our hearts and minds for worship each week, you are invited to find a comfortable space to sit quietly and listen to the prelude. The prelude is the first part of worship, setting the tone for what is to come and helping God's people to unplug from the rhythms of daily life and prepare for a time of worship. We hope this musical offering will resonate in your soul and invite you into our worship practice.

Prelude: "Two Trios"

Joseph Reinberger (1939-1901)

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn 488 "Be thou my vision"

Blue 1982 Hymnal

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the God of all Creation

People ***Whose Spirit renews the face of the earth.***

The Collect for Purity

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.***

Hymn VF 109 “People of God” v. 1 &4

1 Peo - ple of God, ga - ther to - ge - ther, come, let us
4 Wo - men and men, har - mo - ny blend - ing, come, swell the

sing on this glo - rious day. Shout-ing a - broad
cho - rus in lov - ing ac - cord. Rais - ing a - gain

praise to the Mak - er, come and with bo - dy and soul let us pray.
thanks ne-ver end - ing, come to the God who is Wis - dom and Word.

Refrain

Come, let us join in the hea - ven - ly dance,
prais - ing in joy - ous ce - le - bra - tion.

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Presider Together, let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lesson: 1 Kings 3:5-12

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness,

in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 119:129-136 *Mirabilia*

- 129 Your decrees are wonderful; *
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
- 130 When your word goes forth it gives light; *
it gives understanding to the simple.
- 131 I open my mouth and pant; *
I long for your commandments.
- 132 Turn to me in mercy, *
as you always do to those who love your name.
- 133 Steady my footsteps in your word; *
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
- 134 Rescue me from those who oppress me, *
and I will keep your commandments.
- 135 Let your countenance shine upon your servant *
and teach me your statutes.
- 136 My eyes shed streams of tears, *
because people do not keep your law.

The Lesson: Romans 8:26-39

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Sequence Hymn 635 "If thou but trust in God to Guide thee" *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

Presider/Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

The Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with

three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.” “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

*Presider/Deacon
People*

*The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

The Homily

The Rev. Dr. Delaney Schlake-Kruse

Profession of Faith: 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. 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

Leader To God who searches our hearts and gathers us into the kingdom of heaven, even in our weakness, let us offer our prayers for all those in every need, praying, Lord, hear us, ***“Lord, graciously hear us.”***

We pray for the church throughout the world, that we may be led by the Spirit to walk in mercy and justice, remembering that nothing will be able to separate us from the love of God;

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for Delaney and Jerre our clergy, for Chad our Intern Candidate for Holy Orders, and for all the holy People of God;

In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of Trinity Episcopal Church in Hannibal;

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Anglican Church of Tanzania;

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Nuestra Sra. De Guadalupe in Patillas;

We pray for our Jubilee Ministry partner Isaiah 58 Ministries and our outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing;

We give thanks on their birthdays with Maggie Tracy, Mudresh Mehta, Carter Cashen and Melissa Engle. We pray, Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our nation, for all nations, especially for the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Cuba, and the Middle East, and the world’s leaders, that all may strive for mercy, justice, peace, and governance that respects the dignity of every human being; we pray, Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For all victims of violence and their families and loved ones, and for those who live in fear of violence, particularly those in our own city, and for those suffering from weakness of body or spirit; we pray, Lord hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For the poor, the homeless, the neglected, the oppressed, and the despised, that we may reach out to all God's children with the compassion of Christ; we pray, Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need and ask for strength in our trials;

We pray for those on our Parish Prayer list, and those whom we name, either silently or aloud [pause];

We pray for all who struggle with the relentless demands of addiction, that God may strengthen them in their recovery;

For those serving in the armed forces; we pray, Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For our families, friends, and companions, and all those we love; we pray, Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

For those who have departed in eternal rest, and for those who grieve, that light perpetual may shine upon them; we pray, Lord, hear us,

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Presider offers this concluding collect.

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

Confession & Absolution

Presider/Deacon Dear friends in Christ, we have fallen short of the call to us to love God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Therefore, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbors.

Silence is kept for a time.

Presider Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed; By what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
People ***We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.***

Presider For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
People ***That we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.***

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

The Peace *We are a community of reconciliation and peace; therefore, we greet each other with a sign of our desire for peace.*

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

*The Congregation greets one another with the peace of Christ.
Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Prayers*

Children's Time

Presider: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn 615 "Thy kingdom come" on bended knee" *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

The Holy Eucharist II

S 120

Lift up your hearts *Sursum corda*

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "The Lord be with you. And al - so with you." The second staff is for the Celebrant and the People, with the lyrics "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The third staff is for the Celebrant, with the lyrics "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The fourth staff is for the People, with the lyrics "It is right to give him thanks and praise." The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals.

Celebrant *People*
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

Presider and People

“Holy, Holy, Holy Lord” WLP 858

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: American folk melody; arr. Marcia Pruner, harm. Annabel Morris Buchanan (1889-1983). All rights reserved

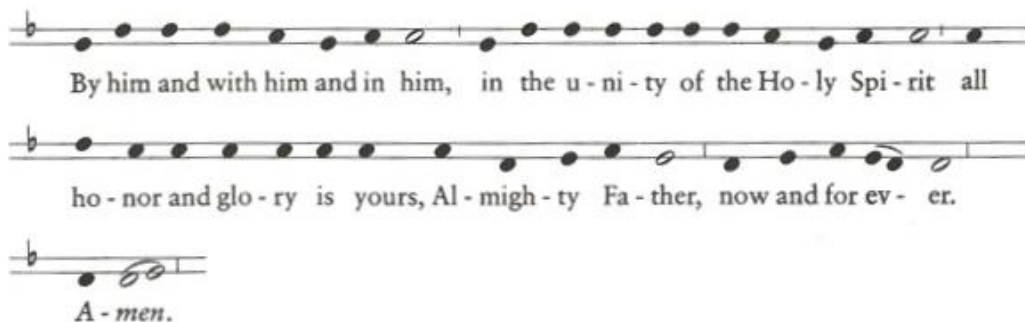
Presider Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.



The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Presider

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Mullgardt

Al- le- lu- ia! We break this bread to

share in the bo- dy of Christ. We who are man- y are one

bod- y For we all share in the one bread.

Robert S. Mullgardt

Al- le- lu- ia!

The Ministration of Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the people of God. So come to this table you who have been here often and you who have not been here in a long time. You who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. You who are full of faith and full of doubt. Come, it is Christ himself who invites you to meet him here.

All who hunger and thirst for God are welcome to receive the Holy Communion at this altar. Gluten free hosts are available. Please let the minister know that you require gluten free.

Communion Hymn 711 “Seek ye first the kingdom of God” *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

Prayer after Communion

Presider Together, let us pray.

God of grace, you renew us at your table with the bread of life and cup of salvation. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you in each other. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen

The Blessing

Presider Holy eternal Majesty, Holy incarnate Word, Holy abiding Spirit, Bless you for evermore. ***Amen.***

Closing Hymn 594 “God of grace and God of glory” *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

Dismissal

Presider/Deacon Our worship is ended. Our service in the world begins. Go into the world to love what God loves. Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude “Gavotte from French Suite #5”

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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Liturgical resources offered by the Diocese of Missouri and the Episcopal Church Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music

ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP

Lector: Scott Thompson *Usher:* Marilyn Wiethop *Greeter:* Ellen Jeffery

Altar Guild: Tom Bradley *Livestream:* Vicki Stegmann *Crucifer:* Sam Barrett

Chalice: Roger Robards/Sam Barrett *Coffee Hour:* Marti Robards

Today we welcome Kim Jungermann as our organist.

Please join us after worship today for a Baby Shower in honor of Carly and Sam Barrett and their upcoming baby.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Isaiah 58 Back to School Donation

With the beginning of a new school year, Isaiah 58 will be distributing 275 backpacks filled with school supplies appropriate for the grade – school supplies that simply would be unaffordable to many families. This year, St. Mark's is collecting 150 YELLOW HIGHLIGHTERS. We have our plastic bin in the parish hall marked to receive your donations. Please bring your donations of YELLOW HIGHLIGHTERS by Sunday, AUGUST 16.

Isaiah 58 is looking for Volunteers

Isaiah 58 is currently looking for volunteers both Ongoing and One-time. Some ongoing opportunities include: Personal Shopper, Wednesday Intake, Thursday Clothing Room. Contact Meredith (meredith@i58ministries.org) for more information and to set up a time to check it out.

Some One-Time opportunities include: Lunch and Learn Chefs and Backpack Distribution. You can sign up for backpack distribution here

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B044EAFA72DA4F49-64263356-isaiah#/>

Coffee Hour

Our next Coffee Hour with Delaney+ is Saturday, August 8th from 10-11:30am at Knead Bakehouse at 3467 Hampton Ave. Come join the fellowship on a special Saturday Coffee Hour.

Reschedule Family Play Date

Due to the weather last weekend, our trip to the Forest Park Nature Playscape has been rescheduled to Saturday, August 15 at 10am! Snacks, sunscreen, and bug spray will be provided.

Trivia Night

Margaret Hvatum and Angela Brinker are hosting a Trivia Night to benefit Blood Cancer United at St Mark's on Saturday, September 26th. Doors will open at 6 pm, and the games begin at 6:30. Tables of 8 are a \$200 donation. There will be a 50/50 raffle, games, and a silent auction. If you want to purchase a table of 8, you can give Margaret Hvatum a check made out to Blood Cancer United, or make an online donation using one of the links below, and indicate in the donation comments that it is for Trivia Night. Here are our donation links

Angela Brinker: <https://pages.ils.org/tnt/team/wdw27/ABrinker>

Margaret Hvatum's family: <https://pages.ils.org/tnt/team/wdw27/KHvatum>
<https://pages.ils.org/tnt/team/wdw27/laugeron>

Lois is the French foreign exchange student that Margaret and Kjeld are hosting starting in September.

Thanks so much for coming to our Trivia Night! Since we are all on the Disney 2027 team, you know that Disney will be one of our categories. But it is such a large category....

Margaret Hvatum <https://pages.ils.org/tnt/team/wdw27/MHvatum>

June 30, 2026 Parishioner Donation Statements Arriving Soon

Updated Parishioner Donation Statements are going in the mail shortly and will soon be arriving at your home address. The Statements cover the first six months of 2026 and (for those of you who made a 2026 pledge) include the amount of your pledge as well as payments made towards your pledge.

The Statements also show any additional donations that you have made, such as those that are non-pledged or for Easter or the Music and/or Flower Funds.

If you have any questions or concerns about your Statement, please direct them to our Treasurer, Greg Diekemper, at gdiekemper@gmail.com.

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of St. Mark's!

Online Giving at St. Mark's

Thank you so much for your desire to support the ministry here at St. Mark's! If you would like to give online, simply scan the QR code below using the camera on your smart phone to visit our online giving platform.

Your generosity is a blessing!



We pray for those who are ill, in trouble or distress of any kind, especially Duane and Anne Benson, Yulia Borjte, Randy Borowiak, Canon Desiree Brattin, Rusty Cates, Randy and Jenny Coffey, Alicia Crowe, Tom Gard, Sue Garrett, Mark Godfrey, Yaz Hernández and their extended family, Denise Huber, Margaret and Tor Hvatum, Celeste Kocot, Jane Kozielec and Allen, Debbie Kramer, Becky Kruse, Stephanie Maass, Gary Medley, Beverly (Kocot) Meyers, Donna Musgrave, Neice Nelson, Betty Orlando, Nancy Raedeke, Jennifer Salci and her parents, Cheryl Schulz, Lois Schubert, Tom Schroeder, Rick Schubert, John Sheridan, Logan Smith, Mitchell and Tracy Shelton, Michael Sophir, Gracie Stephens, Jeanette Swallow, Lou Swallow, Scott Thomas, Bill Trafka, Casey Tyler, David and Doris Westfall, The White Family, Susan Winfrey, Walter Zimmerman, Eric, Elizabeth, Gary, Marian, Ted, Karen, Larry, Doug, Fritz, Rebecca, Lynn, Catreta and Dennis, Kate, Maggie, Ari and family.

We give thanks on their birthdays with Maggie Tracy, Mudresh Mehta, Carter Cashen and Melissa Engle.

We pray for those serving in the armed forces, especially Jesse Foy, Robert McCarthy, Brandon George, Jon Moore, Paul Malabar, Logan Smith.

SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson	Bishop of MO	Barbara Raedeke	Organist and Choir Director
The Rev. Delaney Schlake-Kruse	Rector	Celeste Kocot	Youth Christian Formation
The Rev. Jerre Birdsong	Deacon	Melissa Engle	Parish Administrator
		Frankie Danieleley	Nursery Assistant