

ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER

PENTECOST PROPER 18

SEPTEMBER 6, 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: "Berceuse"

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Hymn 482 "Lord of all hopefulness"

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.***

“Let all creation bless the Lord”

Mit Freuden zart



1 Let all cre - a - tion bless the Lord, till heaven with praise is
 2 All liv - ing things up - on the earth, green fer - tile hills and
 3 O men and wom - en ev - ery - where, lift up a hymn of



ring - ing. Sun, moon, and stars, peal out a chord, stir up the an -
 moun - tains, sing to the God who gave you birth! Be joy - ful, springs
 glo - ry. Let all who know God's stead-fast care tell out sal - va -



gels' sing - ing. Sing, wind and rain! Sing, snow and sleet! Make
 and foun - tains, lithe wa - ter - life, bright air - borne birds, wild
 tion's sto - ry. No tongue be si - lent—sing your part, you



mu - sic, day, night, cold, and heat!
 rov-ing beasts, tame flocks and herds! Ex - alt the God who made you.
 hum-ble souls and meek of heart!

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. Music: Bohemian Brethren's Kirchengesange, Berlin, 1566; am. Heinrich Reimann, 1895. Words
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The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

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

Presider Together, 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 for ever. Amen.

The Collect For Labor Day

Presider Almighty God, you have so linked our lives one with another that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives: So guide us in the work we do, that we may do it not for self alone, but for the common good; and, as we seek a proper return for our own labor, make us mindful of the rightful aspirations of other workers, and arouse our concern for those who are out of work; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

The Lesson: Ezekiel 33:7-11

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?

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

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

Psalm 119:33-40 *He Legem pone*

- 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 Fulfil your promise to your servant, *
which you make to those who fear you.
39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, *
because your judgements are good.
40 Behold, I long for your commandments; *
in your righteousness preserve my life.

The Lesson: Romans 13:8-14

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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Churches

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

Sequence Hymn 602 “Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love” *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 18:15-20

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.”

Presider/Deacon The Gospel of the Lord
People ***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 God’s word tells us that those who love their neighbors fulfill God’s law. Out of love and compassion for a broken world, let us pray to the Lord, praying, O God of mercy and justice, ***“Your love endures forever.”***

We pray for the church throughout the world, that we may offer our love to the world with the same generosity you have loved your people;

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 Grace Episcopal Church in Kirkwood;

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for Sarah the Archbishop of Canterbury and for The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria;

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for Mision San Miguel Arcangel in Ponce;

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

We give thanks on their birthdays with Teddy Danieleley, Jill LaBeaume and Paul Fee. We pray, O God of mercy and justice,

Your love endures forever.

For the leaders of the nations; for mercy, justice and peace in the world; and for an end to wars and threats of war, especially for the people of Ukraine, Sudan, Cuba, and the Middle East; we pray, O God, of mercy and justice,

Your love endures forever.

For our city and those who live in it, for farmers and abundant fruits of the earth, and that the world's wealth may be used in the furtherance of your kingdom; we pray, O God, of mercy and justice,

Your love endures forever.

For all school children, college students, and their teachers, that they may be safe and educationally nourished; we pray, O God of mercy and justice,

Your love endures forever.

We pray for the sick, those suffering from addiction and their families; we pray for the hungry, homeless, and oppressed; for immigrants and refugees; for those living in fear of separation from their homes and families; for the victims of violence and abuse; for those attempting to rebuild their lives after the impact of hurricanes and floods;

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

For those serving in the armed forces; we pray, O God of mercy and justice,
Your love endures forever.

On this Labor Day weekend, we pray for all seeking meaningful employment, all whose labor is hard, and all whose wages do not provide a living wage for their family; we pray that the dignity of all workers is respected and that the standards of our faith traditions are reflected in equitable wages, affordable benefits, and the freedom of association; we pray, O God of mercy and justice,
Your love endures forever.

For ourselves, our families, and companions, and all those we love; we pray, O God of mercy and justice,
Your love endures forever.

For all who have died, and for those who grieve; we pray, O God of mercy and justice,
Your love endures forever.

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

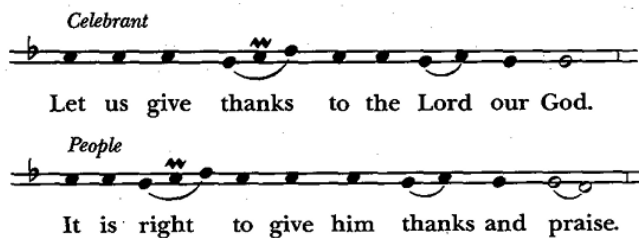
Offertory Hymn 527 "Singing songs of expectation" *Blue 1982 Hymnal*

The Holy Eucharist II

S 120

Lift up your hearts *Sursum corda*

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff is for the 'Celebrant' and the second is for the 'People'. Both staves are in G-clef and have a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff also has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.'



Presider It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth; 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:

Presider and People

Holy, Holy, Holy S130 Schubert Blue 1982 Hymnal

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Presider We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Presider and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

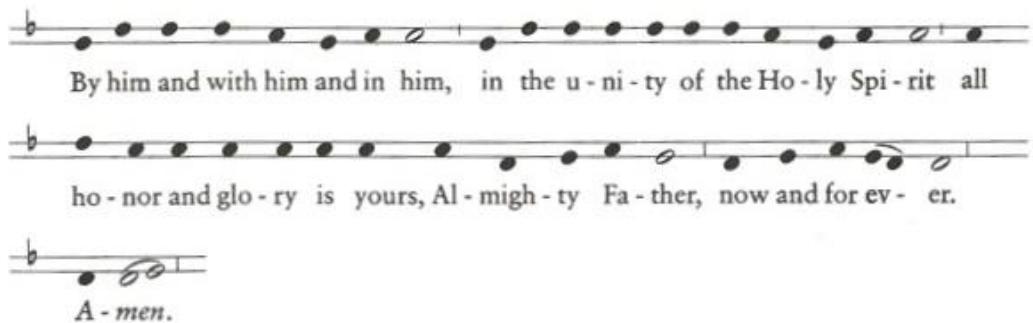
We await his coming in glory;

Presider

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.



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 S164 *Schubert*

Blue 1982 Hymnal

Jesus, Lamb of God:

Have mercy on us.

Jesus, bearer of our sins:

Have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer of the world:

Give us your peace.

The Ministration of Communion

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

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 VF 89 “We gather at your table, Lord” *see page 12*

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 541 “Come, labor on”

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 “Fugue in D Minor”

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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Communion Hymn VF 89 “We gather at your table, Lord”

The Eighth Tune



1 We gath - er at your ta - ble, Lord: we hum - bly lift our
2 We share this meal and we are fed. Such bas - ic gifts be -
3 God, pour your Spi - rit on us all, and on these gifts that
4 From north and south, from west and east, now rec - on - ciled, we



hearts to you! Here all are wel - comed, all re - stored, and
come your sign: we see you bro - ken in the bread; we
we re - ceive; for in Christ's pre - sence we re - call his
ga - ther near; we taste your king - dom's ban - quet feast, so



all are giv - en work to do.
know your love in com - mon wine.
life and death, and so be - lieve.
find - ing strength to serve you here.

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette © 1999 from *Gifts of Love: New Hymns for Today's Worship* (Geneva Press 2000). Music: The Eighth Tune, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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

ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP

Lector: Erica White *Usher:* Amanda Cashen *Greeter:* Marti Robards
Altar Guild: Tom Bradley *Livestream:* Vicki Stegmann *Crucifer:* Jonathan Robards
Chalice: Roger Robards/Jonathan Robards *Coffee Hour:* Ellen Jeffery

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opening Day

This year, Opening Day will be on Sunday September 13th. Hamburgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers will be provided. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Parish hall if you would like to bring chips, a side or dessert.

Baby Shower

Please join us Sunday, September 20th to celebrate the upcoming birth of Baby Schlake-Kruse. Sandwiches and cake will be provided. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Parish Hall to bring sides. In place of presents for Delaney's baby, she asks that we bring diapers to donate to the diaper bank of St. Louis.

Children's Worship and Pet Blessing

Join us in worship on Sunday, October 4th as we celebrate the feast of St. Francis with a pet blessing and worship planned and led by our children! Please feel free to bring pets to church; the blessing will take place on the plaza following worship.

Choir Call

The choir has begun its weekly rehearsals on Thursdays from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the choir room and will sing for the first time this season on Opening Day, September 13. We invite anyone who enjoys singing to join us. The ability to read music is helpful, but not necessary. We need all voice parts. If you're a long-time choir member, past choir member, or new to the choir, please consider participating in this very important ministry. We're a friendly, welcoming group-- we work hard, have lots of fun, and, most importantly, enjoy making music together. If you're interested in singing with us, please speak to Barbara Raedeke, or email her at braedeke@aol.com. We'd love to have you join us! All are welcome!

Hymn Sing

On **Sunday, September 20** at 9:45 there will be a **Hymn Sing** before the service. We invite you to submit three of your favorite hymns using the forms available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. Today is the last day to submit your Hymns. As in years past, we won't be able to use all the submissions, but we'll use as many as we have time for and incorporate some of the others into subsequent services, as appropriate. I look forward to hearing what your favorite hymns are and to the robust singing on September 20!

ECW Retreat



The Episcopal Church Women's retreat will be Friday and Saturday September 18th & 19th at the Pallottine Renewal Center featuring our very own rector, The Rev. Dr. Delaney Schlake-Kruse. See Susan Goen for more information on either of these exciting events. Or contact Melissa in the Parish Office to find out how to sign up.

Bible Study Resumes

Sunday, September 27th at 11:30am Bible Study will resume. Jonah: The Reluctant Prophet will be the subject and will occur every Sunday September 27th – October 18th after Worship. No prior attendance or experience required. Bring a Bible and a willingness to talk through the text! All are welcome!

An Update on Godly Play at St. Mark's

As St. Mark's prepares for a new program year and the return of Godly Play this fall, we seek a Godly Play teacher assistant to work alongside our longterm Godly Play leader, Celeste Kocot! Celeste will continue leading our children in storytelling and faith development each Sunday, with the help and support of a qualified part-time staff person. The staff person we seek will be trained in Godly Play and ready to help support our children's faith formation. We have an opportunity to support this vital program and the children of our parish through expanded staffing. St. Mark's is blessed by Celeste's ministry, and as she prepares to return from a summer break, we have the opportunity to continue supporting ministry with children by welcoming a teaching assistant to our staff. Please consider whether you might know a qualified applicant, and share the [position information](#).

Music at St. Mark's

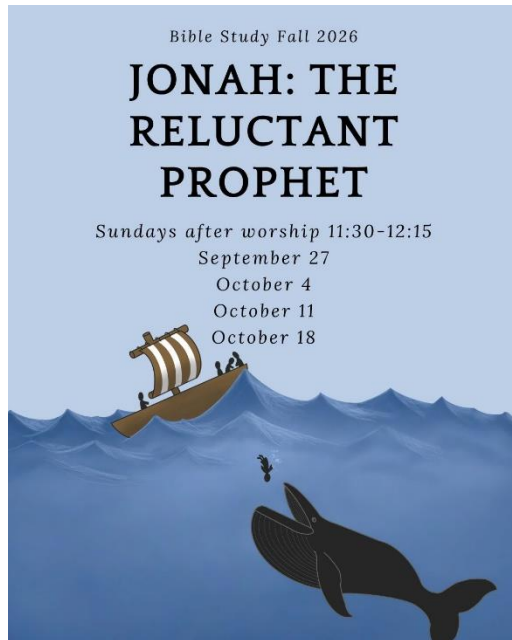
On Sunday, September 13 at 3 pm- **Music from the Romantic Parlor: 19th-Century Songs and Sonatas for Voice, Pianoforte & Guitar:** Charles Metz playing his original 1806 Clementi square piano; with Patrick Rafferty, Romantic guitar & Samantha Arten, soprano. \$20 admission at the door, student discounts. For more information, visit earlymusicmissouri.net. Tuesday, September 15, 7pm- **Voices for Living Justice: At the Crossroads of Truth in America.** A reflection on the gift of democracy - working to insure the rights of all people and to care for all. The one-hour concert will speak with hope through two narrators, eight singers and three instrumentalists. Free admission, donations accepted.



SUNDAY OCTOBER 4, 2026

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP & PET BLESSING

10:00 WORSHIP
PET BLESSING TO FOLLOW



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 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, Maggie Brogan, Rusty Cates, Randy and Jenny Coffey, Volker Coleman, Alicia Crowe, Tom Gard, Sue Garrett, Mark Godfrey, Braden Hagberg & Family, Lynn Heritage, Yaz Hernández and their extended family, Denise Huber, Margaret and Tor Hvatum, Celeste Kocot, Jane Kozielec and Allen, Debbie Kramer, Becky Kruse, Stephanie Maass, Penny McCullough, Gary Medley, Beverly (Kocot) Meyers, Donna Musgrave, Neice Nelson, Betty Orlando, Nancy Raedeke, Joe Rodriguez and his mother Ellie, Jennifer Salci and her parents, Cheryl Schulz, Joanne Schneider, Lois Schubert and her family, Tom Schroeder, John Sheridan, Logan Smith, Mitchell and Tracy Shelton, Michael Sophir, Gracie Stephens, Jeanette Swallow, Lou Swallow, Tom Tetrault, Scott Thomas, Bill Trafka, Casey Tyler, David and Doris Westfall, The White Family, Gene Wilberg, 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 birthday with Teddy Danieleley, Jill LaBeaume and Paul Fee.

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 4714 Clifton Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63109

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