

Sixth Sunday of Easter



9 May 2021

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
1900 St. Paul Street – Baltimore, MD 21218
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STAFF

Pastor Emily M.D. Scott

Administrator Stephen Kohler

Deacons Connie Lisch,
Woodland Pomeroy, Sue Romanic

Cantor James Harp

Sexton Jeffrey Spangler

Website: stmarksbaltimore.org

*The Mission of St Mark's Church is to Embrace Diversity, Practice Hospitality, and Make
Known Christ's Presence in Word and Deed*

Welcome to worship at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are working to keep you, our congregants, and the wider community safe. We ask that you take an active part in these efforts. Please keep your mask on at all times and retain social distance of at least six feet between you and others. Restrooms are available on a very limited basis; speak to an usher if you have need. There is to be **no singing** by the congregation, though you are welcome to respond to the spoken elements of the liturgy. Finally, communion has been prepared with safety precautions, and will be distributed in one kind (bread only). Receive the host at the front of the church, then return to your seat. Pastor will indicate when it is time to consume the host.

There is an offering plate at the rear of the main aisle for you to place your offerings and contributions.

Finally, you are asked to please refrain from applause at the conclusion of the Voluntary at the end of the Liturgy. Following the Voluntary, you are asked to please leave the building to meet and greet one another on the portico. Thank you!



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VOLUNTARY

Shaker Hymn, arr. James Harp

More Love

ANNOUNCEMENTS

-The Assembly will please stand-

THE HYMN

RYBURN

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

- 1 Great God, your love has called us here as we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we bear, though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.
We come, with all our heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
- 2 We come with self-inflicted pains of broken trust and chosen wrong,
half-free, half-bound by inner chains, by social forces swept along,
by powers and systems close confined yet seeking hope for humankind.
- 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then receive us as your own
not through some merit, right, or claim, but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat and find you kneeling at our feet.
- 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed, and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
- 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty to turn from guilt and dull despair,
and offer all that faith can do while love is making all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

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GREETING

P. Alleluia! The Lord is risen!

C. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C. And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God
and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Let us pray:

C. O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

-The Assembly will please sit-

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.
⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”
⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 98

We will read the psalm responsively with the lectern side in LIGHT print; and the pulpit side in BOLD print.

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²**O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶**With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸**Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

-The Assembly will please stand-

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia: Alleluia. Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Alleluia.

(John 14:23)

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said: ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

-The Assembly will please sit-

SERMON

-The Assembly will please stand-

THE HYMN

O WALY WALY

Although I Speak with Angel’s Tongue

- 1 Although I speak with angel’s tongue, my faith, my knowledge all surpass,
but have no love, my gifts are vain as clanging gong or blaring brass.
- 2 For love is patient, love is kind, and never vain with boasting pride;
love bears all things, all things endures. All things must end; love will abide.
- 3 For now we peer at darkened glass; our visions end; our tongues all cease.
In part we know, in part now see: then we will see love face to face.
- 4 The gifts are many, the Body one, and into one are all baptized.
Beloved, share one heart, one mind, one hope, one faith, one love in Christ.

Text: Andrew Donaldson, b.1951
Text © 1995 Andrew Donaldson.



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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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 INTERCESSION

Petition response: **Lord, have mercy.**

PEACE

OFFERING

-The Assembly will please sit-

Philip Wilby

If Ye Love Me

If ye love me, keep my commandments, and I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, That He may abide with you forever; Ee the Spirit of truth. And ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless. I will come to you.

-The Assembly will please stand-

OFFERING PRAYER

- A. Let us pray:
C. **God of love, you call us beloved children and welcome us to your table.
Receive our lives and the gifts we offer. Abide with us and send us in service
to a suffering world; for the sake of your beloved Child, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might:

Heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

MYSTERY OF FAITH

P. ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
C. **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

CONCLUSION OF THE THANKSGIVING

P. ...in your holy church, both now and forever.
C. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P. Alleluia! The risen Christ invites us to this table.

C. **Come, eat and be satisfied. Alleluia!**

-The Assembly will please sit-

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Those who wish to are invited to receive communion in one kind (bread only). Communion has been prepared with safety precautions. ***Keeping 3 pews apart***, approach the front of the church where you will receive the host. Hold the host in your hand while you return to your seat. Once everyone is seated, the pastor will invite the congregation to consume the host together.

THE HYMN

UBI CARITAS

Ubi caritas et amor

Where True Charity and Love Abide

Ubi caritas et amor,
ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.

Where true charity and love abide,
God is dwelling there; God is dwelling there.

-The Assembly will please stand-

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A. Let us pray:
C. **Wellspring of joy, through this meal you have put gladness in our hearts. Satisfy the hunger still around us, and send us as joyful witnesses, that your love may bring joy to the hearts of all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

THE HYMN

DOWN AMPNEY

Come Down, O Love Divine

- 1 Come down, O Love divine; seek thou this soul of mine
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing; O Comforter, draw near;
within my heart appear and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.
- 2 Oh, let it freely burn, till worldly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming; and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight, and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
- 3 Let holy charity mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing--true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part, and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with
loathing.
- 4 And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling; no soul can guess Love's grace
till it become the place wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

DISMISSAL

- A. Alleluia! Go in peace. Share the good news.
C. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

VOLUNTARY

Improvisation on DOWN AMPNEY

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Flowers are given to the glory of God in loving memory of Ralph and Thelma Bergstresser by Emily Bergstresser and Caroline Bahr.



**A very Happy and Blessed Mothers' Day
to all mothers and the mothering people in our lives!**

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S LITURGY:

Presider	Rev. Emily M. D. Scott
Assisting Minister	Deacon Woodland Pomeroy
Lector/Petitioner	Stephen Kohler
Greeter	Emanuel Nixon
Usher	Pr. Paul Baglyos
Cantors	Jeffrey Gates Luke Schmidt
Organist	James Harp
Livestream	John Lisch
Technicians	Jeremy Weinstein
Sexton	Jeffry Spangler