

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 25, 2021

in the 168th Year of the Parish

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

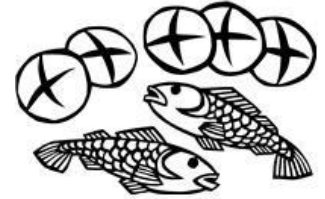
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Rev. Brian D. Vasey, Pastor

bvasey@stmarkswilliamsport.org



Welcome to Saint Mark's Lutheran Church!

Our Mission: “To know Christ and to make Christ known.”

An Order for Holy Communion, 9:30 am (LBW setting two)

****Please stand as you are able.***

PRELUDE

My Lord, What a Morning

Roger C. Wilson

WELCOME/ANNOUNCING THE DAY

***BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

The pastor leads the congregation in the invocation, the sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father ✝, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our

sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

***HYMN For the Bread Which You Have Broken**

**For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.**

**By this promise that you love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heav'n above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.**

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855-1930, alt.

Tune: OMNI DIE

***GREETING**

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.

*GLORY TO GOD



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,



you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen**

INTRODUCTION TO TODAY'S READINGS

Today is the first of five Sundays with gospel readings from John 6, the first four of which focus on Jesus as bread of life. Today Jesus feeds thousands of people with five loaves and two fish. What we have, what we bring to Jesus' table, seems like it is not nearly enough to meet all the needs we see around us. But it is not the adequacy of our supplies or our skills that finally makes the difference: it is the power of Jesus working in the littlest and least to transform this world into the world God desires, a world where all the hungry are satisfied.

THE FIRST LESSON.....2 Kings 4:42-44

42A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to [Elisha,] the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." 43But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.' " 44He set it before them, they ate, and had some left.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM 145:10-18

10All your works shall praise | you, O LORD,
and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

**11They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom
and speak | of your power,**

12that all people may know | of your power
and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

**13Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures
through- | out all ages.**

**You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your
works.**

14The Lord upholds all | those who fall
and lifts up those who | are bowed down.

**15The eyes of all wait upon | you, O LORD,
and you give them their food | in due season.**

16 You open | wide your hand
and satisfy the desire of every | living thing.

**17 You are righteous in | all your ways
and loving in | all your works.**

18 You are near to all who | call upon you,
to all who call up- | on you faithfully.

THE SECOND LESSON.....Ephesians 3:14-21

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. 16 I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. 18 I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

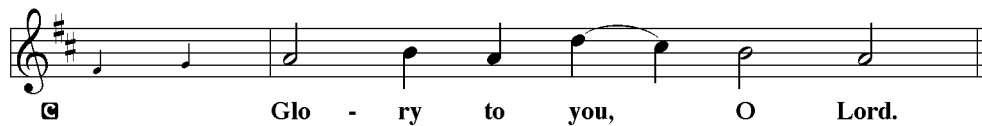
***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL.....John 6:1-21**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.

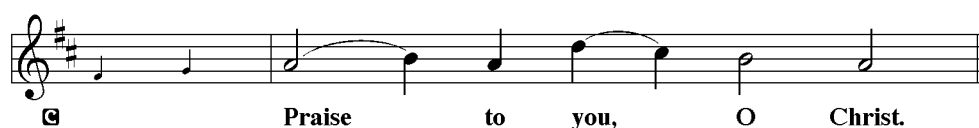


1 Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. 2 A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. 3 Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. 4 Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. 5 When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” 6 He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. 7 Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, 9 “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” 10 Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. 11 Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” 13 So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. 14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

15 When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

16 When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, 17 got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. 18 The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. 19 When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. 20 But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” 21 Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

The Gospel of the Lord.



THE SERMON

***THE APOSTLES' CREED**

P Living together in trust and hope, we affirm our faith:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

After each petition, "Lord, in your mercy/Hear our prayer."

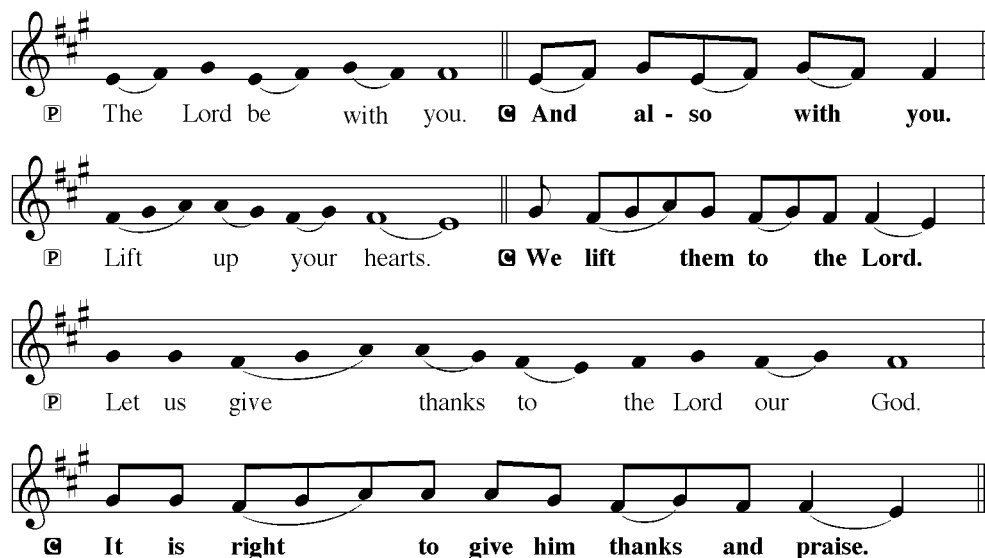
***THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The ministers and congregation greet one another with these or similar words, and/or gestures of peace, avoiding physical contact.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



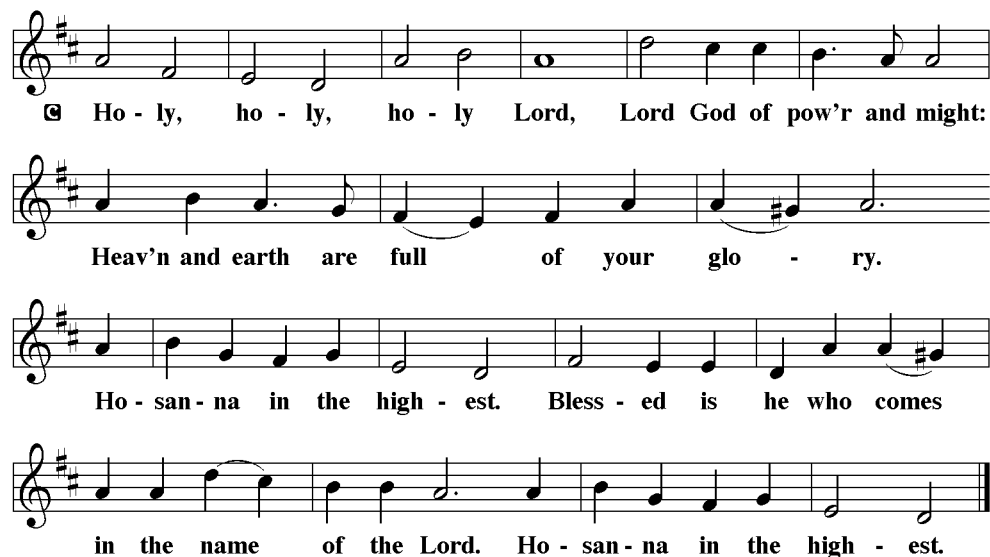
P The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and in heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n 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.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

***OUR LORD'S PRAYER**

P Let us pray in the words our Savior gave us:

C **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 Christ has set the table with more than enough for all! Come!

C **Thanks be to God!**

*LAMB OF GOD



☩ Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.

In your name we pray.

C Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*THE BLESSING

P The blessing of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, who provides for
us, feeds us, and journeys with us, be upon you now and forever.

C Amen

***HYMN**

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

Refrain

**You satisfy the hungry heart
with gift of finest wheat.
Come give to us, O saving Lord,
the bread of life to eat.**

**As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
they know and heed his voice;
so when you call your fam'ly, Lord,
we follow and rejoice. *Refrain***

**Is not the cup we bless and share
the blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare
our oneness in the Lord? *Refrain***

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997

Tune: BICENTENNIAL

***DISMISSAL**

**P Go in peace. You are the body of Christ
C Thanks be to God.**

***POSTLUDE** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* Robert J. Hughes

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Prayer List: Victims of COVID-19 and their families, Liz Ruesskamp,

Grace Arner, Diane Damaska, Vanessa Morgan, Gary Clark, Doris Brown, Charles Miller, Jerry Miller, Patricia Alexander, Joann Zeigler, Diana Zeigler, Richard Ritter, Ashton Ott, Lucille Sider, April Clark, Lenny Sherlinski, Ruth Sherlinski, Gary Cable, Elsie Sechler, Virginia Pulaskie, Bernadette Jones, Kay Poliska, Bunny Ditchfield, Judy Fortin, Roy and Gloria Meyer.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Lector	Ruth Rees
Cantor/Song-leader	Sadie Wentzel
Organist	Sam Robinson

USHERS:

Matt Fortin, Captain; Glenn Yaple, Bud Doebler

Please Note: The Center for Disease Control has provided new guidelines stating that some restrictions may now be lifted. Following these guidelines Church Council suggests that if you are fully vaccinated, and feel comfortable in doing so, you may remove your mask. If you are not fully vaccinated, please continue to wear your mask.

SPECIAL ANNOUCEMENT: Church Council approved the motion from the Worship/Music Committee for persons to come forward to the chancel to receive Holy Communion beginning Sunday, August 1, 2021.

The format will be more “continuous” noting the following procedure:

- **Communicants will come forward as directed by ushers by way of the center aisle and receive the bread from Pastor Vasey.**
- **Once receiving the bread, communicants will pick-up an empty cup and proceed to one of two stations (left or right) to receive wine from the pouring chalice.**

- **After receiving wine, communicants will place the empty cup in a tray and return to their pew by way of the side aisles.**

Kneeling at the rail will not occur at this time but will return at a time to be determined by Council.

COVID CONTACT: Please note that your attendance at worship will be recorded. This serves as a precaution in case contact-tracing due to the pandemic is warranted. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

MEMORIAL SERVICES THIS WEEK:

- + **Today for Bob Shaible, 1 pm. All are welcome.**
- + **Saturday, July 31, for Norma and Larry Lehman, 11 am. All are welcome.**

READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? Faith and Fellowship has temporarily “moved some books” from our church library to the Front Lounge in order to make them more accessible. Stop by the Front Lounge and take a look!

OUR STEWARDSHIP

(7/15/2021-7/19/2021)

Regular Offering	\$3,557.50
Plate Offering	\$ 5.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 17.00
World Hunger	\$ 60.00
Food Pantry	\$ 80.00
Global Mission	\$ 50.00
Operation Christmas Child	\$ 200.00
Captial Fund	\$ 50.00
Flower Memorials/Tributes	\$ 90.00
Synod Benevolence	\$ 25.00

Grand Total \$4,134.50

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given to the glory of God:

- + In loving memory of Frank Doebler and in honor of Mary Lou Doebler by Karen Mariano.
- + In honor of my son, Robert Millikan on his birthday by Sally Bjornstad.
- + In loving memory of Bob Shaible by his wife Connie.

BULLETIN SPONSOR: Shirley Miller. Thank you Shirley!

COMEMMORATIONS

James, Apostle

Sunday, July 25, 2021

James and his brother John were the sons of Zebedee, fishermen by trade before their call from Jesus. He was the first of the twelve apostles to be martyred, and his death is the only one recorded in scripture (Acts 12:1-2).

Johann Sebastian Bach, died 1750; Heinrich Schütz, died 1672; George Frederick Handel, died 1759; musicians

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

These three German-born musicians have done much to enrich the life of the church. Schütz was an early master who focused on settings of biblical texts. Bach wrote over 300 cantatas along with works for organ and instrumental pieces, and has been called the "fifth evangelist" for the way he proclaimed the gospel in music. Handel's great work, Messiah, is a setting of scriptural texts.

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Friends of Jesus, Mary and Martha are remembered for the hospitality of their home that they offered him—Martha focused on serving their guest, and Mary on listening to him. Their brother Lazarus was raised from the dead as a sign of the greater resurrection to come.

Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, died 1030

Thursday, July 29, 2021

Considered the patron saint of Norway, Olaf went from a life of piracy to becoming Christian and declaring himself king of Norway. He revised the laws and tried to administer them fairly. Driven from Norway in a rebellion, he was killed in battle trying to regain his kingdom.