



***Sunday, October 11, 2020***

**Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**St. Mark Lutheran Church**

**1515 S. Harris Rd.**

**Ypsilanti, MI 48198**

**[stmarkypsi.com](http://stmarkypsi.com)**

OPENING AND WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER<sup>1</sup>

Bread of heaven, nourish us in this period of wandering. Through wildernesses wearisome and fearful, we strive to remain faithful. Keep our minds set upon lands of abundance, where justice rolls down like waters and love is the law. Do not let us settle for crumbs of life, but encourage us in persevering toward your Kingdom.

**Amen.**

GREETING

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

**And also with you**

OPENING SONG: Celebrate Jesus

Copyright CCLI 738292

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:1-9

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you are my God;

I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

<sup>2</sup>For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
it will never be rebuilt.

<sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

<sup>4</sup>For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

<sup>5</sup>the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,

you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: The Lord is Our Shepherd

Used by Permission

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

<sup>1</sup>My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

<sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia.*

This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation.

*Alleluia. (Isa. 25:9).*

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 22:1-14

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

<sup>1</sup>Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen."

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**SERMON**

Many Are Called

Vicar Anna Taylor-McCants

**SERMON HYMN:** Now the Feast and Celebration

OneLicense

**APOSTLES' CREED**

*Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.*

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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

\*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious host, fill your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for bishops, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to your table of boundless grace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures, and still and running waters. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill. Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs.

*(A time of silence as we lift up those on our prayer list.)*

- ✠ We lift up especially Karen Severson, Beth Hall, Sissy Howard, Tina Karns, and Jonny Scarberry.
- ✠ We continue to pray for Chloe, Richard, Terry, Charlene, Melissa, Sandy, Pam, Kevin, Chuck, Ted, Dr. Jim, Denny, Sharon, Mary, Ben, Rick, Barb, Frances, and Dusty.
- ✠ May God be with the family and friends of John Poet, especially George Bordt and Barb Kendall, and comfort them in their grief.
- ✠ We ask God's comfort for the family and friends of Millie Gruetzner, Joani Laginess' mother, especially Joani and her family, her dad, her siblings, and Millie's extended family as they mourn.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in this community. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Hallowed Be Thy Name

Copyright CCLI 738292

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERING SONG: Rejoice in the Lord Always

Copyright CCLI 738292

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.  
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.  
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,  
nourish us with this rich drink and food,  
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,  
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

*Thank you for continuing to give to the work God is doing through St. Mark Lutheran Church. You can give by mailing your gift directly to the church. You can also give your gift by going online to [www.stmarkypsi.com](http://www.stmarkypsi.com). Your gifts continue to sustain and nourish our ministries here at St. Mark, so thank you.*

BENEDICTION<sup>1</sup>

Courageous ones, God sends us with the audacity of Christ. Before thrones of injustice and in the quiet of our own hearts, the Spirit enables us to be brave: For our own integrity. For our neighbors' well-being. For the sake of collective flourishing. With peace that passes all understanding, let us go and live our faith.

BLESSING

Receive this blessing:

Mothering God,  
Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,  
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.  
**Amen.**

SENDING SONG: Rejoice and Celebrate

Copyright CCLI 738292

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**Thanks be to God.**

ENCIRCLED WITH PRAYER

- † Recognizing the power of prayer, please join us in praying at home throughout this week for those whose needs are known to us and those whose cares we do not know.
- † We lift up especially Karen Severson, Beth Hall, Sissy Howard, Tina Karns, and Jonny Scarberry.
- † We continue to pray for Chloe, Richard, Terry, Charlene, Melissa, Sandy, Pam, Kevin, Chuck, Ted, Dr. Jim, Denny, Sharon, Mary, Ben, Rick, Barb, Frances, and Dusty.
- † May God be with the family and friends of John Poet, especially George Bordt and Barb Kendall, and comfort them in their grief.
- † We ask God's comfort for the family and friends of Millie Gruetzner, Joani Laginess' mother, especially Joani and her family, her dad, her siblings, and Millie's extended family as they mourn.

Please contact Vicar Anna [annataylor@mccants@gmail.com](mailto:annataylor@mccants@gmail.com) if you need prayer for yourself or those dear to you.

<sup>1</sup> Used with permission of enfolded, based on subscription to "Liturgy That Matters"

*REMEMBER TO JOIN US FOR VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR FROM 11:15-11:45AM*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vicar Anna has regular **office hours on Tuesdays** from 10am to Noon. While you can just drop by if you need to pick up/drop off something at the church building or would like to chat, it is recommended that you confirm via email first, just in case she is called away.

**Vicar Vera**, who interned here at St. Mark, is **being ordained** soon at her home congregation, Zion Lutheran Church, Ann Arbor. You are invited to "attend" this special occasion via livestream. Details coming soon.

The Washtenaw ELCA's **Sunday Adult Faith Formation** classes are being offered on Sundays at 10am. Other activities offered throughout the week include Bible studies, prayer meditations, and more. A schedule with further details and links is posted on our website [www.stmarkypsi.com](http://www.stmarkypsi.com)

**Confirmation Classes** are being offered on Zoom. Classes meet from 1-2pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays. The next class will be October 18, next Sunday. Contact Vicar Anna if you would like to add your child to the class.

**Sunday School** is online at 9:30am on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. The next class is October 25. Contact Vicar Anna to enroll your children [annataylor@mccants@gmail.com](mailto:annataylor@mccants@gmail.com).

Our September **Second Sunday Cinema Club** event was a success. Join us for our October movie **today at 2pm** to see what all the hype is about. We start with watching this month's movie and then "meet" to discuss it. Register at <https://forms.gle/X7tRpKXUj1k8jA8T8> to receive the links.