



The 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Stewardship Season: Faith Filled Generosity

November 15, 2020

10:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist



Mission

We are an inclusive community of faith, reflecting Christ's love, ministering to all who hunger in body, mind, and spirit.

Vision

Our strength as a faith community depends on our inner vitality, inclusive welcome, and outward action. Grounded in these values, we continue our strong tradition of liturgical worship and education for all ages. We advocate for justice, serving those in need.

Good Morning and Welcome to St. Mark's!

Thank you for being here today. Please, make sure that you observe all protocols including wearing your mask at all times which must cover your mouth and your nose, remain six feet from others not in your family, refrain from singing the hymns and sanitize as you leave just as you did coming into the building. Thank you for your cooperation to be safe and help others to remain safe as well.

The Gathering of the People

Prelude - Adagio and Allegro

Francesco Geminiani

Sidney Zuccaro, oboe

Welcome and Announcement

Gathering Hymn - Come, labor on (Spoken)

Presider II: As the hymn is played, please join in praying this powerful prayer.

1 Come, labor on.

Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain
while all around us waves the golden grain?
And to each servant does the Master say,
"Go work today."

2 Come, labor on.

Claim the high calling angels cannot share;
to young and old the gospel gladness bear.
Redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly.
The night draws nigh.

3 Come, labor on.

Cast off all gloomy doubt and faithless fear!
No arm so weak but may do service here.
Though feeble agents, may we all fulfill
God's righteous will.

4 Come, labor on.

No time for rest, till glows the western sky,
till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,
and a glad sound comes with the setting sun,
"Well done, well done!"

Welcome and Greeting *Presider I*

Presider: †Blessed be God: most holy, glorious and undivided Trinity.

People: **And blessed be God's reign, now and forever. Amen.**

People: **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.

Confession and Absolution

Presider: Let us confess our faults and admit our frailty.
(Pause for reflection)

People: **Before God, with the people of God,
we confess to our brokenness:
to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.**

**We lay down what is past
and look to the future.
We take into daily life
signs of hope and healing.
We reach beyond ourselves,
to share the lives of others
and touch the wider world.**

Presider: †May God forgive us, Christ renew us, and the Spirit enable us to grow in love.

People: **Amen.**

Presider: Together, let us offer praise to God.

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship You, we give You thanks,
we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

The Hebrew Scripture (*Seated as able*)

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Lector I at the Lectern

A Reading from the Prophet Zephaniah.

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90:1-8, 12 (*Presider II: Let us pray the psalm responsively by half verse.*)

1 Lord, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, *
from age to age you are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past *
and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.

6 In the morning it is green and flourishes; *
in the evening it is dried up and withered.

7 For we consume away in your displeasure; *
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.

8 Our iniquities you have set before you, *
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

12 So teach us to number our days *
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

A Reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Hymn: Strengthen for service, Lord (Spoken)

Presider II: As the hymn is played, please join in praying this powerful prayer.

**1 Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands
that holy things have taken;
let ears that now have heard thy songs
to clamour never waken.**

**2 Lord, may the tongues which 'Holy' sang
keep free from all deceiving;
the eyes which saw thy love be bright,
thy blessed hope perceiving.**

**3 The feet that tread thy holy courts
from light do thou not banish;
the bodies by thy Body fed
with thy new life replenish.**

The Gospel Reading (*Standing as able*) *Presider II in center of chancel*

Matthew 25: 14-30

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, O Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Presider: The Gospel of Christ.
People: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Homily

Laura Kozminski, Director of Children's Formation Ministry

The Nicene Creed *(Please note the language for the Spirit.)*

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 a 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 and the Son. With the Father and the Son, the Spirit is worshiped and glorified. The Spirit 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 *(All remain standing as able)*

Lector I During this season of Pentecost, we ask God to hear our prayers.

For St. Mark's, the Vestry, all those in Parish leadership, and all that we do to offer ourselves and all we have to bring about the reign of God.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II For the President, the Governor, the Mayor and all elected officials. For peace throughout our nation and the world. For the unemployed and under-employed. For an end to racism, violence and war.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I For Archbishop Justin, Presiding Bishop Michael, The Rt. Rev. Wayne Hougland, Dana, his wife, and their family, and all who give of themselves for the sake of the Gospel.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II For Mother Earth and our individual and collective responses to changes in the climate and for all those suffering from natural disasters in our land and throughout the world.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I For our Stewardship Season, Faith-filled Generosity", as we give of our gifts for the mission of St. Mark's in 2021. May we give in thanks for the many blessings in our lives of faith at St. Mark's.

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II For the sick, especially remembering those on our Parish Prayer List found in today's bulletin, those suffering due to the Corona Virus and all those for whom we have promised to pray. (Pause to add additional prayers either silently or aloud)

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector I For those who have died. We especially remember our parishioner, Dr. Jane Jawahir, who passed away last week. May all the departed rest in peace and may light perpetual shine upon them. (Pause to add additional names)

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

Lector II For what else or whom else shall we pray this day?

(Pause to add additional prayers either silently or aloud)

O God, hear these prayers which we have named aloud and those which lie deep within our hearts. In the Name of Jesus,

We pray: **O God, hear us.**

The Peace *Presider II*

Presider: May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

(Please, be sure to see this past week's eNews sent out electronically and on the website for up-to-date Parish events and meetings.)

Stewardship Message

The Holy Communion

Offertory Music – Vivace

Geminiani

Presentation *Presider I* (*Spoken*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow:

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; Amen.

Presider: God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider: 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:

Holy, Holy, Holy (*Spoken*)

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 come in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The people may stand or kneel as the Presider continues.

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 friend. 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 St. Mark and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen**

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

Presider: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

The Communion

The Directive from the Bishops of Michigan indicates that we are able to receive the consecrated bread of the Eucharist but not consecrated wine from the cup. The elements have been prepared by adding wine to the wafer in advance of the Service and enclosed in individual cups. The consecrated wine in the chalice will be returned to the earth from where it originated.

Presider: Christ whose table was open to all is now present in this bread and in this wine. He whose word welcomed friend and stranger offers himself to us.

Presider: Let us pray:

People: **O Jesus, we believe that you are truly present in the Sacrament of the Altar. We love you above all things and long for you in our hearts. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

Please, follow the ushers to receive the Eucharist. After receiving the cup, return to your pew to consume the Eucharist and dispose of the cup and your bulletin as you leave the Sanctuary. Thank you.

Communion Minister: The Body and Blood of Christ.

All: **Amen.**

Music during Communion - Largo

Geminiani

Post-Communion Prayer (*Standing as able*)

Presider: Let us pray: ***Presider I***

All: **Living God, in this Sacrament, we have shared in your eternal kingdom. May we who taste this mystery forever serve you in faith, hope and love. Amen**

The Blessing ***Presider II***

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who make the journey with us. So, be swift to love and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of the †God who made us, who loves us, and who travels with us be with us now and forever we pray, **Amen.**

Hymn of Sending Forth— Rise up, ye saints of God (Spoken)

As the hymn is played, please join in praying this powerful prayer.

**1 Rise up, O saints of God!
Have done with lesser things;
Give heart and soul and mind and strength
To serve the King of kings.**

**2 Rise up, O saints of God!
The kingdom tarries long;
Bring in the day of Christlike love
And end the night of wrong.**

**3 Lift high the cross of Christ!
Tread where his feet have trod;
Led onward by the Son of Man,
Rise up, O saints of God!
Dismissal**

Presider: Let us go forth to love and serve God and all God's people. Alleluia. Alleluia. **Presider II**
People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Postlude - Toccata Prima

Georg Muffat

If you wish to remain seated during the Postlude please feel free to do so. The ushers will release you by row at the conclusion of the Service and exit back through the Parish House.

Enews:

Please refer to the St. Mark's eNews for information on Services, events and other activities.

Stewardship Season

Please join us in pledging for 2021. Pledge cars are available in the North Transept or contact the Parish office. The goal for 2021 is \$470,000 toward the budget for next year. God bless you!

Sustaining St. Mark's Ministry in 2020

Thanks to all those who financially sustain our ministry together at St. Mark's with pledges and offerings. The total budget for 2020 is \$782,838, which requires an estimated \$15,055 income per week, an amount arrived at through a variety of resources. During these weeks of the Pandemic, the average weekly collection has been around \$6,000, an obvious downturn in giving. We are very conscious of not worshipping together and thus not receiving more weekly contributions.

Last week, we received \$8,096 in pledges and offerings. That amount included pledges paid by mail, online through Give Plus, PayPal, and regular giving. We have a shortfall in pledged income of \$42,178. If you are able, please keep up to date on your pledge payments.

Weekly Contributions Needed:	\$ 15,055
Contributions Received this week:	\$ 8,096
Difference:	\$ 6,959 (Shortfall)

Year to Date:	Contributions Needed:	\$ 673,562
	Contributions Received:	\$ 631,074
	Difference:	\$ 42,488 (Shortfall)

We are truly grateful to all of you who donated, paid your pledge in full during this time, those of you who have kept up to date on your pledges and those of you who continue to give even though you have not pledged. We have been blessed by the donations we have been receiving during this pandemic while very conscious of the financial future if the level of giving remains the same. Thank you for maintaining your pledges and giving whether pledged or not. Stay safe, and healthy! Pam Stevenson, St. Mark's Finance Manager

The St. Mark's Prayer List

Prayers are requested:

Chuck Bocskey
Jennifer and Bob Conklin
Marcia Coolsen
Marge Dickinson
Amanda Greenman
Kari Ingersoll
Ty Karsen
Barb Kent
Tom Klein
Mike Krushinsky
Roger Leech Jr.
Sarah McIntire & Kate Goebbert
Alissa Monsalvo
Bill Nasser
Andrea Nowak
John Oatley
Aila Olivia
John Ritchey
Jesse Roby
Elise Rossell
Mary Slew
Heidi Stoneman
Tom West
Helena and Ken Westrate
Steve Wildeboer

Our inbound and semi-inbound parishioners:

Irene Haizman
Jane Jawahir
Earle Slenker
Shari Takus
Margarett Tanase
Jean Zylstra
Sue Allen
Gertrude DeAguire
Nita DeGraaf
John Gracki
Arlene Griffin
Larry Manglitz
Mary Rollins
Irene Savara
Shirley VanDerBos

Those in Military Service

LTC Timothy Brower Sr. USA
Cpl Gabriel Monsalvo, USMC
Maj Todd Murray, USAF
1/Sgt Deidre Piechocki, USA

Prayer for Discernment

Bea Rocco