

**Messiah Lutheran Church  
Wednesday Worship  
October 2, 2024 7:00 PM**

**STORMS AND STRUGGLES MAY COME,  
BUT I BELONG TO GOD,  
WHO MAKES ALL THINGS NEW,  
AND PROTECTS ME FROM EVIL.  
THANK YOU LORD!**



**A Walk Through The Gospel of Mark**-Each Wednesday we focus on Mark's writings and witness the life of Jesus on earth; how He impacted His followers, and those who came into contact with Him. See page 11 for more information about this Gospel.

**Tonight our worship centers** around the fact that we belong to God. This simple truth can transform our lives and give us reassurance of our self-worth. How you carry out all of your other roles in life will be shaped by your primary relationship to God as someone who belongs to Him. Sometimes, when life is hard, or we've turned away from God for an extended season, we may wonder if we still belong to Him. The great news in Scripture tells us that NOTHING can erase the fact that you belong to God through Jesus.

As you enter into worship, we invite you to ask the Spirit to remove any negativity, feelings of doubt or unworthiness from your mind. Let the truth of God's Word soak in to your whole being that He delights in you. He has called you by name. You are His.



## THE PRELUDE

### WE GREET ONE ANOTHER IN PEACE

#### THE OPENING HYMN OF PRAISE "Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices" LSB 811



1 Oh, that I had a thou - sand voic - es To praise my  
4 All crea - tures that have breath and mo - tion, That throug the  
5 Cre - a - tor, hum - bly I im - plore You To lis - ten



God with thou - sand tongues! My heart, which in the Lord re -  
earth, the sea, the sky, Come, share with me my heart's de -  
to my earth - ly song Un - til that day when I a -



joic - es, Would then pro - claim in grate - ful songs To all, wher -  
vo - tion, Help me to sing God's prais - es high. My ut - most  
dore You, To - geth - er with the an - gel throug And learn with



ev - er I might be, What great things God has done for me.  
pow'rs can nev - er quite De - clare the won - ders of His might.  
choirs of heav'n to sing E - ter - nal an - thems to my King.

## THE INVOCATION

- P** We celebrate the good news that we belong to God and begin our worship this evening in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!
- C** **Give thanks to Him; bless His name!**
- P** For the Lord is good,
- C** **His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

## THE CONFESSION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF FORGIVENESS

- P** Since we are gathered to delight ourselves in the Word of God and to assemble as His family around His Table, let us with repentant hearts, confess our sins before our Heavenly Father, seeking His forgiveness for our sins. You are now invited to kneel.
- C** **Lord God, our gracious Father, we confess that we have not walked by Your Spirit. Instead of using our freedom to love our neighbors as ourselves, we have served our own selfish interests. We have chosen to live as our sinful flesh desires instead of as Your perfect law requires. Forgive us, heavenly Father, by the mercy You show us in the death and resurrection of Your Son. Fill us with the fruit of Your Spirit so that we who belong to Christ Jesus may walk in the way of love and worship. In His name we pray. Amen.**
- P** The Spirit of God anointed Jesus to walk in perfect obedience to the Father's commands. His death upon the cross and resurrection from the grave prove that His grace is given freely for all who belong to Him by faith. Therefore, in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen. As we live out our faith may we remember daily that we belong to You.**

## THE COLLECT

- P** Please be seated. Let us pray together.
- C** **Lord of all power and might, author and giver of all good things, when we feel alone and as if all hope is lost, remind us of the never-failing presence of Your Spirit, so that we who belong to Christ Jesus may know Your presence, provision, and purpose in our lives; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WE PREPARE TO HEAR GOD'S WORD *"Open Our Eyes, Lord" TCH 633*

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus  
To reach out and touch Him and say that we love Him  
Open our ears, Lord, and help us to listen  
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

## THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Mark 7:24-37

And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. <sup>25</sup> But immediately a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. <sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup> And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup> But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup> And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup> And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone. <sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. <sup>32</sup> And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. <sup>33</sup> And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. <sup>34</sup> And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." <sup>35</sup> And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

**P** This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## **I** WE CONFESS OUR FAITH-*The Apostles' Creed*

**C:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## THE SERMON HYMN "Jesus, What a Friend for Sinners" [LSB 700]

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners! Jesus! Lover of my soul;  
 Friends may fail me, foes assail me; He, my Savior, makes me whole.  
 Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
 Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a Strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;  
 Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my Strength, my vict'ry wins.  
 Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
 Saving, helping, keeping, loving; He is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a Help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,  
 Even when my heart is breaking, He, my Comfort, helps my soul.  
 Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a Friend!  
 Saving, helping, keeping, loving; He is with me to the end.

## THE SERMON

### THE RESPONSE "God Loves Me Dearly" LSB 392



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -  
 3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.  
 deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.

*Refrain*



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

## THE OFFERING PRAYER

## THE OFFERING AND HYMN OF THANKS *"Praise and Thanksgiving" LSB 789*

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer  
For all things living, created good:  
Harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
Hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

Father, providing food for Your children,  
By Your wise guiding teach us to share  
One with another, so that, rejoicing  
With us, all others may know Your care.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the Church around the world and for all people in their various circumstances; for people who are displaced from their homes, communities, and countries; for all people who feel like they do not belong.
- C** **Heavenly Father, You know the heart of every person in the midst of tragedy and disaster. When it seems overwhelming, remind aid workers of Your endless, overwhelming love for all people.**
- P** For those You have specifically called to humanitarian work, give them confidence and energy to do the work before them. Protect those who traverse rugged or hostile lands to reach the most vulnerable people. May they trust You in all circumstances to bring help and hope in the name of Jesus.
- C** **Use compassionate people and agencies to provide food, clothing, and shelter where they are needed; guide emergency and medical professionals as they tend those under their care; and open our eyes to see opportunities in which we may serve.**
- P** Paul wrote that because we belong to one another in the Body of Christ and have died to the law, "we may bear fruit for God." We pray for ourselves and the Church wherever it gathers in Christ's name, that through the Spirit, we continue to grow closer to You every day.
- C** **Strengthen us and our brothers and sisters around the world as we seek to give our lives in loving service to You, reaching out to the lost, strengthening the weak in faith, and rejoicing together as we receive the blessings that come to us through Word and Sacrament.**
- P** We thank You for our deliverance from sin, death, and the devil. As we receive Your body and blood, may we cling to the blessed assurance that we belong to You.
- C** **These and any other things You would have us ask, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, for we dearly desire to sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, now and forever. Amen.**

## THE PREFACE AND SANCTUS

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with your spirit.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** **It is good and right so to do.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord, our God, for You have called us as Your people and have shown us Your kindness. Confident of Your love and assured of Your mercy, we come before You, asking that we receive Your blessings with heartfelt thanksgiving. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name evermore praising you and singing:



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises we are bold to pray:

**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.**

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **And also with you.**

## THE AGNUS DEI (LSB 752)

O Lamb of God, You come to take a - way all of our  
sin and guilt from day to day. Thro' Your true blood and bo - dy  
shed for us \_\_\_\_\_. We know Your grace, Your mer - cy, and Your  
love. Help us to grasp what gift we here re - ceive  
With our sins gone, for - give - ness brings us peace.

## THE COMMUNION

*If you are a guest with us this evening and would like to commune, please read the article on the back page before communing with us. Thank you.*

## A PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

*Lord, we pray that You would still my mind and quiet my heart as I approach this communion table tonight. Draw me into closer fellowship with Yourself, as I eat the bread and drink the wine, in grateful remembrance of what You did for me on Calvary. Amen.*



## THE HYMN "Because He Lives"

God sent His Son, they called Him, Jesus;  
He came to love, heal and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

**Chorus:** Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives, all fear is gone,  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living, just because He lives!

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
And feel the pride and joy he brings;  
But greater still the calm assurance:  
This child can face uncertain days because He lives! **Chorus**

And then one day, I'll cross the river,  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
And then, as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives! **Chorus**

## THE NUNC DIMITTIS (LSB 686)



Lord, now let Your hum—bled ser - vant, leave ac - cor - ding  
to Your Word. For I've seen the true sal - va - tion  
You've pre-pared for all the world. Be the Light to shine on  
Gen - tiles, and Your peo - ple, Is - ra - el. As I  
leave Your ho - ly tem - ple, help me shine Your Light as well.

## THE BENEDICTION

**P** As we leave this holy house, remember this great news: we belong to God. So, then, who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

**C** **No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.**

**P** For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,

**C** **Will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**P** Sought and saved by Jesus, you are now sent into the world. Let your faith grow abundantly. Let your love for one another increase.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and give you His peace.

**C** **Amen.**

## THE SILENT PRAYER

*Lord, as I leave Your Holy House, fill me with Your perfect peace that comes from the knowledge that I will always belong to You. May I be refreshed through restful sleep, and rise in the morning to serve and adore You. Amen.*

## THE CLOSING HYMN "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.  
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My  
Here you learned how much I love you; What I can cure. Here you  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My  
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.  
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.  
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.  
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.  
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy - ful and free.  
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

## THE POSTLUDE

**The Gospel Of Mark** is the shortest of the four gospels, Probably the first gospel written. All but 31 verses are quoted in the other gospels, leading many to conclude that Matthew and Luke used Mark's gospel as source material. The Believer's Bible Commentary notes that because of its brevity, Mark's gospel is an ideal introduction to the Christian faith. In mission fields it is often the first book translated into a new language.

**Date** According to tradition, Mark went to Alexandria in Egypt where he died in 64 A.D. Barnes suggests the book was written between 56 and 63 A.D., and other scholars date the book in the early 50's. A plausible date would be 57-59 A.D. (Bible Knowledge Commentary).

**Theme** Mark's gospel was evidently written to Gentiles, perhaps Christians in Rome. Jewish customs are explained - Mk 7:3-4 • Aramaic expressions are translated into Greek - Mk 3:17; 5:41; 7:11 • Roman reckoning of time is used - Mk 6:48; 13:35 • Only Mark identifies Simon of Cyrene as the father of Rufus - Mk 15:21; Ro 16:13 • Few Old Testament quotations are used.

The focus appears to be on Jesus as the Perfect Servant (BBC). Mark emphasizes the deeds of the Lord more than His words (he records nineteen miracles, but only four parables), the deeds of one who "did not come to be served, but to serve" (Mk 10:45). Thus one could say that the theme of Mark's gospel is: Jesus, Servant of Man.



**FROM THE RISING  
OF THE SUN  
TO ITS SETTING,  
THE NAME OF  
THE LORD IS  
TO BE PRAISED!**

# The Sacrament of Holy Communion

As You come to the Lord's Supper, you are affirming with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord, that with Lutheran Christians, you believe His Body and Blood are present and you desire to serve Him as a dynamic disciple in the fellowship of all believers. Our Holy Communion practice is called "CLOSE" communion, not "CLOSED" communion. "Close" communion invites all those who answer the following questions in the affirmative. We DO seek to help each visitor and member, to prepare for the celebration of the Sacrament. If you have not communed with us before, or if you cannot answer yes to the questions below, please speak to our Pastor or an Elder before communing.

1. Have I been baptized in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit?
2. Do I believe that I am a sinful human being without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy in Christ?
3. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?
4. Do I believe that Jesus Christ is personally present in the Sacrament of Holy Communion with His true Body and Blood?
5. Do I intend, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to live a Godly life?

At Messiah, Communion is distributed in a manner whereby the individual cup, followed by the common cup, are offered at the same table. Communicants seated in the left section of the Sanctuary proceed to the altar first, standing behind the usher. Then the communicants in the right section will proceed to the altar, also standing behind the usher. This will provide a prayerful setting surrounding the significance of receiving Christ's body and blood.

A light, alcohol-free wine is offered in clear glasses in the individual trays. Gluten-free wafers are available at the usher table in the back.

## Serving in the Lord's House Tonight

<b>PREACHER</b>	Rev. Matthew A. Lee
<b>ORGANIST</b>	Teresa Logue
<b>ELDERS</b>	John Robinson, Maxey Buchwald
<b>USHERS</b>	Bruce Kofoed, Chris Trimpe
<b>A/V TEAM</b>	Danny Ladishew, Chuck Tolsma

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