

PRAYER LIST:

HEALING

Vernon Weigand; Krystal Barnhart; Pastor Lee Rozen- better health; Susan Brickley (mother of Juliana Guerriero's partner Stephen) - fractured skull; Norma Collosi – significant health issues; Sharon Heck - knee surgery; Jim Andrizzi - pelvic fracture; Sondra Mericle - broken hip; Monica Gerardo - hand surgery; Derek Canada (Boy Scout troop leader) - heart attack; Mark Sauer Sr. (Mark Sauer Jr. father) - pancreatic cancer surgery; Gwen Andrizzi - broken wrist; Bob Mericle - health issues; Carmelia Battle (Francoise's sister); Lisa Anderson (Arnold Anderson's daughter-in-law)

ILLNESS

Donovan McLaughlin - cancer (Judy Willett's grandson); Pat Dickerman - cancer; Marty Green-Ponce (friend of Juliana Guerriero); Anne Evans - health issues/dementia; Raul Hernandez Tenorio II (Boy Scout) - stroke like symptoms

TREATMENTS

Tony Hernandez (Michael's brother) cancer & heart attack; Tom O'Connell (Dan O'Connell's brother) - cancer; Barbara Mautino - cancer; Amy Stenberg - brain cancer (friend of Anna Guerriero & Lee Uhl)

SURGERY

Lyle Clark - bladder; Kathy Clark - heart valve (Dr. Clark's parents); Bradley Holmes (Frances Weigand's grand-nephew) - motorcycle accident

HOSPITALIZED

Robert Dutil (Françoise's papa) - stroke like symptoms

HOSPICE

Faye Heinrich

GRIEVING

Family of Wendy Chin mother of Shirley Chang (former family of St. Mark's)



OUR MISSION

Reaching out to the community to share the Gospel through faith, fellowship, and service.

OUR VISION

Become the visible presence of Christ in this community

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

OCTOBER 2, 2022, 10:00 AM

St. Mark's Lutheran



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 St.MarksLCHH

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

We are glad you are here! May this be a holy time for you to offer your praise to God as well as receive God's grace through word, sacrament, song, and prayer.

We invite you to let us know you are here today by completing a connect card or a visitor card in the pews and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. For those online, you can leave a comment or use the connect section on our website or App. We hope you will also let us know how this worship has touched you.

You may contact Françoise our church Office Administrator at fdutil@stmarks.ws or email Pastor Mericle directly, pastorjim@stmarkshh.com. 562-360-9812

If you have questions, about the service or St. Mark's, please do not hesitate to ask one of the ushers.

Holy Communion

We will be sharing Holy Communion today as well - If you wish to receive communion, please pick up a communion kit at the table where you came onto the lunch patio or have bread/cracker and wine/juice available if you are joining us online. Please complete the connect card to let us know you were with us today - we are grateful for your presence at worship.

SERVING TODAY

GUEST PASTOR: the Reverend James Mericle

ORGANIST/ACCOMPANIST: Renee Gehlbach

LECTOR: Rylee Birtja

CHILDREN'S SERMONETTE: Norm Rumpf

ALTAR GUILD: Marian Locke, Kim Winn

TECH: Chris Birtja, Garrett Birtja

CO-DIRECTOR OF USHERS: Phil Barnhart, Frank Winn

HEAD USHERS: Ron Hussey, Steven Chou

USHERS: Emil Wolfe, Dick Heinrich, Frank Winn

Last Sunday's Attendance 200 in-person 56 online

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD: For all the wonderful blessings and beauty that the Lord gives us all each day, given by Kim and Frank Winn.

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+ indicates to stand as you are able. If it is difficult for you to stand, please feel free to stay seated or sit back down at any time.

BENEDICTION

L As God has blessed you with these pets, so may they be blessed in your care.
(After all the animals have been blessed)
The blessings of Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and forever.

C Amen.

+ SENDING HYMN **All Creatures, Worship God Most High!**
Stanzas 1, 2 & 6

1 All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2 Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

6 O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit, Three in One:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

+ DISMISSAL & VISION
So that we may be
the visible presence of Christ
in this community.
Let us Go in Peace.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Creation Sings the Father's Song

+++

COMMUNION—WORDS OF INSTITUTION

L The Creator be with you and with all creation.

C And also with you.

L Open your hearts.

C We open them to our Creator.

L Let us give thanks to our Creator.

C It is right to join creation in thanking God.

L On the night in which he was betrayed.

C Holy, holy, holy, God of all life, Earth and sea and sky and all things that exist are full of your presence and glorify your name. Amen

+ THE 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.

+ DISTRIBUTION & BLESSING

Gathering + Word + Meal + **Sending**

+ BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Almighty and everlasting God, Creator of all things and giver of all life, let your blessing be upon all these animals. May our relationships with them mirror your love, and our care for them be an example of your bountiful mercy. Grant the animals health and peace. Strengthen us to love and care for them as we strive to imitate the love of Jesus Christ our Lord and God's servant Francis. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The minister circulates through the congregation, asks the name of the animal, places his hand on the animal's head (if appropriate) and then blesses the animal]:

[insert name], May you be blessed in the name of God, who created you. May you and your human family experience joy and companionship together, and continue to be a blessing to each other.



Gathering + Word + Meal + Sending

PRELUDE

All Things Bright and Beautiful

WELCOME AND THEMES OF THE DAY

Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church! It is a joy to have you be a part of this community today, as we gather to worship God and give thanks to our Lord, Jesus. We are in the midst of our sermon series called, "Essentials." Each week we will look at what essentials are at the heart of Jesus' message. Today we hear about the importance of faith and service and how it can help us lead fuller lives.

We have a very special worship service today as we also commemorate Francis of Assisi, a great sharer of the good news of Jesus in the early 13th century and known for his affinity for animals. Today we will be blessing our animals or pets near the end of the worship service, so make sure to have your pets or a picture of your pet with you when the time comes. The text of our sending hymn today was written by Francis of Assisi (1182-1226).

Blessings to each of you and may the Holy Spirit refresh the path before you!

+ GATHERING HYMN

Blessed be Your Name

Handout

+ THANKS AND CONFESSION

L Lord, for all the animals in the whole wide world,

C We thank you, God!

L Lord, for all the fun and friendship we have with animals,

C We thank you, God!

L Lord, for all the times we have hurt or neglected animals,

C We are sorry.

L Lord, for all the times we have used poisons that have killed animals,

C We are sorry.

L Lord, for all the times we have destroyed the homes of animals in the forests, oceans, or fields,

C We are sorry.

L I speak for Christ. For all your sins against the creatures of Earth, I forgive you and I call upon you to honor and protect all my animals. Yes, I speak for Christ. May the animals of Earth be your companions in life and lead you to celebrate your place in the circle of life.

C Amen! Amen! Shalom! Shalom!

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.

L Almighty God, you have made us and all living things. For these pets who give us joy, we thank and praise you. We trust your care, O God. Make us faithful as we care for our pets. In so doing, we share in your love for all creation. In Jesus' name we pray.

C Amen.

Gathering + **Word** + Meal + Sending

READING

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Norm Rumpf

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the seventeenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Luke 17:5-10

SERMON

Faith & Service

Pastor Mericle

+ HYMN OF THE DAY

Let All Things Now Living

- 1 **Let all things now living
a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us,
protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished
and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.**
- 2 **God rules all the forces:
the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains,
the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living
unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"**

+ 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.**

+ PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

Gathering + Word + **Meal** + Sending

+ OFFERING

God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale

+ OFFERTORY RESPONSE

**Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

+ OFFERING PRAYER

L God, our Creator, through your love you have given us these gifts to share. Accept our offerings as an expression of our deep thanks for all the animals and other creatures that have enriched our lives.

C With all animals around the throne, we bless the Lamb of God.