



“Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled.”

~Matthew 14:19-20

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

10th Sunday after Pentecost – August 6, 2023

420 Beaver St., PO Box 411

Mars, PA 16046-0411

www.stjohnchurchmars.org

Phone: 724-625-1830 email: office@stjohnchurchmars.org

Denise Hager, Worship Leader

Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!
Know that you are welcome here just as you are.*

If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time visiting us, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an * and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**.*

All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.

*During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace.*

*We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew. At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift as you are comfortable. You may also place any updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates.*

If you need a restroom, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GATHERING SONG *Praise and Thanksgiving* (ELW 689)**



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

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.
Amen.

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.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace we have been saved.
In the name of † Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.
May almighty God strengthen us through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in our hearts through faith.
Amen.

Freed and forgiven in Christ, let us sing our praises before God!

*GLORY TO GOD

Refrain



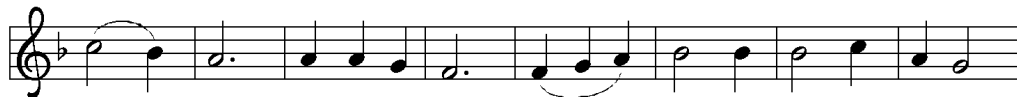
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - mighty God and Fa-ther,



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

Refrain



Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace



to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the



high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 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.

Refrain



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

3 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.

Final refrain



Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
A - men, a - men.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:1-5

A reading from Isaiah.

¹Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

⁹**LORD, you are good to all,
and your compassion is over all your works.**

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

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

¹⁶You 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.**

¹⁸You are near to all who call upon you,
to all who call upon you faithfully.

¹⁹**You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;
you hear their cry and save them.**

²⁰You watch over all those who love you,
but all the wicked you shall destroy.

²¹**My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD;
let all flesh bless God's holy name forever and ever.**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

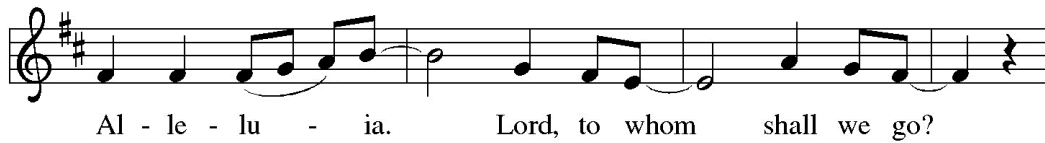
A reading from Romans.

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—²I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; ⁵to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL READING: Matthew 14:13-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus heard [about the beheading of John the Baptist], he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” ¹⁶Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

***HYMN OF THE DAY *United at the Table* (ELW 498)**

(Blue prayer cards are collected)

Refrain / Estribillo



U - ni - dos en la fes - ta, la_a - le - grí - a
U - nit - ed at the ta - ble: all our joy is



se ha - ce can - ción. U - ni - dos en la fe,
joined in song. U - nit - ed in the faith:



la_a - le - grí - a se ha - ce o - ra - ción.
all our joy to God be - longs.



1 Can - ta - re - mos al Se - ñor
1 We will praise God, we will sing
2 We will praise God, we will feast
3 We will praise God, we will play



a - le - lu - yas con him - nos y sal - mos,
al - le - lu - ias with hymns and with psalm - o - dy;
at the boun - ti - ful ta - ble of life and grace;
al - le - lu - ias with rhy - thm and in - stru - ments;



por - que gran - de es el a - mor
we will praise God for the love
we will praise God and give thanks
we will praise God for the love

Refrain / Estribillo



que en no - so - tros por siem - pre mos - tró.
that sus - tains us e - ter - nal - ly.
for com - mu - nion with ev - 'ry race.
that in - vites all cre - a - tion to dance.

***APOSTLES' CREED**

Let us confess our faith in 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.**



***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

A brief silence for reflection

You gather your church together by the Holy Spirit. Inspire all the baptized to proclaim your abundant love throughout the world. Guide us in the mission of the gospel through word and deed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You cherish your creation, from the smallest microbe to the largest mountain. Protect fragile ecosystems, send favorable weather, supply food and water to nourish creatures, and raise us up to care for all you have created. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You desire peace and justice in the world. Instill within all political leaders your desire, support the work of international peace organizations, and provide relief for those in war-torn areas.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You comfort those who are hurting. Accompany those who are alone, heal those who are sick, provide for all who hunger or thirst, console the bereaved, bring joy to the sorrowful, and attend to all who call on you especially Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Roy, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Katie, Debi, those on our prayer list, and all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You place us within communities for mutual support and love. Reveal yourself to us in worship, fellowship, and ministry with our neighbors. Provide for feeding ministries and food banks in our area, that we share your abundance with all who hunger. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have placed before us examples of faithful living who have witnessed to your promises throughout time and space. Rouse us by their lives of service and dedication to be your hands and feet in this world. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We know you hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and we lift before you now the prayers on the hearts of this congregation today (*blue prayer cards are read*). Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

***PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* (ELW 674)

**Rise on 3rd vs.*



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

***OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you,

O Lord our God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness you have blessed us and called us your own.

In your grace, we offer ourselves to your service

and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made,

for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

*CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING

Refrain

Sal - va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for -

ev - er and ev - er. 1 Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O

God of the u - ni - verse; just and true are your ways, O

Rul - er of all the na-tions. Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and

Refrain

sing the glo - ry of your name? Sal - va-tion be-longs to our

God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

2 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, and

bless-ed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All

Refrain

praise and thanks to you, ho - ly God! Sal - va-tion be-longs to our

God and to Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

***THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into shadows, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,

we give you thanks and praise.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as we have been taught:

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

***BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

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

Amen.

***SENDING SONG *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises* (ELW 535)**

Refrain— sung twice each time



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la. *End*
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

Repeat stanza, then sing refrain



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

***DISMISSAL**

“Then I heard the voice of the Lord say, ‘Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?’
And I said, ‘Here am I; send me!’”

Isaiah 6:8

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The flowers on the altar today are from Erin and Jamie Weaver in celebration of Denise Hager and Denis Bishop's birthday.

Assisting in worship today:

Assisting Minister: Jonathan Ciora

Acolyte:

Usher:

Greeters: Missy Kramer

Offering: Ava Niklewicz and Ella Niklewicz

Attendance Last Week: 43 +3 zoom

Notes for the day's texts:

Jesus is able to feed us abundantly, even with scraps. He meets earthly needs by feeding the crowds and continues now to offer himself as holy meal, freely given to all, no matter their income or rank in society. Advertisers have trained us that what's proclaimed as FREE usually isn't. More often, it's a ploy to get our money for some other, larger, purchase. Today we are invited to trust and receive Jesus' free gift of love without thinking that he has up his sleeve some scheme to swindle our money.

It can be hard to relax and trust God to take care of us and nourish us with the mere scraps we often see around us. We panic and take matters into our own hands instead of trusting. We experience that crushing sense of responsibility, not just to ourselves, but to our children or parents or other loved ones to keep them fed and clothed and healthy.

Trusting that our daily bread and even our very lives are in God's hands is hard to do as we grow older and burdened by responsibility, but God has compassion for every member of the crowd, and we are blessed and invited to be joyful recipients of that generosity.

Today's Music

Praise and Thanksgiving. Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt., Music: Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version. Oxford University Press (New York) / Augsburg Fortress.

United at the Table. Text: Joaquín Madurga; tr. Angel Mattos, b. 1947, and Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923, Music: Joaquín Madurga. OCP (Oregon Catholic Press).

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ. Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929, Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP).

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises. Text: South African; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984, Music: South African; arr. Freedom Is Coming. Walton Music / Public Domain.

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Next Week's Readings

1 Kings 19:9-18 *The Lord speaks to Elijah on Mount Horeb*

Psalms 85:8-13 *I will listen to what the Lord God is saying.*

Romans 10:5-15 *Hearing and confessing the word of faith*

Matthew 14:22-33 *Jesus walking on the sea*