**August 21, 2022**

**Eleventh Sunday in Pentecost**

**A picture containing linedrawing

Description automatically generated**

**St. Mark’s Lutheran Church**

**933 Brookline Blvd.**

**Pittsburgh, PA 15226**

**412-531-9575**

**Rev. Gregg Knepp**

**Phone: 443-397-5970**

Internet : stmarkbrookline.wixsite.com/smlc

Email : stmarklutheranchurch@verizon.net

Facebook : facebook.com/SMLCbrookline

**Please join us on Zoom at 9:30 am Sunday**

Join by computer using Zoom: Meeting ID = 856 2680 1615 Password = church

OR

Join by phone: Dial-in # = (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID = 856 2680 1615 Password = 280633

**Our Purpose**

We are called and empowered by God to lead our family, friends, and community

into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

**Our Mission**

We will listen to, equip, and accompany each person on their journey to know

God’s love and the plan of salvation.

**+ + + + + +**

**Introduction to the day**

Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord’s day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

**+ + + + + +**

**St. Mark’s Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Eleventh Sunday in Pentecost**

**Order of Worship**

*\* Please stand as you are able.*

**PRELUDE**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING God Sightings**

***\* (Please stand.)***

**\* Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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

**Amen.**

**\* Confession and forgiveness**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Merciful God,

**we confess that we have not followed your path**

**but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,**

**we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,**

**we have too often passed by on the other side.**

**Set us again on the path of life.**

**Save us from ourselves**

**and free us to love our neighbors.**

**Amen.**

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins

but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

**Amen.**

**A sheet of music

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**

**\* HYMN**

*Public Domain*

**\* 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.**

**\* SONG OF PRAISE** (Verses 1 & 3)

Graphical user interface, table, Excel

Description automatically generated

**\* Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

***(Please be seated.)***

**THE WORD**

**FIRST READING:** **Isaiah 58:6 - 14**  Reader: Cheryl Vergot

6Is not this the fast that I choose:  
 to loose the bonds of injustice,  
 to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
 to let the oppressed go free,  
 and to break every yoke?  
 7Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
 and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
 when you see the naked, to cover them,  
 and not to hide yourself from your own kin?  
 8Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,  
 and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
 your vindicator shall go before you,  
 the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
 9Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
 you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.  
 If you remove the yoke from among you,  
 the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
 10if you offer your food to the hungry  
 and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
 then your light shall rise in the darkness  
 and your gloom be like the noonday.  
 11The LORD will guide you continually,  
 and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
 and make your bones strong;  
 and you shall be like a watered garden,  
 like a spring of water,  
 whose waters never fail.  
 12Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
 you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
 you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
 the restorer of streets to live in.  
 13If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,  
 from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;  
 if you call the sabbath a delight  
 and the holy day of the LORD honorable;  
 if you honor it, not going your own ways,  
 serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;  
 14then you shall take delight in the LORD,  
 and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;  
 I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,  
 for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\* ACCLAMATION**

A picture containing text, flock

Description automatically generated

Pastor Gregg

**\*SECOND READING: Luke 13:10 - 17** Pastor Gregg

10Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. 11And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. 12When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." 13When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. 14But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." 15But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? 16And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" 17When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

***(Please be seated.)***

**YOUTH MESSAGE**

**SERMON Pastor Gregg**

**SERMON NOTES**

A sheet of music

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**\* HYMN**

*OneLicense # A-737674 Expires: 2/28/23*

\* **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Trusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

*A brief silence.*

You crown your church with steadfast love and mercy. Guide us continually in our baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Use our diverse gifts in service to the whole people of God. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You satisfy the needs of all creatures. Protect the habitats of fish and birds (*local bodies of water or wildlife refuges may be named*). Repair ecosystems damaged by misuse, neglect, or natural disaster, that all creation may thrive. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You make your ways known to all people. Inspire the rulers and leaders of nations with your compassion and mercy. Raise up activists and community organizers to restore places affected by violence, poverty, and inequality. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You provide justice for all who are oppressed and relief to all who are afflicted. Heal those who are bent over by addiction, depression, and anxiety. Set free all who cry out under the weight of mental, emotional, or physical distress (*especially*). Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

You call us to delight in the sabbath. Renew our bodies, minds, and spirits in this worshiping assembly. Give rest to all who lead our congregation in worship, study, and service (*congregational leaders may be named*). Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

Generations bless your holy name. We give you thanks for the communion of saints who have gathered in prayer and praise in this place. Support us in your love until we rest forever in you. Merciful God,

**receive our prayer.**

Receive the prayers of your children, merciful God, and hold us forever in your steadfast love; through Jesus Christ, our holy Wisdom.

**Amen.**

Graphical user interface, application, table, Excel

Description automatically generated**\* OFFERING SONG (First verse only)**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**\* OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest.

As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field,

and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all,

in the name of Jesus.

**Amen.**

**\* GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

\* **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying: “Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me.”

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of Me.”

**\* THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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, the power and the glory,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

***(Please be seated.)***

A picture containing text, antenna

Description automatically generated**LAMB OF GOD** (Setting 5 WOV)

**the distribut****ion**

*(At the usher’s invitation you are invited to come forward to pick up your communion set. As the Pastor hands you the communion set, he will say “The body of Christ; given for you – The blood of Christ; shed for you.” Once everyone has returned to their seats and is seated, we will commune together by eating the wafer first and then drinking the grape juice when the Pastor says – “Let us partake of the gifts we have received.”)*

Let us partake of the gifts we have received.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

The God of peace, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you,

comfort you and show you the path of life this day and always.

**Amen.**

Table

Description automatically generated**POST COMMUNION**

*Public Domain*

* **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

**Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds**

**and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others,**

**both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love.**

**This we pray in the name of Jesus.**

**Amen.**

**\* Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

A sheet of music

Description automatically generated with medium confidence**\* HYMN**

*OneLicense # A-737674 Expires: 2/28/23*

**\* DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

(Adapted) From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**“Why in the World?”**

For the first Sunday of the month, September 4th, Pastor Gregg will discuss questions regarding “End of Life Decisions” and leaving a legacy for our loved ones. Topics will include: What do Lutherans believe about Eternal Life, Living Wills and Advance Funeral Preparation. Please join us.

-- -- -- -- -- --

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dora Cook | Aug 10 |
| Nancy Gibbs | Aug 12 |
| Cameron Noar | Aug 13 |
| Norman Drexler | Aug 15 |
| Donald Coester | Aug 23 |
| Susan Earley | Aug 24 |
| Diane Kwasniewski | Aug 25 |
| Suzanne Miller | Aug 27 |
| Joan Mussomeli | Aug 30 |

Happy Birthday to . . .



[This Photo](https://freepngimg.com/png/37239-birthday-cake-transparent-background) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/)

-- -- -- -- -- --

The August Meals on Wheels Food Gathering has a need for Ziploc sandwich or gallon size bags, 33 gallon trash bags or paper towels. Please place your donation in the blue basket in the Breezeway. If you have any questions, please see Sue Earley (724-825-8634). As always, your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

-- -- -- -- -- --

**Community 341 is requesting….**

Socks toothpaste toothbrushes soap body wash deodorant

feminine hygiene products (regular pads) wash cloth hand towel wipes

**There will be a collection box in the breezeway. Any questions see Susan Earley.**

-- -- -- -- -- --

***Save The Date Lady Lions!***

Lady Lions will be meeting the first Saturday of November, the 5th, at 9:30 AM. Project Linus Instructions and Projects by Peggy Kelley will be the main topic. Any questions see Susan Earley.

-- -- -- -- -- --

***Teller Schedule for Remainder of 2022***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Month** | **Teller** | **eMail** | **Phone** |
| August | Jeff Arnold | jeffsarnold29@gmail.com | 412-668-0531 |
| September | Ray Prosser | hray.jcp@verizon.net | 412-977-9018 |
| October | Bill Willis | williamkwillis@gmail.com | 412-655-2864 |
| November | Gary Byers | xgbyers@verizon.net | 412-563-6591 |
| December | Howie Ingold | pappap7boys@yahoo.com | 412-760-0078 |

-- -- -- -- -- --

***Lectors for Next 4 Weeks***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Lector** |
| August 28 | Karen Arnold |
| September 4 | Sue Earley |
| September 11 | Dave Wood |
| September 18 | Sirena Weihaus |

-- -- -- -- -- --

**Fall Plans for Spiritual Growth**

Bible Study: Every Tuesday at NOON. Beginning Sept. 13th.

*(The Gospel of John: Church and Culture in Conflict)*

Spiritual Reading Group: 2nd Mondays

(*Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most)* by Marcus Borg

Pub Theology: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00 pm.

Beginning Sept. 20th at The Getaway Bar & Grill, 3049 Sussex Ave.

Faith Movie Night: 1st Wednesdays, 6 pm. Beginning Sept. 7

First Communion: Four Sessions after church: 2 in Sept and 2 in October, celebrate 1st Communion on Reformation Sunday, October 30th.

Variation of Trunk Or Treat on October 31st.

Christmas Play OR…

Live Nativity, Dec. 24th at 6:00 pm; Worship at 7:00 pm

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

**GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**August 21, 2022**

**A Good Time for Liberation**

Luke tells us that Jesus had such compassion for an ailing woman that he healed her without waiting. It’s hard to imagine what it was like for her to be bent over for eighteen years. Anyone who has known back pain knows how debilitating it can be. The image of her stooped over is quickly transformed when she is healed, is liberated from her ailment, and stands up straight. She is set free from pain and social isolation. She spontaneously praises God. How could she not?

Some people present with Jesus and the woman did not celebrate or praise God. They complained that Jesus’ timing was bad. It was the Sabbath day. Sabbath is a holy gift from God given for God’s people to have rest, to be free from the burdens of labor, and to enjoy life in community with one another and God. Some thought restrictions against doing work meant it was a bad time for healing. They failed to see that as good as Sabbath-keeping is, there is never a bad time for healing. It is always the right time to liberate people from whatever disease and oppression keeps them bent over and suffering.

Luke’s message is that Jesus comes to bring God’s liberation for the poor, oppressed, sick, and sinful. Through mercy granted unconditionally, a new world is formed in Christ where it is always a good time for healing and liberation. Just as Jesus lifted up the woman bent over in pain, God lifts up the lowly and humble to give them life and liberty.

God surprises us with grace that comes even when we think it can’t be the right time. Whether it is God claiming us in Christ through baptism, or granting healing from disease, or lifting up people bent over from marginalization, it is always the right time. How could we not offer our spontaneous praise as we are lifted up by such good news?

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +