



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

***6 South Second Street
Oakland, Maryland 21550
301-334-2668***

***connect@stmarksoakland.com
stmarksoakland.com***

***Sunday Worship Service is at 10:00 a.m.
Our Daily Ministers are The People of St. Mark's
Rev. Carrie Hoff, Pastor***

WELCOME

We extend a sincere welcome to all who join us for worship.

August 2, 2026
10th Sunday after Pentecost
Order of Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Jesus is Mine ”

**** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

✙ All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.”

In the name of God,

Father, ✙ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.

Rest in God’s love.

Amen.

**** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

**** PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

No. 843

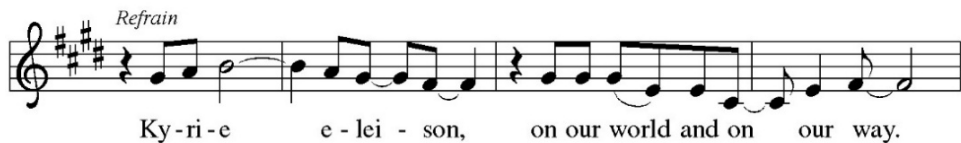
“Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness ”

**** 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.

** KYRIE



2 That we may live out your im - passioned re - sponse to the

3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for

4 For your Spir - it to guide; that you cen - ter our lives in the



hun - gry and the poor; that

friends and fam - i - ly; for

wa - ter and the word; that you



we may live out truth and jus - tice and grace,

life and for love, for our work and our play,

nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod - y and blood,



** 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

¹ Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline 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. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Now 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.

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

We will read the Psalm responsively, starting with the refrain and repeat where indicated.

Refrain: You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. (Ps. 145:16)

⁸ The 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. R**

¹⁴ The 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.**

¹⁶ You 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. R**

¹⁸ You 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.**

²⁰ You 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. R**

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

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

**** GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

**** GOSPEL: Matthew 14:13-21**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹³ Now 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. ¹⁴ When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. ¹⁵ When 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.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” ¹⁷ They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” ¹⁸ And he said, “Bring them here to me.” ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. ²¹ And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Carrie Hoff

**** HYMN OF THE DAY**

No. 712

“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service ”

**** 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 *(Please be seated)*

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For your church in every place, that it satisfies those who hunger for your word. Bless the ministry of readers, translators, Bible study leaders, and writers, that God's word is broken open and shared with all. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For your wondrous creation and all the bounty it provides, that your creatures are fed and nourished. Bless the work of farmers, farmworkers, those who fish, and all whose labor brings your abundance to our tables. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For your children in every nation, that they learn to love justice and live in harmony. As this week we remember the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, keep us mindful of the horrors of war; draw our hearts instead toward your reign of love, hope, and peace. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For all who cry out with great sorrow and unceasing anguish, that they are comforted. Feed all who struggle with food insecurity; have mercy on all who are suffering in body, mind, and spirit (*especially*). Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

For this congregation, that it bears faithful witness to the abundance and joy of life in you. Bless all your faithful people gathered here, that they may become blessings for this community. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving for the faithful who now rest in your mercy, that their witness continues to inspire the church. By their example, may we trust your promises in life and in death. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

“ Let the Beauty ”

**** OFFERTORY HYMN**

No. 188

“ Create in Me a Clean Heart ”

**** OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

**** 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.**

**** BLESSING**

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,

✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.

Amen.

**** RECESSIONAL HYMN**

No. 536

“ God Be with You Till We Meet Again ”

**** DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God. We WILL!

POSTLUDE

“ Sweet Hour of Prayer ”

St. Mark's Mission Statement

“United in Christ, Sharing his Good News,
we invite all people to grow in God's love.”

Church Calendar August 2, 2026 – August 9, 2026

- Today** - Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
Tuesday - Yoga at 10:00 a.m.
Next Sunday - Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
- With Holy Communion

Serving Today

Acolyte:	Taylor Kitzmiller-Bosley
Lector:	Judy Bertsch
Organist:	Jonathan Buckingham
Co-Directors of Music:	Sean & Debi Beachy
Special Music:	Jonathan Buckingham
Recorder:	Nicole Bosley
Flower Delivery:	Phyllis Rinker & Dee Moyer
Safe Keeper:	Sherry Beach
Ushers:	Paul Lewis, Capt.
	Liz Lewis, Paul LeDuc, Donna Swift

Pastor Carrie can be reached by email at pastorcarrie@stmarksoakland.com or
phone 443-974-1738 for any pastoral needs or concerns.



The Altar Flowers have been placed today
to the glory of God by Christine Cropp.



Prayer Requests

Illness: Emelee DeWitt, Helen Ferrell, Valerie Minor, Viola, Josh Wilhelm, Tom Bittinger, Dorothee Bittinger, Peter, Robert Hodges, Ava, Connie Leary, Emily, Marie, Joyce Chaney, Debbie, Bill & Diana Bachtel, Norma, Joe, Kimmie, Abe, Angie, Fred Meyer, Tom Bingham, Senta Heinrich, Mary, Eric, Jeff Gilbert, Marylynn, Michael, Sally, George, David, Roger, Clint, C.J. Bennett, Micah Teter, John Arnold, Ray, Laura and her unborn child, Katie LeDuc, Diane LeDuc, Jean, Bil McGahn, Sara, Debra Lohman, Annie Wiles, Louie, John, Leenah Logan, Jennifer

Special Needs: Chase, Jeremy Lewis, Christine Chaney, Autumn and Jordan, Bravo, Erina, Miss Ann Collins, Shania, Mr. Kittle, Eli M., Athena, Kella & Baby, Garrett, Amy Bacha

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, August 11

Summer Book Group

Saturday, August 15

Canning Workshop – Canning Tomatoes

Sunday, September 13

St. Mark's Outdoor Worship & Family Picnic

Announcements

Summer Book Group

Tuesday, August 11

For our final gathering, we'll explore Chapter 4, "Amen," from Anne Lamott's *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*. In this concluding section, Lamott touches on how "Amen" brings the three prayers to a close, symbolizing a quiet settling and acceptance of our current circumstances. All are welcome as we gather for conversation, reflection, and fellowship. Please bring a chair. If you want to bring a light snack / hors d'oeuvre to share, that would be wonderful (but certainly optional).

Stuff The School Bus

Join Garrett County Public Schools and the United Way of Garrett County. Each year, school supplies are collected from various businesses throughout the community and dropped off at the bus located in front of Walmart. We are gathering supplies in our school bus in the Narthex to take to them on August 12. All of these supplies go to Garrett County schools to help students in need of additional supplies. Make plans now to participate by donating or volunteering!

Supplies include: Backpacks, Colored Pencils, Composition Books, Crayons, Erasers, Glue Sticks/Glue, Highlighters, Notebook Paper, Paper Plates, Pencils, Pens, Pencil Cases, Post-It Notes, Reusable Water Bottles, Scissors, Thin Dry-Erase Markers, 3 Prong Folders w/Pockets, 3-Ring Binders, 1 Subject Spiral Notebooks, 3 Subject Spiral Notebooks, Washable Markers, Zip Lock Bags

Welcome to St. Mark's Lutheran Church

We are so glad you are worshiping with us this morning. Here are a few things to help you feel comfortable in our space and more fully participate in worship. If you have questions at any time, our ushers will be happy to help.

Restrooms

- A first-floor restroom is available. Facing the pulpit, use the door to the left, enter the church office, and the restroom is located on the right.
- Restrooms and water fountains are also available downstairs. From the back of the sanctuary (narthex), take the steps downstairs, turn right into Fellowship Hall, restrooms are on the right and the water fountain is on the left.

Accessibility & Comfort

- Our bulletins contain the order of worship so you can easily follow along. You are invited to participate in the liturgy in areas indicated in bold and hymns can be found in the red hymnal.
- If standing during worship is uncomfortable, please feel free to remain seated.
- Hearing assistance devices and large-print bulletins are available—please ask an usher.

Visitors

- If you are visiting, we invite you to sign the guest registry located on the stand near the front doors or fill out a visitor envelope found in the pew rack in front of you and place it in the offering plate.
- If you or someone you know is in need of an extra prayer, please fill out a card in the pew back in front of you, and an usher will be by during the prelude to collect it.

Children

- Children's worship bags are available in the narthex. You are welcome to pick one up for your child(ren).

Electronics

- Please silence or turn off cell phones and electronic devices so that all may focus on worship.

Holy Communion

- If Holy Communion is celebrated today, please know that all are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who prefer not to receive communion are invited to come forward for a blessing. Grape juice is available on the side tables and wine will be poured from the chalice. Gluten-free wafers are also available.

Thank you for worshiping with us today—we are glad you are here.



August 2, 2026, Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Matthew 14:13-21

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Holy God, you feed us on the riches of your kingdom, then invite us to feed others in kind. Spread the impulse of your generosity far and wide, that this world may see a revival of your original vision for creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

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; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. (Matthew 14:19-20)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Crowds throng in ever increasing numbers to see, hear and experience the great teacher/healer. But Jesus resists the impulse to keep the spotlight on himself. If anyone would follow him, they must learn the strength of their own faith, love, and generosity.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Who are the miracle workers and healers in your community? How are they recognized? How are they rewarded? What is God's role in healing and the working of modern miracles?
- How much authority has God given you that you are reluctant to claim? What might you accomplish if you accept responsibility for the gifts God has given you?
- For the littles: What would you serve for dinner if you had very important guests coming?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God fill your belly with food and your heart with love. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Do one thing this week that honors the gifts God has given you that you have been reluctant to claim or use. Share your plan with someone who can hold you accountable for following through with your actions.



Go Deeper: Read and reflect on the readings for each day of the week.

Monday, Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 31:22-42; Romans 1:8-15

Tuesday, Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Genesis 32:3-21; Acts 2:37-47

Wednesday, Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 43:1-7; Matthew 15:32-39

Thursday, Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Gen. 35:22b-29; Acts 17:10-15

Friday, Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Genesis 36:1-8; Acts 18:24-28

Saturday, Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Gen. 37:5-11; Matthew 16:1-4