

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 2020



This document is for use only during remote worship by members and friends of St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Asheville NC, and may not be reproduced or transmitted in any fashion.

Liturgical texts and music from sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26951.

Scripture quotations are from Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyright © 1946, 1952, and 1971 National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

Welcome and Worship Announcements

Dedication of New Facilities

Psalm 150

- ¹Hallelujah! Praise God in his holy temple;
praise him in the firmament of his power.
²Praise him for his mighty acts;
praise him for his excellent greatness.
³Praise him with the blast of the ram's-horn;
praise him with lyre and harp.
⁴Praise him with timbrel and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe.
⁵Praise him with resounding cymbals;
praise him with loud clanging cymbals.
⁶Let everything that has breath
praise the Lord. Hallelujah!

Sisters and brothers: With gratitude for the completion of our renovation project, we are gathered to dedicate it to the service of almighty God and for the building up of the body of Christ. From this day forward let it be a place for the gathering of the people of God, a place for proclaiming the Gospel, a place for bringing life and hope to us and to this community. Peace be to this house and to all who enter here.

Amen.

Offices

Verse

Psalm 90: 17

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and prosper for us the work of our hands—
O prosper the work of our hands!

Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for your abundant gifts.
By your holy wisdom all things have been made to reflect your glory,
for the sustenance of life, and for the use and delight of your living creatures.
Send your blessing upon us and upon these offices,
which we set apart today to your praise and honor.
Give us joy in all your works, and grant that this may always be a place
where your will is done and your name is glorified;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Solar Panels

Verse

John 8: 12

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world,
whoever follows me will never walk in darkness."

Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for your abundant gifts.
By your holy wisdom all things have been made to reflect your glory,
for the sustenance of life, and for the use and delight of your living creatures.
Send your blessing upon us and upon these solar panels,
which we set apart today to your praise and honor.
May we learn to cherish the earth and live in harmony with your good creation;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Childhood Education Center

Verse

Matthew 19: 14

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them,
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."

Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for your abundant gifts.
By your holy wisdom all things have been made to reflect your glory,
for the sustenance of life, and for the use and delight of your living creatures.
Send your blessing upon us and upon this childhood education center,
which we set apart today to your praise and honor.
May it be a lively place for sound learning and new discovery;
and grant that those who teach and those who learn
may find you to be the source of all truth;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Meeting Space

Verse

Psalms 133: 1

How very good and pleasant it is
when kindred live together in unity!

Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, creator of the universe, for your abundant gifts.
By your holy wisdom all things have been made to reflect your glory,
for the sustenance of life, and for the use and delight of your living creatures.
Send your blessing upon us and upon this meeting space,
which we set apart today to your praise and honor.
May warmth and welcome fill this place.
May it be a home for the community and a haven for the stranger;
a safe place for laughter, for tears, and for wonder;
and a center for acts of service and deeds of love;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Prayer

Let us pray. Most high God, whom the heavens cannot contain, we give you thanks for the gifts
of those who have planned, fundraised, and built this house of faith to your glory;
we praise you for the fellowship of those who by their use will make it holy;
we praise you for the formation of children and adults that will occur within new walls;
and we pray that all who seek you here may find you and be filled with joy and peace,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Greetings

Benediction

Almighty God bless us, and direct our days and our deeds in peace.
Amen.

Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
 2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,

who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,

who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

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.

Prayer of the Day

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Psalm Paraphrase

Psalm 138



1. With all my pow'rs of heart and tongue I'll praise my mak - er in my song.
2. To God I cried when trou - bles rose, He heard me and sub - dued my foes.
3. The God of heav'n main - tains his state, Frowns on the proud and scorns the great.
4. Grace will com - lete what grace be - gins, To save from sor - rows or from sins.



The an - gels hear the notes I raise, ap - prove the song, and join the praise.
He did my ris - ing fears con - trol, and strength dif - fused through all my soul.
But from his throne de - scends to see the child_ of hum - an pov - er - ty.
The work that wis - dom un - der - takes E - ter - nal mer - cy ne'er for - sakes.

Tune: Traditional, as sung by Mrs. Rosie Hensley of Carmen, NC (Madison County), August 28, 1916

Text: Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

First Reading

Isaiah 51: 1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord.
Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug.
Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many.
For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places,
and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord;
joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation;
for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples.
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples;
the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.
Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Second Reading

Romans 12: 1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

Proper Verse

You are | the Messiah,* the Son of the | living God.

Gospel

Matthew 16: 13-20

The Holy Gospel according to _____.

Glory to you, O Lord.

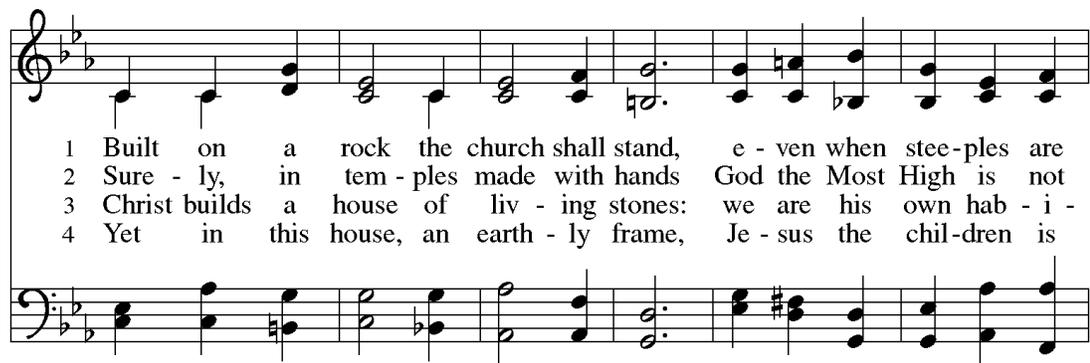
Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord.

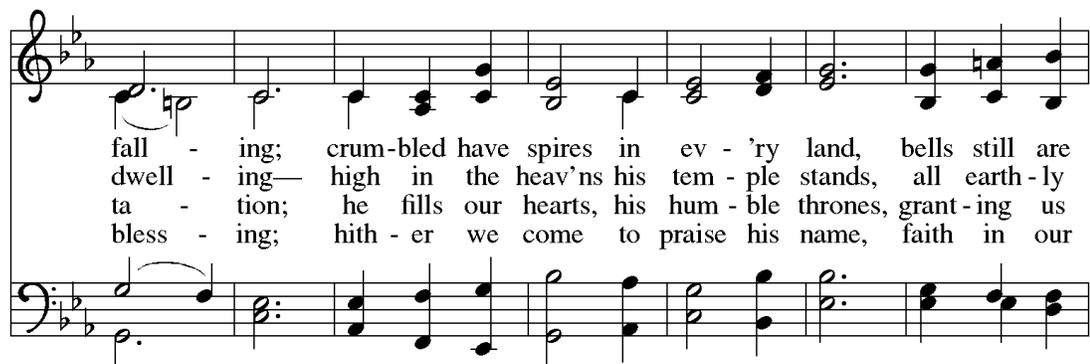
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

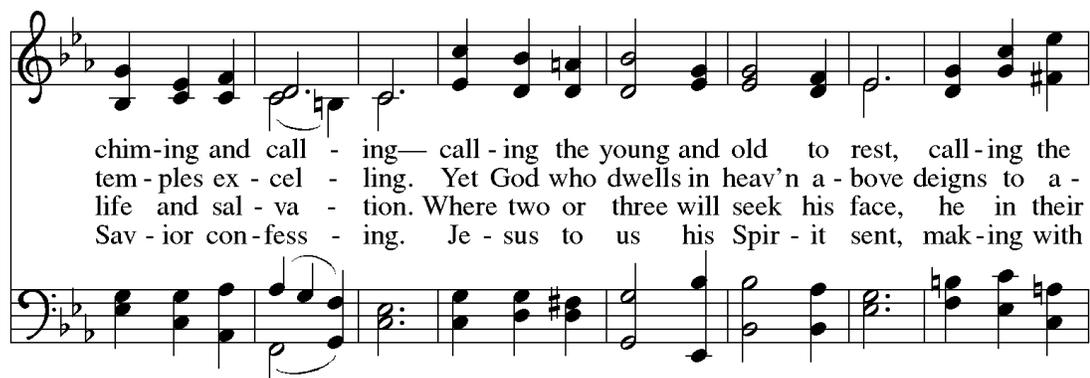
Silence for reflection follows the sermon



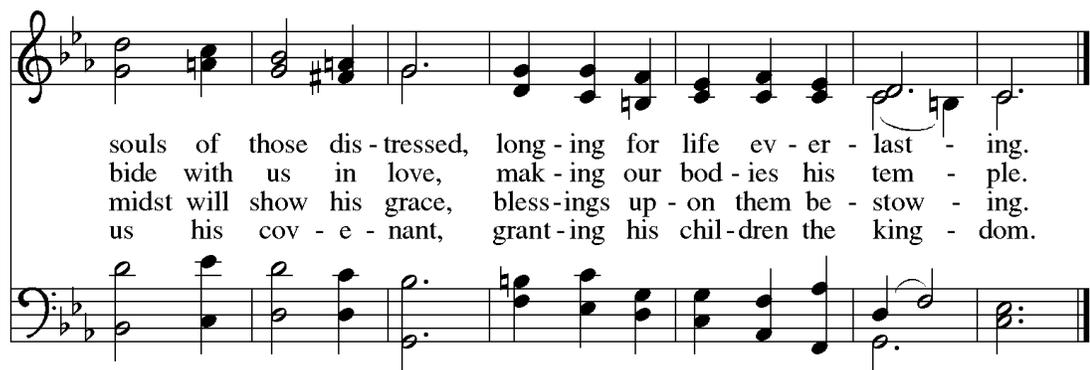
1 Built on a rock the church shall stand, e - ven when stee - ples are
 2 Sure - ly, in tem - ples made with hands God the Most High is not
 3 Christ builds a house of liv - ing stones: we are his own hab - i -
 4 Yet in this house, an earth - ly frame, Je - sus the chil - dren is



fall - ing; crum - bled have spires in ev - 'ry land, bells still are
 dwell - ing— high in the heav'ns his tem - ple stands, all earth - ly
 ta - tion; he fills our hearts, his hum - ble thrones, grant - ing us
 bless - ing; hith - er we come to praise his name, faith in our



chim - ing and call - ing— call - ing the young and old to rest, call - ing the
 tem - ples ex - cel - ling. Yet God who dwells in heav'n a - bove deigns to a -
 life and sal - va - tion. Where two or three will seek his face, he in their
 Sav - ior con - fess - ing. Je - sus to us his Spir - it sent, mak - ing with



souls of those dis - tressed, long - ing for life ev - er - last - ing.
 bide with us in love, mak - ing our bod - ies his tem - ple.
 midst will show his grace, bless - ings up - on them be - stow - ing.
 us his cov - e - nant, grant - ing his chil - dren the king - dom.

- 5 Through all the passing years, O Lord,
 grant that, when church bells are ringing,
 many may come to hear your Word,
 who here this promise is bringing:
 "I know my own, my own know me;
 you, not the world, my face shall see;
 my peace I leave with you. Amen."

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 into hell.
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

Peace

Offering

Thanksgiving for the Word

We thank you, O God, for your life-giving Word,
for calling creation into being,
declaring forgiveness from the cross,
and delivering the spirit of rebirth.

We praise you, O God, for your Word:
we praise you, O God, for your Word.

Your word is a lamp lighting our path,
a mirror reflecting our selves,
a shield providing us refuge,
a fire burning for justice and truth.

Your word is sweeter than honey:
it nourishes our bodies like milk,
it sustains your people like bread.

We receive your promises, more treasured than gold.

We bless you, O God, for your Word:
we bless you, O God, for your Word.

Open our ears to your prophets, apostles, and saints,
and to all the cries of the needy.

Breathe into your church the mighty Spirit of Christ,
that heeding your voice of beauty and power
we are strengthened to serve wherever we are called.

To you, Father, Son, and Spirit – the Source, Word, and Breath --
we offer our thanks for your life-giving Word:
we offer our thanks for your life-giving Word. Amen.

*Gen. 1:3
Luke 23:34
John 3:5*

*Ps. 119:105
James 1:23
Prov. 30:5
Jer. 23:29
Ps. 119:103
1 Pet. 2:2
Matt. 14:20
Ps. 19:10*

*Eph. 2:19-20
James 5:4
John 20:22
Ps. 29:9
Rom. 16:25-26*

Lord's Prayer



Gathered into one by the Ho-ly Spir - it, let us pray as Je-sus taught us.



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,



your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.



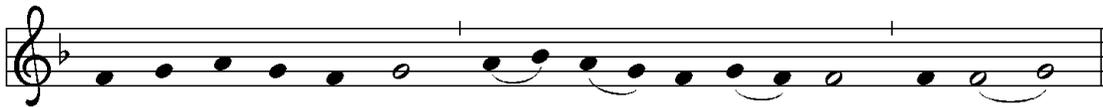
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we



for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri - al



and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,



and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and for ever.

Amen.



Sending Hymn

“We All Are One in Mission”



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,
 2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.
 3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:
 Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove
 to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,
 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.
 so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.
 our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955
 Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version
 Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

Announcements and Dismissal

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.