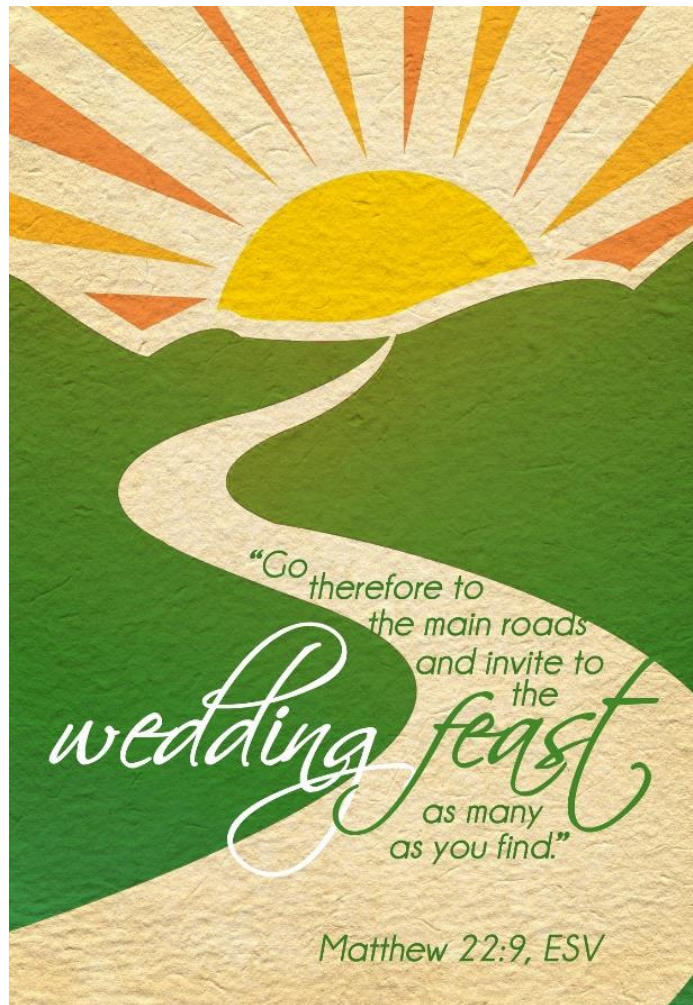


*St. Mark's Lutheran Church*  
*454 Fieldstone Road, Mooresville, NC 28115*  
*704-664-5474*  
*www.saintmarkslutheran.com*



*Sunday, October 11, 2020*  
*Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*10:00 a.m. Live Streamed Service*

## INTRODUCTION

*In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.*

## PRELUDE – "Shepherd Me, O God" by Marty Haugen – Ensemble

Text and Music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23; Text © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## WELCOME

## STEWARDSHIP VIDEO – Susan Bostin and Jan Wagoner

## INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God: Father, Son +, and Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In the midst of fear and anger, mayhem and destruction, anxiety and worry, God calls us, invites and welcomes us. Trusting in his mercy, let us confess our sins.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

(based on Exodus 32:1-14, Matthew 22:1-14, Philippians 4:1-9)

**God of mercy, in our impatience for answers, we sometimes turn to idols of our own making and forget our covenant with you. Passionate for what is right, we wrong those with whom we differ. Pleased at the invitation to your banquet, we fail to arrive with humility and thanksgiving. Forgive us when our faith is weak and our zeal too strong. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

(based on Philippians 4:1-9, Psalm 106)

Do not worry; the Lord is near. God hears our prayers with compassion and with abundant, steadfast love. Rejoice, for in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

by Hans Holznagel, adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* © 2008 Abingdon Press, and posted on the [Ministry Matters](#) website.

## HYMN ELW 873 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!" Vs 1, 3, 6

- 1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.

### *Refrain*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

- 3 With all the angel choirs, with all the saints on earth  
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth. *Refrain*
- 6 Praise God who reigns on high, the Lord whom we adore:  
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest, one God forevermore. *Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## STEWARDSHIP VIDEO – Bill Elkin

**FIRST READING:** Isaiah 25:1-9 – Video by Sharon Gombotz

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, you are my God;  
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.  
<sup>2</sup>For you have made the city a heap,  
the fortified city a ruin;  
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
it will never be rebuilt.  
<sup>3</sup>Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.  
<sup>4</sup>For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.  
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,  
<sup>5</sup>the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,  
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
the song of the ruthless was stilled.  
<sup>6</sup>On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.  
<sup>7</sup>And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
<sup>8</sup>he will swallow up death forever.  
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.  
<sup>9</sup>It will be said on that day,  
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.  
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

**PSALM 23 (NLT) Reflective Prayer** – Video by Nathan and Braley McCoy

**The LORD is my shepherd,**

*My guide, my GPS, my personal trainer, my president, my mentor. The one I look to...*

**I have everything I need.**

*I want and long for much, desire a world of things. But what do I really need?*

**He lets me rest in green meadows; he leads me beside peaceful streams.**

*Lord, we burn ourselves out at times, take on too much. Please help us to pause, to find moments of refreshment amidst the busyness...*

**He renews my strength.**

*We are so tired at times, so wrung out from the day. Renew our strength Lord, please, give us patience and endurance...*

**He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.**

*It's easy to get lost, to become distracted and lose our way. Please guide us in our decision making this week LORD...*

**Even when I walk through the dark valley of evil, I will not be afraid,**

*The news can be bad, it can frighten and overwhelm us. Help us to see it through your eyes, give us comfort, compassion, and courage...*

**For you are close beside me. Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.**

*Popular opinion informs us that there is nothing out there, but you promise to always be with us, to never leave us. Help us to remember that in all that is happening around us...*

**You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies.**

*Enemies appear in many guises – peer pressure, cynicism, rebuffs, and negative criticism. Your word offers us a feast of encouragement. Thank you, LORD.*

**You welcome me as a guest, anointing my head with oil.**

*Help us to keep in mind that we are your prodigal children, welcomed home, forgiven, invited in...*

**My cup overflows with blessings. Surely your goodness and love will pursue me forever. I will live in the presence of the LORD all my days.**

*Thank you for all the good things in our lives and the promise of fullness of life with you.*

**Amen**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 22:1-14 – Video by Stan Suther

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22<sup>nd</sup> Chapter

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN ELW 646 – “The Peace of the Lord”**

*La paz del Señor*

- 1 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:  
the peace of the Lord is for you and for me, and also for all of God's children.  
The peace of the Lord is for you and for me, and also for all of God's children.
- 2 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:  
the peace of the Lord is among us right now, so open yourselves to receive it.  
The peace of the Lord is among us right now, so open yourselves to receive it.
- 3 The peace of the Lord, the peace of the Lord, the peace of the risen Lord Jesus:  
the peace of the Lord kept within cannot live, so open yourselves now to share it.  
The peace of the Lord kept within cannot live, so open yourselves now to share it.

Text and Music: Anders Ruuth; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923; Spanish text and tune © Anders Ruuth, admin. Augsburg Fortress. English text © Lutheran World Federation; Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## 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

ELW 780 "Shepherd Me. O God" Refrain –

**Sing: Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.**

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious host, fill your church with a spirit of joyous hospitality. We pray for bishops, teachers, church leaders, and all children of God as they invite others to your table of boundless grace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures, and still and running waters. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Sing: Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.**

Gracious host, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill *especially*... Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in this community (*local ministries can be named*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious host, as we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**Sing: Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants, beyond my fears, from death into life.**

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **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

## **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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

## **BENEDICTION**

### **SONG ELW 536 – “*God Be with You Till We Meet Again*”, Vs 1**

God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904, alt; Music William G. Tomer, 1833-1896

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**