



*Welcome* to St. Mark's! We are the church that shares a living, daring confidence in God's grace. For us as part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, this faith comes through the good news of Jesus Christ and gives us the freedom and the courage to wonder, discover and boldly participate in what God is up to in the world.

Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person — questions, complexities and all. We especially welcome those who are worshiping with us for the first time and invite you to join us again.

8:30 & 10:00  
DRAFT 1

MAY 2



\*CONGREGATION STANDS

## *St. Mark's Lutheran Church*

454 Fieldstone Road Mooresville, North Carolina

Church Office Phone 704-664-5474

*Pastor: Rev. Dave Keck*

*Associate Pastor: Rev. Vern Kinard*

*Director of Music: Robbie Pearson*

*Organist: Priscilla Abraham*

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**MAY 2, 2021 - 8:30 & 10:00 AM**

**PRELUDE** ~ *"You Are the Vine"* by Michael A. Schmid and Heidi E. Schmid

Copyright © 2004 Michael A. Schmid & Heidi Schmid, c/o True Vine Music, Napa, CA

### **WELCOME**

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

**Amen.**

**HYMN 449** – *"We Know That Christ Is Raised"*

- 1 We know that Christ is raised and dies no more. Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,  
and our despair he turned to blazing joy. Hallelujah!
- 2 We share by water in his saving death. Reborn, we share with him an Easter life,  
as living members of our Savior Christ. Hallelujah!
- 3 The Father's splendor clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God.  
Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hallelujah!
- 4 A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood.  
The universe restored and whole will sing: Hallelujah!

Text: John B. Geyer, b. 1932; Text © John B. Geyer

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING:** 1 John 4:7-21

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be

the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Here ends the reading.

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION HYMN 377 – “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”, Vs 1**

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen! Trumpets resounding in glorious light!  
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever! Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

#### *Refrain*

Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL: John 15:1-8**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 15th chapter

#### **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Jesus said: <sup>1</sup>"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

**HYMN 377 – “Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”, Vs 3**

- 3 Jesus the vine, we are the branches; life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;  
heaven to earth, Christ to the people, gift of the future now flowing to me.

*Refrain*

Jesus is risen and we shall arise. Give God the glory! Alleluia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926; Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

**SERMON**

**HYMN 546 - “To Be Your Presence”**

- 1 To be your presence is our mission here, to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,  
to be your heart of mercy ever near, alleluia!
- 2 To be your presence is our mission bold, to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,  
to be your hands of justice, right uphold, alleluia!
- 3 To be your presence is our mission blest, to speak for all the broken and oppressed,  
to be your voice of hope, your love expressed, alleluia!
- 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your people is our call and  
choice,  
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice, alleluia!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939; Text © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

**AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM / HOUSEHOLDS JOINING ST. MARK'S**

page 234-235, 237

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

God of all fruitfulness, you abide in your church and your church abides in you. Cleanse us by your word and give yourself to the whole church on earth so that it bears fruit and witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have created the heavens and the earth. As we wonder at the beauty of creation, may we seek vital connections among all that depends on the earth for life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You rule the nations with justice and love. Give the leaders of the earth assurance of your abiding presence, that they lead not by fear but with love for those they are called to serve. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have loved us so that we can love others. We pray for all in need of your love: those who are poor, lowly, outcast, weak, or fearful. Provide for the needs of all (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You gather us with all the saints by the power of your Spirit especially with Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria and those we name before you. With them, may our hearts live forever in your keeping. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## **THE 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**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

*"This Is the Feast"*, ELW Setting Four, page 149

### **BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Speak and visit with each other as we go forth and serve*



Copyright © 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB127538.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Songs reprinted with permission under CCLI License #3123342 and OneLicense #1-720452

## SAINT MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU!



Welcome  
To St. Mark's

We welcome you if you are single, married, divorced, gay, wealthy, poor, black, brown, yellow or white. We welcome crying newborns, squirming children and frazzled moms and dads. You are welcome if you sing like an opera star or can't carry a tune in a bucket, like some of us. You are welcome here if you use a wheelchair, walker, or scooter to assist your mobility. You are welcome here because the Spirit of the Lord called you and helped guide you here today, along with the rest of us. We don't care if you're more Lutheran than Martin Luther, haven't been in church since little Joey's baptism, or if you're "just browsing." We welcome you if you are over 60, even if you haven't grown up yet, or if you are a teenager and growing up too fast. We welcome starving artists, latte-sippers, vegetarians and junk food junkies. You are welcome if you are in recovery or still struggling with your addiction. We welcome you if you have been having problems or you're down in the dumps or if you don't like "organized religion." We've been there too. If you are left-wing, right-wing or no wing at all, you are welcome here. If you are visiting Grandma and Grandpa and they made you come to church, welcome! Likewise, if you are in town to visit a child, grandchild or friend, you are welcome here. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now. We welcome you to Saint Mark's Lutheran Church because we are a place of saints and sinners of all kinds who are here by the grace of God.