



*God's love, Our service.*

# St. Mark's Lutheran Church

## Sunday, August 17, 2025

### 10th Sunday after Pentecost

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## INTRODUCTION

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today in worship we are surrounded by a great "cloud of witnesses." In the word and in holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."

## WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The August Noisy Offering collection will go to the SMLC Playground fund.

The flowers today are from Don Anderson: Wishing Happy Birthday to his girls of August- wife, daughter, granddaughters and great granddaughter.

**Youth Sunday:** Thank you to our youth volunteers!

### **Greeters:**

Karter Konrade  
Kate Konrade  
Kinlee Konrade  
Ella Polich  
Lauren Polich  
Madi Weeg

### **Ushers:**

Emily Howe  
Justin Howe  
Karter Konrade  
Kate Konrade  
Kinlee Konrade  
Riley Spornitz  
Thomas Sublet

### **Readers:**

Abby Keim  
Natalie Sublet  
Thomas Sublet





# Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Our baptismal candidate is Riley Spornitz.

Daughter of Kelly Spornitz & Kenneth DeGraeve, and sister to Brooke, Karlie & Brody.

Riley's sponsors are Angie & Chad Sublet.

## INTRODUCTION AND PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism.

The power of sin is put to death in this holy flood, and we are raised with Jesus Christ to new life. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and sent out in mission for the life of the world.

*(To Angie & Chad) Who presents this child to be baptized?*

*Sponsors: **We do.***

Riley, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to be baptized into Christ?

*Riley: **I do.***

*(To Angie & Chad) As you present Riley for baptism, you are entrusted with gifts and responsibilities: to live with her among God's faithful people, bring her to the word of God and the holy supper, and nurture her in faith and prayer, so that she may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace among all people. Do you promise to help Riley grow in the Christian*

*faith and life?*

*Response **I do.***

*(To Angie & Chad) Do you promise to nurture Riley in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?*

*Response **I do.***

*People of St. Mark's, do you promise to support Riley and pray for her in her new life in Christ?*

*Response **We do.***

*(Water is poured into the font)*

## RENUNCIATION OF EVIL AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you, parents and sponsors, to reject sin, profess your faith in Christ, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

*Response: **I renounce them.***

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

*Response: **I renounce them.***

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

*Response: **I renounce them.***

Do you turn to Christ as your Lord and Savior?

*Response: **In faith I turn to Christ.***

With the whole church, let us all confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

**C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C 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**

#### **THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit brooded over the waters and you created the world by your Word, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through water you led your people Israel from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan Jesus was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you delivered us from the power of sin and death and set us free to live in you.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this water and upon *all who are washed in it, that they may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.*

**Amen.**

#### **WASHING**

Riley, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. And let the people say ... **Amen.**

#### **INVOCATION OF THE SPIRIT**

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, wash them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain Riley with the gift of your Holy Spirit:  
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the spirit of counsel and might,  
the spirit of knowledge  
and the fear of the Lord,  
the spirit of joy in your presence,  
both now and forever.

**Amen.**

#### **SIGNING WITH THE CROSS**

*(Making a cross on the forehead with oil.)*

Riley, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.  
**Amen.**

*(Sponsors also receive the sign of the cross with oil.)*

#### **PRESENTATION OF A CANDLE**

*(Presenting a lighted candle.)*

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

#### **WELCOME**

Through baptism you have been received into the household of God, entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ, and strengthened to serve by the holy and life-giving Spirit.

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and the mission we share. Join us as we give praise to God and bear God's creative and redeeming word to all the world. Welcome, Riley!**

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 796, vs. 1 & 2

### How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the  
Lord,  
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the  
Word!  
What more can he say than to you he has  
said  
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis-  
mayed,  
for I am your God and will still give you aid;  
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause  
you to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent  
hand."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

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### Greeting page 120

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 Pg. 120

### HYMN OF PRAISE page 122

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God,  
judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share  
your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of blood-  
shed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pio-  
neer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.

### First Reading: Jeremiah 23:23-29

*Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God's judgment, he suffers rejection. Today's reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God's word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.*

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in se-  
cret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and

earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed! I have dreamed!” <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

### **Psalm: Psalm 82**

*Arise, O God, and rule the earth. (Ps. 82:8)*

<sup>1</sup> God stands to charge the divine council assembled,  
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

<sup>2</sup> **“How long will you judge unjustly,  
and show favor to the wicked?**

<sup>3</sup> Save the weak and the orphan;  
defend the humble and needy;

<sup>4</sup> **rescue the weak and the poor;  
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

<sup>5</sup> They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness;  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

<sup>6</sup> **Now I say to you, ‘You are gods,  
and all of you children of the Most High;**

<sup>7</sup> nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,  
and fall like any prince.’ ”

<sup>8</sup> **Arise, O God, and rule the earth,  
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

### **Second Reading: Hebrews 11:29—12:2**

*The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials*

*of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.*

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented <sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The Word of The Lord.

**Thanks Be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation** p.124

*Holy Gospel, according to Luke, the 12th Chapter.*

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

## **Gospel: Luke 12:49-56**

*Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup> “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided:

father against son  
and son against father,  
mother against daughter  
and daughter against mother,  
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law  
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup> He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. <sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”



**CHILDREN'S SERMON** Blessing of Backpacks (Abby & Mike Polich— children's sermon helpers)

**SERMON** Youth of St. Mark's: Tim Eiter, Abby Keim, Henry Moore, Brian Moore, Riley Spornitz, & Natalie Sublet

### **BLESSING OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS**

For the marvels of your creation,

**We praise you, O God.**

For the opportunity to explore and study,

**We praise you, O God.**

For those who guide us, teachers and mentors,

**We praise you, O God.**

Teach us your ways and guide us in your path,

For you are the creator of all that is, seen and unseen.

**Amen.**

*Let us pray for all who are beginning a new school year, that both students and teachers will be blessed in their academic endeavors.*

Almighty God,  
**you give wisdom and knowledge.**  
**Grant teachers the gift of joy and insight,**  
**And students the gift of diligence and openness,**  
**That all may grow in what is good and honest and true.**  
**Support all who teach and all who learn,**  
**That together we may know and follow your ways;**  
**Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

## **HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 768**

### **Lead Me Guide Me**

Refrain:

Lead me, guide me along the way;  
For if You lead me, I cannot stray;  
Lord, let me walk each day with Thee.  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power  
To help me over my weakest hour;  
Let me through the darkness Thy face to see,  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain:

2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness;  
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.  
I am putting all my trust in Thee,  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain:

3 I am lost, if you take your hand from me;  
I am blind, without Thy Light to see;  
Lord, just always let me Thy servant be,  
Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain:



## **Prayers of Intercession**

Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

*A brief silence.*

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound (*especially*). Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

In Jesus Christ, God has made his peace with us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

**And also with you**

Let us share God's peace with one another.

## **OFFERING/ NOISY OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY ELW 752**

## **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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, .....

And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, Holy** pg. 130

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The kingdom of God is set before you.

Eat and rejoice.

## **COMMUNION**

**COMMUNION SONG** pg. 135



## COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 779

### Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

- 1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.
- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,

and grace will lead me home.

- 4 The Lord has promised good to me;  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand  
years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt., sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5

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## ELW 491

### Come, Let Us Eat

*[The words in parentheses may be sung by a leader or by all.]*

- 1 (Come, let us eat, for now the feast is  
spread,)  
come, let us eat, for now the feast is  
spread.  
(Our Lord's body let us take together,)  
our Lord's body let us take together.
- 2 (Come, let us drink, for now the wine is  
poured,)  
come, let us drink, for now the wine is  
poured.  
(Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,)  
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.

- 3 (In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,)  
in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.  
(In the presence of our Lord we gather,)  
in the presence of our Lord we gather.
- 4 (Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty  
word,)  
rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty  
word.  
(Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,)  
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. c. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.  
Text sts. 1-3 © Lutheran World Federation. Text st. 4 © 1972  
*Contemporary Worship 4: Hymns for Baptism and Holy Communion*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Mothering God,  
you gathered us to your table  
and we drank deeply of your grace.  
Send us out by your Spirit  
to love our neighbors as ourselves  
and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

**Amen.**

### **SENDING**

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **BLESSING**

The love of God abound in you;  
the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts;  
and the life of the Spirit

✝ bless you and give you peace.

**Amen.**



## RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 805

### Lead On, O King Eternal!

- 1 Lead on, O King eternal!  
The day of march has come;  
henceforth in fields of conquest  
your tents will be our home.  
Through days of preparation  
your grace has made us strong;  
and now, O King eternal,  
we lift our battle song.
- 2 Lead on, O King eternal,  
till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
and holiness shall whisper  
the sweet amen of peace;

for not with swords loud clashing,  
nor roll of stirring drums,  
but deeds of love and mercy  
the heav'nly kingdom comes.

- 3 Lead on, O King eternal:  
we follow, not with fears,  
for gladness breaks like morning  
where'er your face appears.  
Your cross is lifted o'er us;  
we journey in its light;  
the crown awaits the conquest;  
lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917

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### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**



## PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.638-9331 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

### **St. Mark's members:**

Donna & Ron Frenzl,  
Donna Nichols,  
Pete Cagle,  
Linda Cagle,  
Janet Nichols,  
Chuck Vandenberg,  
Susan & Bill Roberts,  
George McElroy,  
Janet Schmidt,

### **Family & friends:**

Barry Hansen, cousin of Paula Quade,  
Family of Irene, Mother of Janet Krievins,  
Family of Carol Beall, mother-in-law of Tim Anderson and friend of Don & Janet Anderson  
John & Darlene Magnuson, parents of Char Saunders,  
Family of Susan Gaylen, cousin of Joyce Johnson,  
Garry Thomas, father of Mark Thomas,  
Lilian, great granddaughter of Jenny Wheeler's sister,  
Susan Galyen, friend of Joyce Johnson,  
Art Remmereid, uncle of Joyce Johnson,  
Kathryn Young, cousin of Mark Schmideskamp,  
Steve, cousin of Tom Bryer,  
Nancy Harris, daughter-in-law of Nancy & Ron Brown,  
Marilou Osborne, cousin of Joni Benz,  
Liz Zybko, friend of Pam Wilson,  
Tony Berg, son of Arlyn & Jan Berg,  
Marlin Weidler, friend of St. Mark's,  
Donna Trester, Mother of Linda Cagle,  
Kerry O'Rourke, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,  
Fran Besser, friend of Joni & Steve Benz,  
Mindy Gustus, friend of Mark Schmideskamp,  
Everett, friend of sister-in-law of Janet Anderson,  
Jessica Parker, great-niece of Jane Stresewki,  
Tammy Strampe, daughter-in-law of Barbara Strampe,  
Bob Bergene, friend of Clarence Linsey,  
Doug & Kathy Thee, cousins of Barbara Strampe,  
Sheryl Thompson, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Scott Miller, son-in-law of Jane & Mike Scherrer,

Harry Cagle, brother of Pete Cagle,  
Janice, sister of Jenny Wheeler,  
Dr. Owens, friend of Kathy Hinkle,  
Mike and Susan Becker, friends of St. Mark's,  
Elizabeth Applebaum, friend of Kathy Hinkle  
Stan, friend of Pete Cagle,  
Chris, brother of Pete Cagle,  
Joetta Eagle & family, friends of Linda Bayer,  
Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,  
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,  
Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck,  
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,  
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,  
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,  
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,  
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,  
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,  
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,  
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,  
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,  
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,  
All People affected by natural disasters

### **Those in the Military:**

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,