

# FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 9, 2025

# St. Mark Evangelical Lutheran Church Hamilton, NJ

A family of faith, rooted in Word and Sacrament proclaiming the redeeming love of Jesus Christ through worship, nurture, and service.

#### INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

The glory of God is often revealed when and where it is least expected. God uses our lips to declare that glory, inexperienced and hesitant though we may be. God uses our love to demonstrate that glory and so urges us to exercise it. God uses Jesus of Nazareth, water and the word, bread and wine, to reveal God's glory where and when God chooses. Take heed, lest the glory of God slip through our midst unnoticed.

#### **GATHERING**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

#### **WELCOME**

#### **PRELUDE**

Please stand as you are comfortable.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life. **Amen.** 

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God. **Amen.** 



#### **GREETING**

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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.** 

# **K**YRIE



# CANTICLE OF PRAISE: GLORY TO GOD





# PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and angels and saints stand in awe before you. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup> In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of God's robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup> Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup> And one called to another and said,

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of God's glory."

<sup>4</sup> The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup> And I said, "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

<sup>6</sup> Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup> The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." <sup>8</sup> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### Psalm 138

- <sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with | my whole heart; before the gods I will | sing your praise.
- <sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast | love and faithfulness;

for you have glorified your name and your word a- | bove all things.

- <sup>3</sup> When I called, you | answered me; you increased my | strength within me.
- <sup>4</sup> All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O LORD, when they have heard the words | of your mouth.
- <sup>5</sup> They will sing of the ways | of the LORD, that great is the glory | of the LORD.
- <sup>6</sup> The LORD is high, yet cares | for the lowly, perceiving the haughty | from afar.
- <sup>7</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall save me.
- <sup>8</sup> You will make good your pur- | pose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands.

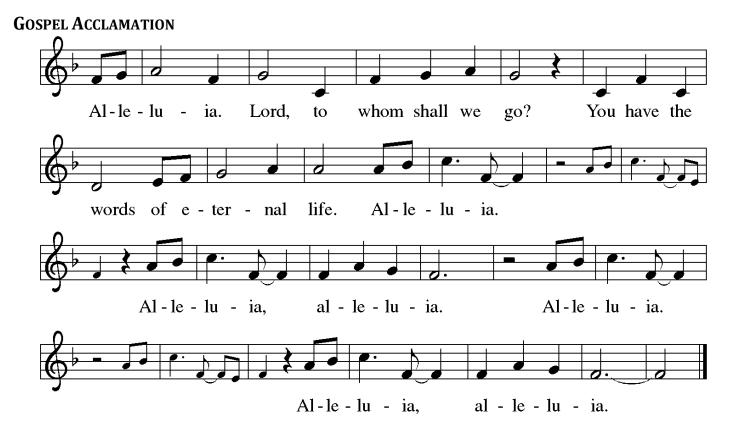
# SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

<sup>1</sup> Now I want you to understand, siblings, the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup> through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup> For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures <sup>4</sup> and that he was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures <sup>5</sup> and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup> Then he appeared to more than five hundred siblings at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup> Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup> Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup> For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup> But by the grace of God I am what I am, and God's grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup> Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you believed.

The Word of the Lord.

## Thanks be to God.



**GOSPEL: Luke 5:1-11** 

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup> Once while Jesus was standing beside the Lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup> he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup> He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." 5 Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." 6 When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to burst. <sup>7</sup> So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. 8 But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" 9 For he and all who were with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had taken, 10 and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." 11 When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

This is the good news of the Gospel.

Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **SERMON**

Please stand as you are comfortable.

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**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.

#### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Amen

God of surprising abundance, you call your people to enter deeply into the world. Equip us to respond to your call, gather up what we have, and offer it to all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

God of creation, provide protection from the elements and other hazards to all whose work brings them outside: for fishers, ranchers, line workers, and construction crews. Guide us to live carefully alongside the wonders of the land and waters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Open the hearts of all leaders, especially those who serve in the armed forces, that they respond to their commission with wisdom and patience. Ensure that all who serve are kept safe in body, mind, and spirit. We pray for an end to all war and armed conflict. God of grace, **hear our prayer**.

Fill with your compassionate presence all who are suffering from addiction, mental illness, injury, or illness of any kind. Draw helpers to their side so that they find relief from their burdens. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

Call our faith communities to do marvelous things. Bless the labor and efforts of this congregation, that we may be a sign of your presence in the world. God of grace, **hear our prayer.** 

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

# **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

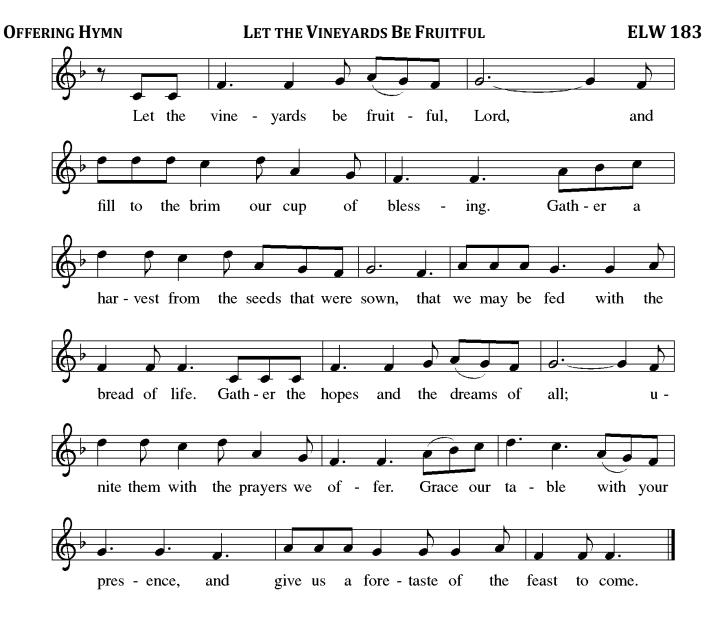
#### **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### **OFFERING**

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Offering plates are located by the entrances to the sanctuary. Your gifts support St. Mark, its mission, and its partnerships with local, statewide, and national partners.

Please stand as you are comfortable.



# **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

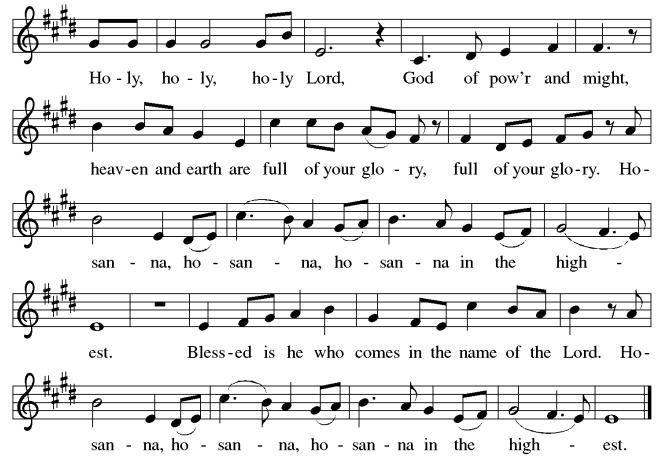
Lift up your hearts.

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, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:



# THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:

Blessed are you for the birth of creation.

Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.

Blessed are you for your promise to your people.

Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.

Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,

the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: *Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.* Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
Let your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

# LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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;

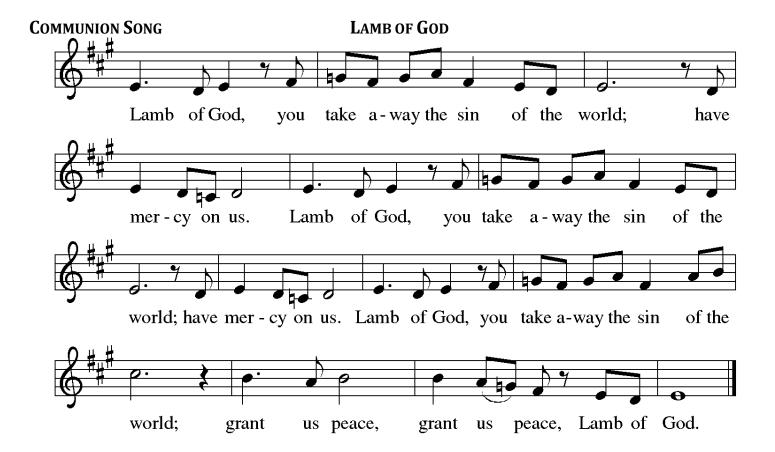
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

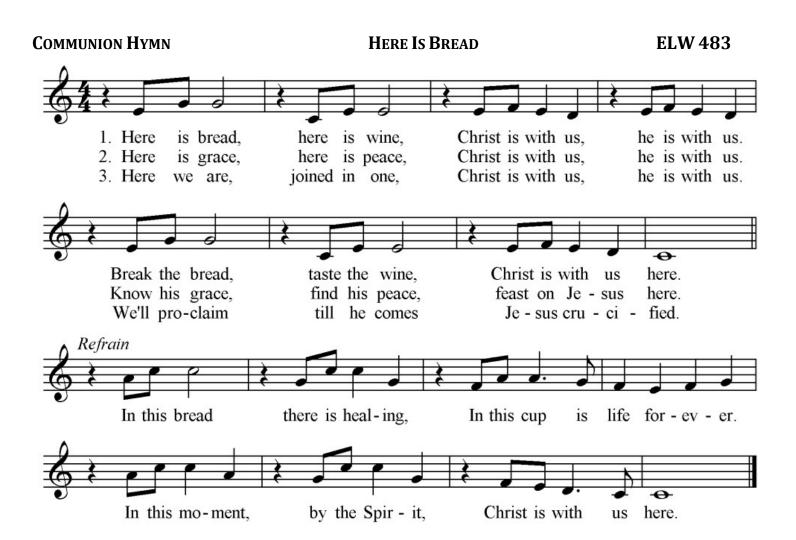
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

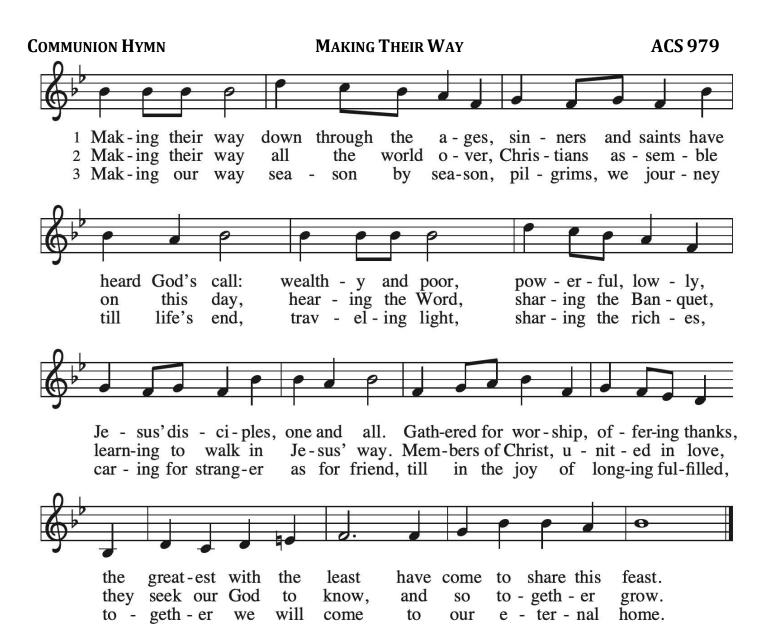
# **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

The joy of the Lord is our strength. Come, eat this meal of gladness.

At St. Mark, we share communion with wheat and gluten-free wafers and with red wine and red grape juice. Everyone is welcome to receive communion, regardless of age, religious background, or life experience.







Please stand as you are comfortable.

#### TABLE BLESSING

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

#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray.

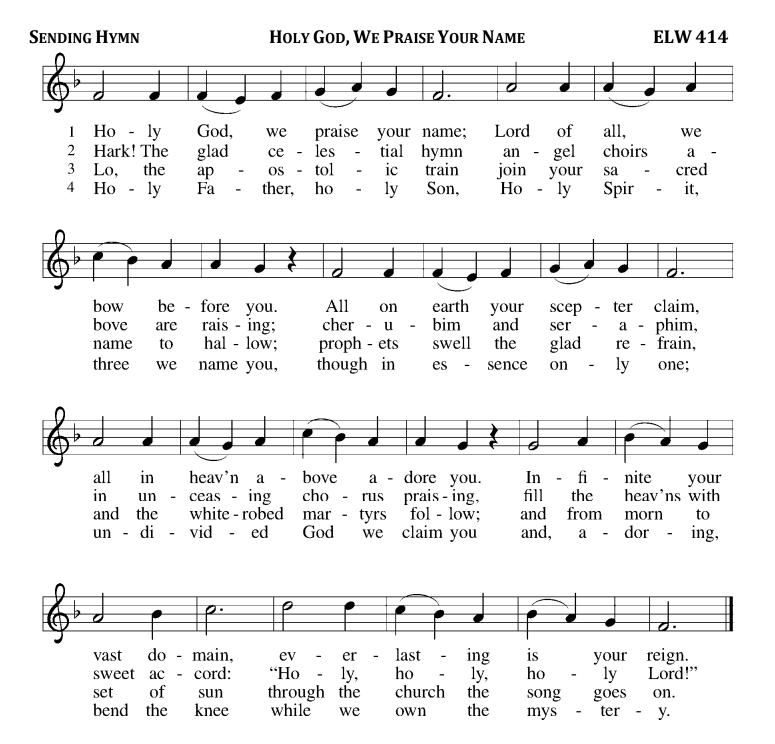
Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service. Send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, amen.

#### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

# **BLESSING**

The Spirit of the triune God bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love. **Amen.** 



**DISMISSAL**Go in peace. Live in hope. **Thanks be to God.** 

**POSTLUDE** 

Thank you to today's worship leaders!

**Lector**: Jeff Clair **Communion Assistant:** Terri Clair

Ushers: Mary Hoh and Nadine Mileski Livestream Operator: Judy Oiler Altar Guild: Tim Boyd

Pastor: Rev. Linnéa Clark
Church Administrator: Robin Harris
Minister of Music: John Kling
Ministers: People of St. Mark

# Worship with Us

We gather for worship on Sundays at 9:30 am (a full-length, more formal service) and on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm (a shorter, more informal service). You are always welcome.

We host Peace of Mindfulness, a mindfulness meditation class, on Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in the sanctuary.

Beginners and advanced practitioners alike are welcome.

#### Serve with Us

We welcome volunteers every Sunday after worship to help with Lunches with Love, which prepares lunches for clients of HomeFront. Recently, we shared our 15,000<sup>th</sup> lunch! Contact Karen Breninghouse (kbreninghouse@gmail.com) for more information.

#### **Contact Us**

You can reach our office at admin@stmarkhamilton.org and at (609) 585-7087.

You can reach Pastor Linnéa Clark directly at pastor@stmarkhamilton.org or at (215) 620-4977 in case of emergency.

You can also find us online at stmarkhamilton.org and at facebook.com/stmarkhamilton.

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