

A purple graphic with a grid pattern. The word "MARK" is written in gold, serif, all-caps letters in the center. A vertical yellow bar is on the left side of the graphic.

MARK

The Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist

Sunday, April 25, 2021

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

Pastor Ben Squires

Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: pastor@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org



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Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist

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St. Mark was the author of the second Gospel, which he composed, according to some Early Church Fathers, when the Christians in Rome asked him to write down the preaching of the apostle Peter. Mark, also known as John Mark, was originally from Jerusalem, where the house of his mother Mary was the center of the early Jerusalem Church (Acts 12:12). He was brought from Jerusalem by Paul and Barnabas to Antioch (Acts 12:25), and it was from this city that they set out on the first missionary journey. When Paul and Barnabas were preparing to go on the second missionary journey, Barnabas wanted to take Mark with them again, but Paul objected because Mark had left them during the first journey. Barnabas took Mark and went to Cyprus, while Paul took Silas as his new companion (Acts 15:37-40). Later, Paul reconciled with Mark and was working with him again (Colossians 4:10; Philemon 24; 2 Timothy 4:11). Finally, Mark was found laboring with Peter in Rome (1 Peter 5:13). Tradition says that Mark was instrumental in founding the Church in Alexandria, becoming its first bishop, and, also that he suffered a martyr's death. (from *The Treasury of Daily Prayer*, CPH)



TODAY'S LITURGY:

THE GOSPEL OF ST. MARK SERVICE

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Mark's Gospel.

Mark is the focus of Year B Gospel readings in the Lectionary.

Opening Hymn

O God of God, O Light of Light

LSB 810 sts. 1-2, 4



1 O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and
2 For deep in proph-ets' sa-cred page, And grand in po-ets'
4 Then raise to Christ a might-y song, And shout His name, His



King of kings: To You in heav-en's glo-ry bright The song of
wing-ed word, Slow-ly in type, from age to age The na-tions
mer-cies tell! Sing, heav'n-ly host, your praise pro-long, And all on



praise for-ev-er rings. To Him who sits up-on the throne,
saw their com-ing Lord; Till through the deep Ju-de-an night
earth, your an-them swell! All hail, O Lamb for sin-ners slain!



The Lamb once slain but raised a-gain, Be all the glo-ry
Rang out the song, "Good-will to men!" Sung once by first-born
For-ev-er let the song as-cend! Wor-thy the Lamb, en-



He has won, All thanks and praise! A-men, a-men.
sons of light, It ech-oes now, "Good-will!" A-men.
throned to reign, All glo-ry, pow'r! A-men, a-men.

Invocation (Based on Mark 1:1-8)

P: John the Baptist appeared, baptizing people in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

C: **God had announced this through the prophet Isaiah:**

P: "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'"

C: **And all the people were going out to be baptized by John in the Jordan River. They were confessing their sins.**

P: And John said, “I have baptized you with water,
but the One who comes after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

C: *This is Jesus, the Son of God, our Lord, the Christ, the Messiah.*

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

C: *Amen.*

Confession (Mark 1:15,2:17,7:14-23)

P: Jesus began His ministry, preaching and saying,
“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand;

C: *repent and believe in the gospel.*

P: When Jesus knew that some thought they were already righteous, without sin,
He said to them “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those
who are sick.

C: *I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.*

P: [Jesus] called the people to Him and said to them, “Hear me, all of you, and
understand.” And He calls us now, “Hear me, all of you, and understand.”

C: *We have come to hear and repent.*

P: Jesus says, “There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him,
but the things that come out of a person are what defile him. For from within,
out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder,
adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride,
foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

C: *We repent and believe in the Gospel of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins.*

Absolution (Forgiveness) (Mark 2:5,10, 5:34; 10:52)

P: And when Jesus saw the faith of the paralytic brought for healing by his friends,
He said, “My son, your sins are forgiven.”

C: *Because Jesus has authority on earth to forgive sins!*

P: And Jesus said to the woman who reached out to touch Him for healing,
“Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace.”

And Jesus said to the man born blind but had now received sight,

“Go your way; your faith has made you well.”

Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I say to
you: “Your sins are forgiven, your faith has made you well.” I forgive you all
your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *Amen.*

Response of Praise (based on Mark 10:52)

LSB 551 sts. 1, 4-5



1 When to our world the Sav - ior came The sick and
4 Of long a - go: yet liv - ing still, Who died for
5 His sov - 'reign pur - pose still re - mains Who rose in



help - less heard His name, And in their weak - ness
us on Cal - v'ry's hill; Who tri - umphed o - ver
pow'r, and lives and reigns; Till ev - 'ry tongue con -



longed to see The heal - ing Christ of Gal - i - lee.
cross and grave, His heal - ing hands stretched forth to save.
fess His praise, The heal - ing Christ of all our days.

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, You have enriched Your Church with the proclamation of the Gospel through the evangelist Mark. Grant that we may firmly believe these glad tidings and daily walk according to Your Word; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Anthem

In the Name of the Father

Adult Choir

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

*In the name of the Father, in the name of the Son;
In the name of the Holy Spirit, I come.
Buried with Jesus, rising to newness of life;
Telling the world my joy has now begun.*

*I dedicate my new life to Jesus;
To follow Him in service and love.
I've given Him my heart, now I'm part of His family;
Rejoicing in this miracle from above.*

*In the name of the Father, in the name of the Son;
In the name of the Holy Spirit, I come.
Buried with Jesus, rising to newness of life;
Telling the world my joy has now begun.
Telling the world my joy has now begun.*

Epistle (New Testament Letter)

2 Timothy 4:5–18 (ESV)

⁵As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

⁹Do your best to come to me soon. ¹⁰For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. ¹²Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. ¹⁴Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. ¹⁵Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. ¹⁶At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Reading

Psalm 146 (ESV)

¹Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³Put not your trust in princes,

in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

⁴When his breath departs he returns to the earth;

on that very day his plans perish.

⁵Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD his God,

⁶who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith forever;
⁷who executes justice for the oppressed,
 who gives food to the hungry.
 The LORD sets the prisoners free;
⁸the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
 The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
 the LORD loves the righteous.
⁹The LORD watches over the sojourners;
 he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
 but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
¹⁰The LORD will reign forever,
 your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Song of Praise

He is Exalted

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on _ high, _ I will praise _ Him.

He is ex - alt - ed, for - ev - er ex - alt - ed, and I will praise His name! _

_ He is the Lord, _ for - ev - er His truth shall reign.

Heav - en and earth _ re - joice in His ho - ly name. _

He is ex - alt - ed, the King is ex - alt - ed on high! _

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Confession of Faith from Mark 8:27-30, 9:31,10:33-34,12:10-11,16:6-7

P: When Jesus asked His disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” Peter answered:

C: “You are the Christ.”

P: meaning the Messiah, the Anointed One, coming to save God’s people.

C: Did Jesus come with His glory and power?

P: No, not during His first coming. He told the disciples many times how the Lord’s salvation would be accomplished: “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.”

And again: “See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death and deliver him over to the Gentiles. ³⁴And they will mock him and spit on him, and flog him and kill him. And after three days he will rise.”

This fulfills Psalm 118 which says:

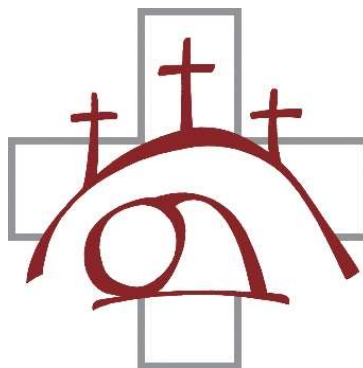
C: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes.”

P: So we believe in the death and resurrection of Jesus just as He told us and as the angel declared to the women when they went early to the tomb on Easter: “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen; he is not here. See the place where they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going before you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.”

C: This is our Resurrection hope.

Jesus has told us that He will return again to take us to be with Him forever.

We will see Him, just as He told us. Amen.



Hymn of the Day

O God of Light

LSB 836 plus refrain; tune: 801



1 O God of light, Your Word, a lamp un - fail - ing, Shall pierce the
2 From days of old, through blind and will - ful a - ges, Though we re -
3 Un - dimmed by time, those words are still re - veal - ing To sin - ful
4 To all the world Your sum - mons You are send - ing, Through all the



dark - ness of our earth - bound way And show Your grace, Your plan for us un -
belled, You gent - ly sought a - gain And spoke through saints, a - pos - tles, proph - ets,
hearts Your jus - tice and Your grace; And quest - ing spir - its, long - ing for Your
earth, to ev - 'ry land and race, That myr - iad tongues, in one great an - them



veil - ing, And guide our foot - steps to the per - fect day.
sa - ges, Who wrote with ea - ger or re - luc - tant pen.
heal - ing, See Your com - pas - sion in the Sav - ior's face.
blend - ing, May praise and cel - e - brate Your gift of grace

Refrain



O God of light, make poss - i - ble my hope, And show Your



grace! And show Your grace! O God of light, make poss - i - ble my



hope, And show Your grace! And show Your grace!

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"O God of Light" © 1952, renewed 1980 The Hymn Society; admin. Hope Publishing Co.

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Sermon

“How Does Mark’s Gospel Point to Jesus as the One Who Fulfills Psalm 146:7-9?”

Offering Preface (based on Mark 10:42-45, 12:41-44)

P: Come, now, and offer your lives in service to the Lord. Jesus said, “You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.”

C: **But it shall not be this way among us!**

Whoever would be great among us must be a servant to others, and whoever would be first among us must be servant of all.

For even Jesus did not come to be served but to serve,

P: and to give his life as a ransom for many.

When you come to bring financial offerings to the ministry of the Lord, remember what the Lord Jesus taught while watching the poor widow come to the Temple with her offering. She came and put in two small copper coins, which adds up to a penny.

C: **Jesus said this widow put in more offering than all the others.**

P: The others gave out of their abundance, their extra wealth,

C: **But out of her poverty, the widow put in everything she had, all she had to live on.**

P: Come, give to the Lord from your heart and as a servant. Amen.

Offertory (Based on Mark 10:42-45)

LSB 857 sts. 1, 4



1 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -
4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride Nor



ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
count our - selves a - bove The low - est place, the



get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er’s need.
mean - est task That waits the gift of love.

Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

(We greet one another in peace saying "God's peace" or "The Lord be with you.")

Benediction (Blessing) (Based on Mark 5:34; 10:52)

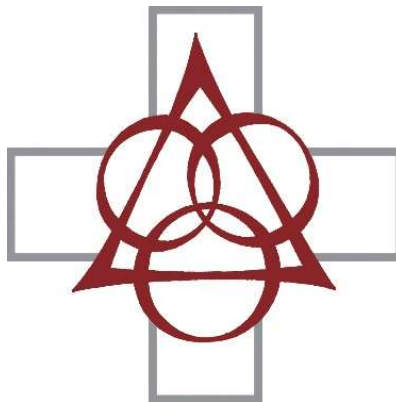
P: As you have already heard this day, the words of Jesus which He spoke to others while here on Earth, these are words which He speaks to you as well today:

"My children, your sins are forgiven."

"Go your way; your faith has made you well."

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



Acknowledgements

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires. © 2020.

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Closing Hymn

In Thee Is Gladness

LSB 818



1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
2 Since He is ours, _____ We fear no pow - ers, Not of



sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -



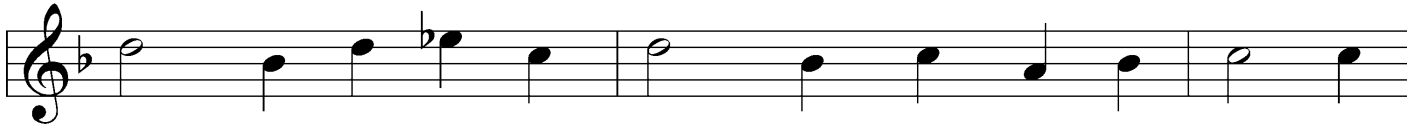
heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the



wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -



cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him



To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

Announcements