



The Congregation of Mark the Evangelist
27 August 2023
Sunday 21A

Preparing for Worship Today

- Welcome to this service of worship at Mark the Evangelist!
- Today's service is being live-streamed for the participation of those who can't join us physically today.
- Congregational responses are printed in ***bold italics***.
- If you get here early enough, ***please read through the text of today's readings prior to our hearing them.*** The text can be found at the end of the order of service. We will have brief conversation/response time to the readings after hearing them, and before the sermon – all to make our hearing a little sharper!
- Pray for those who will be leading us in our worship today!



A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT

Prelude S Rossi, [*Psalm 124*]

The Gathering of the People of God

Processional

If you are able, please stand as the Scriptures are brought into the worship space.

Call to Worship

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Come, give thanks to the LORD
with your whole heart;
before the gods we sing the LORD's praise.

ex Psalm 138.1

Prayer of invocation

Hymn 445 Jesus, where'er your people meet

The Word Spoken: Scripture and Preaching

The Testimony of Scripture

Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path.

Exodus 1:8-2:10 *The midwives' courage*

Psalms 124 *Had the LORD not been on our side* [PCS 128]
Organ and cantor, then all together:

Peter R. Hallock



Our help is in the name of the Lord.

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The cantor sings the verses, punctuated by the congregational refrain

Matthew 16:13-20 *Who do you say that I am?*

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Preaching of the Word

*The sermon text will normally be available
after worship and online*

A 'sermon of stillness' – a moment for quiet reflection – usually follows the preaching

Prayer of Confession

LORD HAVE MERCY

Musical notation for the prayer of confession, consisting of three staves. The first staff is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.' The second staff continues with: 'Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.' The third staff concludes with: 'Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.'

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy, Christ have mer - cy.

Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy, Lord have mer - cy.

Lord, have mercy; (3x)

Christ, have mercy; (3x)

Lord, have mercy. (3x)

Declaration of Forgiveness

(Please stand if you are able)

...hear, then, Christ's word of grace to us:
Your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Doxology

Musical notation for the doxology, consisting of four staves. The first staff is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'Gl - ory to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.' The second staff continues with: 'Lord God, hea - ven - ly king, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we'. The third staff concludes with: 'wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.' The fourth staff concludes with: 'Lord Jes - us Christ on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you'.

Gl - ory to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

Lord God, hea - ven - ly king, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we

wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Jes - us Christ on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are
 seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our
 prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
 Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Jes - us Christ with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of
 God the Fa - ther. A - - men.

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The Visible Word: Eucharist

LITURGY: The Eucharist reminds us of the need for honest repentance – of the need to confront our capacity to betray and forget the gift we have been given. And that is why the Eucharist is not, in Christian practice, a reward for good behaviour; it is the food we need to prevent ourselves from starving as a result of our own self-enclosure and self-absorption, our pride and our forgetfulness.

ROWAN WILLIAMS

Hymn 506 Author of love divine

(If you are able, please remain standing until after the Lord's Prayer)

The Great Prayer of 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.

(The prayer continues...)

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,
 hea - ven and earth are full of your glor - y, ho - san - na in the high - est!

BENEDICTUS

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Ho -
 san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est!

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!***

(The prayer continues...)

CHRIST HAS DIED

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain

***Christ has died.
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.***

(The prayer continues...)

BLESSING AND HONOUR

Bless - ing and hon - our, glo - ry and power are yours for e - ver - more

***Blessing and honour, glory and power
 are yours forever more.***

The Lord's Prayer

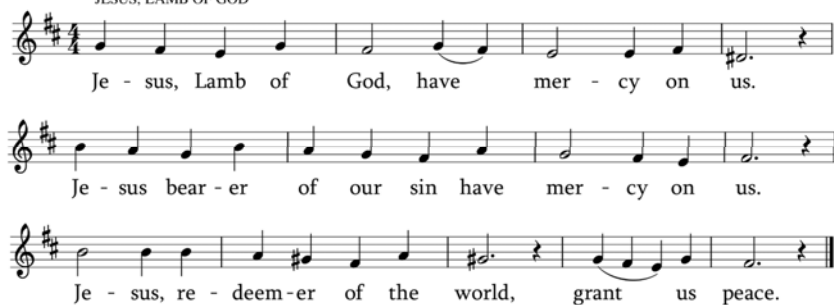
***Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.***

(The people sit)

The Breaking of the Bread

The gifts of God for the people of God...

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus bear - er of our sin have mer - cy on us.
Je - sus, re - deem-er of the world, grant us peace.

***Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sin, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
grant us peace.***

...Let us receive what we are,
let us become what we receive
The body of Christ

The Communion

The United Church recognises this Table as the Lord's and, so, open to all who would normally commune in their home congregations.

GATHERING: *We'll gather in a circle around the table for the distribution of the elements; please wait until all have received and the prayer is said before returning to your seats.*

If you can't stand or walk to the front but would like to receive communion, please raise your hand if the celebrant has not already noticed you.

Remembering Norma Gallacher

Including Hymn 613 Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,

Prayers of the People

LITBIT: The prayer of the baptised is a growing and moving into the prayer of Jesus himself and therefore it is a prayer that may be difficult and mysterious. It will not always be cheerful and clear, it may not always feel as though it's going to be answered. Christians do not pray to get what they ask for in any simple sense – you may have noticed that this can't be taken for granted! Rather, Christians pray because they *have* to, because the Spirit is surging up inside them.

ROWAN WILLIAMS

Offering

Many members now make their offering by electronic transfer; the plate will be passed for those who prefer to make cash/envelope offerings. The prayer dedicating the offerings 'captures' the full range of gifts.

Notices

The Sending Forth of the People of God

Hymn 392 At the dawning of salvation

*'...He is risen in the morning,
he is risen from the dead;
he is laughter after sadness,
he is light when night has fled. ...'*

Word of Mission and Blessing

Postlude JG Walther, *Herzlich lieb hab ich dir*

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