

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



Bulletin Art – Grace Memorial Episcopal Church, Portland, OR

October 26, 2025

St. Mark's and St. John's Episcopal Church

Welcome to St. Mark's and St. John's!

Name tags are available. We'd love to make one for you if you do not have one already.

Help yourself to coffee in the "cafe," and feel free to bring it to your pew. We're casual.

We invite children to make themselves at home at our children's table, where there are weekly activity bulletins and crayons.

Our live YouTube broadcast begins at 9:30 am. The link to our YouTube channel is available on our website, stmarksandstjohns.org.

We do not pass an offering plate during the service. If you would like to make a financial gift, you can place it in the plate (by the sign-in binder) or contribute online.

PRELUDE

OPENING MUSIC

“Come, Thou Font of Ev’ry Blessing”

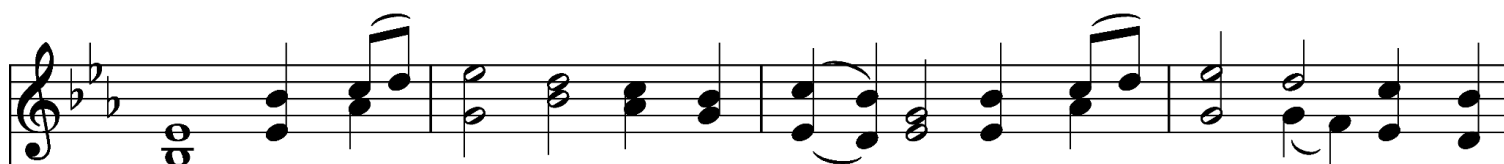
LEVAS, 111



1. Come, Thou fount of ev - ery bless-ing, Tune my heart to sing thy
2. Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by thy help I'm



1. grace; Streams of mer - cy nev - er ceas-ing, Call for songs of loud-est
2. come; And I hope, by thy good pleas-ure, Sure - ly to ar - rive at



1. praise. Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, Sung by flam - ing tongues a -
2. home. Je - sus sought me when a stran - ger, Wan-d'ring from the fold of



1. bove. Praise the mount, O fix me on it. Mount of God's un - chang-ing love.
2. God. He, to save my soul from dan-ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Sirach 35:12-17

A reading from the book of Sirach...

Give to the Most High as he has given to you, and as generously as you can afford. For the Lord is the one who repays, and he will repay you sevenfold.

Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice; for the Lord is the judge, and with him there is no partiality.

He will not show partiality to the poor; but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged. He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan, or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 84:1-6

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of
springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

SECOND LESSON

2 Timothy 4:6-8,16-18

A reading from the book of Second Timothy...

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the

crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, 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. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung twice

MHSO, 20

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! ____

GOSPEL

Luke 18:9-14

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Christ

SERMON

The Rev'd Gary Schindler

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God above us,

Creator of all things, sustainer of all life.

We believe in Christ beside us,

companion and friend,

redeemer of all the broken pieces of our universe.

We believe in Spirit deep within us,

Advocate and guide, who lives with us eternally.

We believe in God's resurrection created world

where all things are fixed,

and all creation fits together in vibrant harmonies.

We believe in God above, beside, within,

God yesterday, today and forever,

the three in one, the one in three.

SPECIAL MUSIC FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION *Please be seated*

You're invited to light a candle at our prayer table and write your prayer intentions on one of the Prayer Boards during the music.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. We especially pray for...

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. *Amen.*

CONFESSION

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

THE PEACE

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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.

We do not pass an offering plate at SMSJ. If you would like to make a financial contribution to the mission and ministry of SMSJ there is an offering plate by the sign-in book at the entrance. You can also give electronically at stmarksandstjohns.org

OFFERTORY HYMN

"Healing River of the Spirit"

VF, 96

Eucharistic Ministers bring the Offering and Communion elements to the altar during the music



1 Heal-ing riv - er of the Spi - rit, bathe the wounds that liv - ing brings.

Plunge our pain, our sin, our sad-ness deep be - neath your sa - cred springs.

Wea - ry from the rest - less search-ing that has lured us from your side,

we dis-cov - er in your pres - ence peace that world can - not pro - vide.

PRAYER OVER OUR PLEDGES

Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is good and true and beautiful and life-giving. These cards represent our sweat, they represent our lives, they represent our dreams. The pledges which we make on them are but tokens of the awesome gifts that have been given to us and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become, in this place.

May they be the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over, so that we may live out as closely as possible how you give to us.

May we see them as our offering to you, sacred, holy, yet earthy, filled with possibilities.

May we hold this image in our hearts and minds so as we watch our offerings each week come to your table, we can see our very selves being part of this offering, it is us on the table, living sacrifices to you.
Amen.

MUSIC

"Crowded Table"

*by Brandi Carlile, Natalie Hemby, and Lori McKenna
Text adapted for worship*

Refrain: I want a church with a crowded table

And a place at the altar for everyone

Let us take on the world while we're fed and able

And bring us back together when the day is done

Verse: If we want a garden we're gonna have to sow the seed

Plant a little happiness - let the roots run deep

If it's love that we give - then it's love that we reap

If we want a garden we're gonna have to sow the seed

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Preparation of the Table

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this bread to set before you,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

Blessed be God for ever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation:
through your goodness we have this wine to set before you,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Presenting the gifts of Bread and Wine

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 God thanks and praise.

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy

One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;
Now we join hands around your table, and with all creation we
say together,

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been
silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you
delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.
Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin,
brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the
glory you intend for us.

To you indeed be glory, almighty God, on the night before he died,
your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; when he had given you thanks, he
broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

**Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do this in
remembrance of me.**

After supper he took the cup; when he had given you thanks, he gave
it to them and said:

**This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you; do
this in remembrance of me.**

And so, remembering all that was done for us: his life and ministry,
the cross, the tomb, and the resurrection longing for Christ's coming

in glory, we present these gifts to you that your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time, gather us with all your whole creation into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit. Blessed are you now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,

**Our Father in Heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we share in this one bread.

The gifts of God for the people of God take them in remembrance of Christ's life, death, and resurrection and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

All are welcome to receive communion. We form a half-circle in the front row of pews to receive. On the second Sunday of the month healing - laying on of hands and anointing with holy oil is available from the clergy also.

COMMUNION HYMN

“One Bread, One Body”

LEVAS, 151

One bread, — one bod-y, —

— one Lord of all, — one cup of

— bless - ing which we bless. — And we, — though

man - y, _____ through - out the earth, We are one

Last time ⊕

bod - y in this one _____ Lord. _____

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or
2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the
3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and

1. free, wom - an or man,
2. works, one in the Lord
3. grown, gath - ered to one

D.S.

1. — no more. One
2. — of all. One
3. — for all. One

⊕ CODA

Lord. _____

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world as we live out your call to love and serve. Amen.

"THE BLESSING" (Aotearoa)

adapted for SMSJ liturgy - original music and words by
Chris Brown, Cody Carnes, Kari Jobe, Steven Furtick

The Lord bless you and keep you,
make Her face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord turn Her face toward you and give you peace. (2x)

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.

May Her favor be upon you and a thousand generations
And your family and your children and their children,
and their children. (2x)

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.

FINAL BLESSING

God has given us a new birth into a living hope through the Holy Spirit. The wisdom, love and grace of God strengthen you to be God's hands and heart in this world. and the blessing of God Almighty, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer be with you today and remain with you always. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace. Be bold knowing we live in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

October Celebrations

Birthdays	Anniversaries
Hannah R. - October 4	Pastor Cindy & Mary Ellen - 10/30
Walt S. - October 11	
Mary Ellen F. - October 11	
Serenity N. - October 17	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vestry will meet briefly after service today.

We bless our pledges today, but it is not too late to submit your pledge card if you have not already! **We have not yet met our pledge goal to sustain our mission and ministry in 2026.** To make your pledge online, you may do so at stmarksandstjohns.org/give. You may also fill out a pledge card and place it in the offering plate.

Empty Bowls tickets are still on sale! Join us Friday, November 7th for an evening of delicious soups, raffle prizes, and fun to support Food Shelf. Tickets are available online at bit.ly/smsjemptybowls25. If you know someone who would like to purchase a table, please contact the church office. If you'd like to volunteer in some way - donating a raffle prize, baking dessert, or helping on the day of the event, please see Terri C. or Nancy R.!

Next Sunday, Nov. 2 is Pastor Cindy's return from Sabbatical! We will also be commemorating All Saints' Day and Alice's baptism. We invite you to bring a snack to share for a special coffee hour following Worship.

SMSJ Weekly Calendar

October 27-November 2, 2025

Monday, 10/27	<i>Church Office Closed</i> 3:00-6:00 pm - Seed Sowers & Storytellers
Tuesday, 10/28	1:00 pm - Food Shelf Bagging 3:00-6:00 pm - Seed Sowers & Storytellers
Wednesday, 10/29	10:30 am-Noon - Food Shelf 3:00-6:00 pm - Seed Sowers & Storytellers
Thursday, 10/30	3:00-6:00 pm - Seed Sowers & Storytellers
Friday, 10/31	
Saturday, 11/1	
Sunday, 11/2	9:30 am - Worship with Eucharist & Baptism <i>The Rev'd Cindy Rasmussen, Presiding and Preaching</i>

Worship Leader Schedule

Date	First Lesson & Psalm	Second Lesson	Prayers of the People & Greeter
10/26	Nancy W.	Sharon K.	Helena W.
11/2	Michele H.	Joe C.	Deb S.
11/9	Terri C.	Heather G.	Bob C.
11/16 <i>Bishop's Visit</i>	Dave E.	Bonnie H.	Mary E.
11/23	Theresa H.	Tom F.	Mary Ellen F.
11/30	Nancy R.	Steve F.	Nancy W.

Worship Leader Schedule

Date	Common Cup	Single Cup Tray	Collect Cups
10/26	Terri C.	Deb S.	Joe C.
11/2	Michele H.	Sharon K.	Nancy W.
11/9	Nancy R.	Mary Ellen F.	Tom F.
11/16 <i>Bishop's Visit</i>	Theresa H.	Mary E.	Dave E.
11/23	Bob C.	Heather G.	Terri C.
11/30	Deb S.	Joe C.	Michele H.

SUPPORT ST. MARK'S & ST. JOHN'S AT
empty bowls

Friday, November 7th



Doors Open at 6 pm

soup buffet - handmade pottery - raffle prizes

**\$35 ticket includes dinner,
dessert, and a beautiful
pottery piece to take home**

Your donation helps support our
EDEN Food Shelf ministry as we
work to provide our neighbors
with emergency food assistance
in Beechwood and beyond.



Get your tickets at

stmarksandstjohns.org/emptybowls

1245 Culver Road | Rochester



St. Mark's & St. John's Leadership

Rector

(On Sabbatical until Nov. 2)
The Rev'd Cindy Rasmussen, Ph.D.
crasmussen@stmarksandstjohns.org

Curate

The Rev'd Maria Hartz-Clineburg
mhartz@stmarksandstjohns.org

Deacon

The Rev'd Patti Blaine, M.A., BCC
pblaine@stmarksandstjohns.org

AV Producer

Rob Thornton

Musician

Amelia Yousey

Deacon Emeritus

The Rev'd Mike Finn

St. Mark's & St. John's Vestry

Co-Wardens

Sharon Kowalski ('26)
Nancy Ramsay ('27)

Treasurer

Michele Holmes

Members

Bob Caruso (Clerk)
Dave Everson ('28)
Heather Gilfoy ('27)
Theresa Harte ('26)
Michele Holmes ('28)
Ella Webster ('26)
Nancy Willer ('27)

Diocesan Delegates

Bonnie Hallman-Dye ('28)
Nancy Ramsay ('26)
Ella Webster ('26)

Beechwood Neighborhood Coalition Representative

Terri Censak