

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 26, 2021

Welcome to SMSJ

Help yourself to coffee in the “cafe”. Feel free to bring it to your pew.
We are broadcasting live on YouTube today starting at 9:15am. As always,
the link to our live/recorded YouTube channel is available on our website,
stmarksandstjohns.org

PRELUDE Instrumental

OPENING MUSIC “All Are Welcome” *Please Stand*
Music and Lyrics: Marty Haugen

ACCLAMATION

**ALL: Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts and kindle in us
the fire of your love.**

**ALL: 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.**

Deacon: Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you,
and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to
do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them;
through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me-- that is my petition-- and the lives of my people-- that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 24

If the Lord had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;

**If the Lord had not been on our side,
when enemies rose up against us;**

Then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;

**Then would the waters have overwhelmed us
and the torrent gone over us;**

Then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.

**Blessed be the Lord!
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

**Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth.**

THE SECOND LESSON: James 5:13-20

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for

three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "Halle Halle Hallelujah" *Please stand*


Masked singing encouraged

Music and lyrics by Traditional Caribbean.

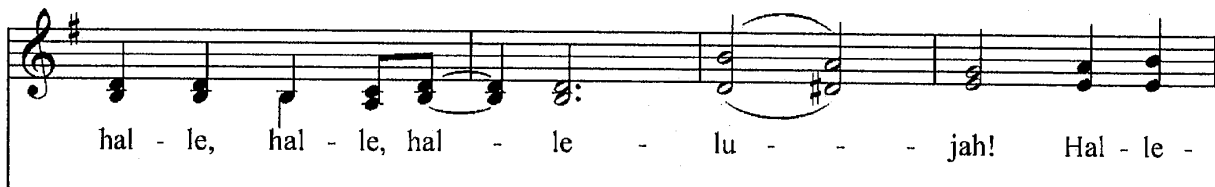
Arranged by Mark Sedio



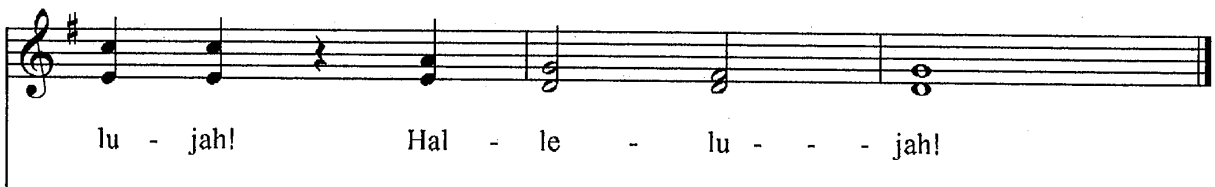
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah!



hal - lc, hal - lc, hal - lc - lu - - - jah!
Hal - le - lu - jah!



hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - - - jah! Hal - le -



lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - - - jah!

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Mark 9:38-50

Deacon: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON The Rev'd Julie Cicora

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

“This I Believe”

Crocker Matthew Philip and Fielding Benjamin David

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 the Prayer Board during the music. Please stay socially distant.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please stand

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Come, Holy Spirit, into your church and its people. Fill us with the power and purpose of the gospel.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

Come, Holy Spirit, into the nations of the world. Rain down your peace onto nations at war or in crisis.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

Come, Holy Spirit, into the lives of those in need. We especially pray for _____ . Blanket them with your healing and hope.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

Come, Holy Spirit, into our community of faith. Support us in our mission, our celebrations, and our woes.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

Come, Holy Spirit, into our thanksgiving for the lives of all the faithful departed.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

ALL: Your mercy is great.

CLOSING COLLECT: Into your care, O God we place ourselves and all our prayers, trusting your promise of new life in Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

MUSIC

“Crowded Table” (Please stand and sing)

Brandie Carlile, Natalie Hemby, and Lori McKenna

Text adapted for worship

Eucharistic Ministers come to the altar during this music

Refrain

I want a church with a crowded table
And a place by 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

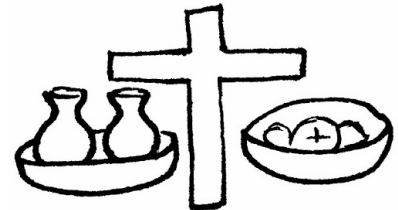
If we want a garden we're gonna have to sow the seed
Plant a little happiness - let the roots run deep
If it's love that we give - then it's love that we reap
If we want a garden we're gonna have to sow the seed (+ Refrain)

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

ALL: We ask you to lift our hearts as we give thanks for all you do

Gracious God, you made the world and all that is in it;
you made this day and we rejoice in it!
For this is the day your prophets testified about
when you destroy the shroud of death
and open the gates of salvation to all who believe.

You sent your Son, Jesus, among us,
anointed with your Holy Spirit and power
to preach peace and heal all who were oppressed.



Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us,
with earth, sea and sky, with angels and archangels who envelop us,
with all the saints before us and beside us,
with sisters and brothers, east and west, north and south,

And with loved ones, separate from us now, who yet,
in this mystery are close to us,

We join in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity:

**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.**

Blessed are you, O God, who breaks open deep the tomb of our pain,
calls life out of death, and leads all creation into life eternal.

Blessed is your Spirit, that broods over the deep, stirs our hearts, who
comforts and confounds. Your Spirit, that animates all of creation - plants,
animals, and all of us. Your Spirit, that dwells in us.

On the night when he was betrayed, he
took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:

**“Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.”**

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had
given thanks, he gave it to them and said:

**“Drink this all of you. This is my Blood of the new Covenant,
which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”**

So, as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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

Come now, O Spirit of Christ, brood over these earthly things,
this bread and this wine.

**May they be for us your body and blood,
vibrant with life, healing, renewing and making us whole.**

Anoint us with your life-giving power that we might recognize your presence in each and every person.

By Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory are yours, Almighty Father, 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 forever. 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 feast of life has been prepared for you -
partake and be filled with the goodness of God.

WELCOME TO THE TABLE

All are welcome to receive communion.

Please be seated. Our Eucharistic Ministers will come to you. As they approach, please stand if you are able. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available.

COMMUNION MUSIC “Break Thou The Bread of Life”

Music by William Sherwin, Lyrics by Mary Lathbury

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ’s resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son’s resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FINAL BLESSING

RECESSIONAL MUSIC “For the Beauty of the Earth”

Music by David Evans, Lyrics by Folloitt Sandford Pierpont

DISMISSAL

Alleluia, Alleluia. Go in peace. Tend to your spirit and our city.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

SMSJ WEEKLY CALENDAR (September 26, 2021 - October 2, 2021)

Monday

6pm E.D.E.N. 1199 Culver Garden
Captains: Melanie and Judy

Tuesday

9am Food Shelf Ministry Prep & Foodlink Delivery

10am E.D.E.N. 408 Rosewood Terr - *Children's Garden*
Captain: Erin

10am E.D.E.N. 336 Parsells Ave. Garden
Captain: Deacon Mike

5pm E.D.E.N. 448 Merchants Rd. Garden
Captain: Deb S.

Wednesday

9am E.D.E.N. Church (1245 Culver) Garden
Captains: Mary E. and Mary Ellen F.

9:30am Morning Healing Eucharist -
Weather permitting it will be held in the garden

10:30-11:30am Wednesday Walking Group

10:30-12pm Food Shelf Ministry

Thursday

4pm-7pm CSA Food Share pick-up for Farm Stand

7:00pm Bible Study-The Book of Acts
Zoom link will be available on the website

Friday

11:30am E.D.E.N. Denver Training Garden
Captains: Aisha & Becky

Saturday Farm Stand

Thank you to all our gardeners and Farm Stand volunteers for a wonderful season! We have been blessed with eager volunteers and loyal neighborhood customers.

Wednesday Walking Club

Put on your walking shoes and meet us in front of the church! Starting in September, monthly walking club will take place on the last Wednesday of every month from 10:30am - 11:30am.

Bible Study

Continuing this Thursday, **September 23th**, Rev' Julie is leading a weekly Bible Study at 7:00pm and participants will be able to attend online. We are studying the Book of Acts! The Zoom link is posted on the website.

Prayer Concerns and/or Thanksgivings

Our newsprint "Prayer" board is back. You are welcome to light a candle and put the name(s) of those you would like us to hold in prayer. First names will be shared during the Prayers of the People.

Readers and Eucharistic Ministers

If you'd like to serve as a Reader and/or a Eucharistic Minister, please let Deacon Mike or Pastor Cindy know. The September and October schedule is attached. If you are unable to serve a particular weekend, please find a replacement and let Pastor Cindy know.

Monthly E-Newsletter

If you have not been receiving our monthly E-Newsletter and you would like to, please add your name and email address to the list on the clipboard in the Narthex.

Worship Leaders for September, October, and November of 2021

Date	First Lesson and Psalm	Second Lesson	Prayers of the People	Hold Cup Tray	Give Single Cup	Collect Cups
9/5	Bob C	Deb S	Joe C	Dorothy B	Kathy J	Bob C
9/12	April L	Terri C	LaVonne N	Sharon K	Joe C	Char K
9/19	Mary E	Stephanie S	Tom F	Terri C	April L	Mary E
9/26	Mary Ellen F	Sharon K	Heather G	LaVonne N	Tom F	Stephanie S
10/3	Walt S	Samantha G	Paula V	Mary Ellen F	Deb S	Heather G
10/10	Bob V	Michele H	Kathy J	Walt S	Samantha G	Paula V
10/17	Joe C	Bob C	Deb S	Michele H	Nancy W	Dorothy B
10/24	LaVonne N	April L	Terri C	Bob C	Dorothy B	Kathy J
10/31	Tom F	Mary E	Stephanie S	Char K	Sharon K	Joe C
11/7	Heather G	Mary Ellen F	Sharon K	Mary E	Terri C	April L
11/14	Paula V	Walt S	Samantha G	Stephanie S	LaVonne N	Tom F
11/21	Kathy J	Bob V	Michele H	Heather G	Mary Ellen F	Deb S