

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost



Bulletin Graphic: Grace Memorial Episcopal Church, Portland, OR

August 17, 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

“All Creatures of our God and King”

1982. 400



1 All crea - tures of our God and King, lift up your voic - es, let us
*2 Great rush - ing winds and breez - es soft, you clouds that ride the heavens a -



1 sing: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Bright burn - ing
2 loft, O — praise him, Al - le - lu - ia! Fair ris - ing



1 sun with gold - en beams, pale sil - ver moon that gen - tly gleams,
2 morn, with praise re - joice, stars night - ly shin - ing, find a voice,

Refrain



O praise him, O praise him, Al - le - lu - ia,



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

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 God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 23:23-29

A reading from the book of Jeremiah, the twenty-third chapter...

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 82

1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

**2 "How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?**

3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;

**4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

5 They do not know, neither do they understand;
they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**6 Now I say to you, 'You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;**

7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince."

**8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Sung twice

MHSO, 20



GOSPEL

Luke 12:49-56

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens.

And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, Lord Christ

SERMON

The Rev'd Julie Cicora

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

Filled with the promised Holy Spirit, let us pray in confidence for all who are in need.

Silence

Pour out your Spirit upon the earth to renew our land, air, and water, that all may be fed and nourished by the abundant resources you provide for your people.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit upon the nations that leaders, judges, and peacekeepers may stand against oppression and seek peace throughout the world.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit upon those who suffer (*prayer intentions are read*), that they may know healing, hope, and joy.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out your Spirit upon all who mourn, that your promise of everlasting life and peace make our hearts sing even in the face of death.

Leader: Hear us, O God.

People: **Your mercy is great.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit, you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage, we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

CONFESSION

Deacon: 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

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

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Deacon: 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 Eucharistic Ministers bring the Communion elements to the altar during the music

OFFERTORY HYMN

"Guide my feet, Lord"

WLP, 819

1. Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race.

Guide my feet Lord, while I run this race, 'cause I

don't want to run this race in vain.

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; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

**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.

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, in this sacrament, we celebrate and proclaim the mystery of our faith

Christ has died,

Christ is risen.

Christ will come in glory.

Therefore, loving God, recalling Christ's life, death and resurrection, we ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon us and this celebration, that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son and be filled with your life and goodness. Strengthen us to do your work and to be your ascended body, offering hope to a world in need.

Unite us in Christ and give us your peace. Through your Holy Spirit, burning as a flame, gentle as a dove, may we who receive these gifts live lives of justice, love, and prayer.

**Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere,
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 feast of life has been prepared for you - partake and be filled with the goodness of God.

Celebrant: 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.

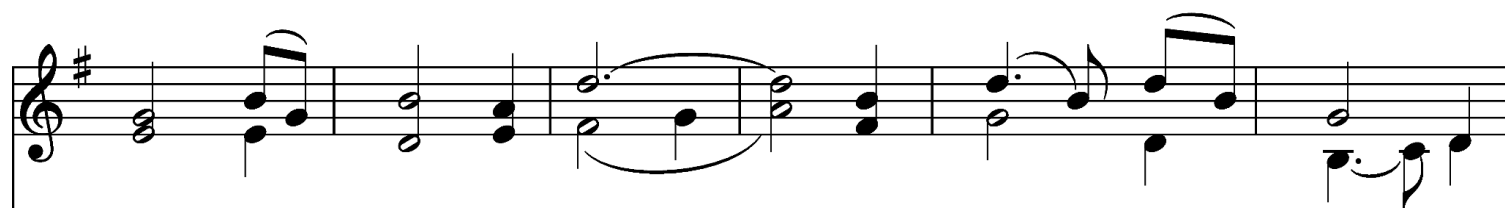
COMMUNION HYMN

"Amazing Grace"

LEVAS, 181



1. A - maz - ing grace!_ how sweet the sound, That
2. 'Twas grace that taught_ my heart to fear, And
3. The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His
4. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
5. When we've been there_ ten thou - sand years, Bright



1. saved a wretch like me!_ I once was lost, but
2. grace my fears re - lieved;_ How pre - cious did that
3. word my hope se - cures;_ He will my shield and
4. have al - read - y come;_ 'Tis grace that brought me
5. shin - ing as the sun,_ We've no less days to



1. now am found, Was blind, but now_ I see._
2. grace ap - pear The hour I first_ be - lieved!_
3. por - tion be As long as life_ en - dures._
4. safe thus far, And grace will lead_ me home._
5. sing God's praise Than when we'd first_ be - gun._

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.

"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.

August Celebrations

Birthdays	Anniversaries
<i>Celebrating a birthday in August?</i>	Michael & Char K. - August 9
<i>Let us know so we can</i>	Ella & Helena W. - August 12
<i>celebrate you!</i>	Steve & Terri C. - August 16
	Gary & Ginnie S. - August 19

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We need your help on our Community Volunteer Days! These work days are crucial to sustaining food production in our gardens and showing love to our neighbors. You can sign up to help at stmarksandstjohns.org/volunteer. This is a great opportunity to bring a friend along and show them what the EDEN Gardens are all about!

As Pastor Cindy embarks on her 3 month Sabbatical, the Bishop has asked that the parish use this time to reflect spiritually on our calling as a community rooted in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. Rev. Maria is here for any pastoral care needs, and our Wardens and Vestry are here to help provide consistency, support, and leadership for our community as well.

There will be NO Vestry meeting for the month of August. We will reconvene on September 28th for our monthly business meeting. Wondering what our Vestry has been up to? Copies of meeting minutes are available at the welcome table.

Red Wings game! We will be singing the National Anthem at the Rochester Red Wings game on Sunday, August 24th at 1:00 pm. If you would like to join us, see Walt Snyder to get tickets for the game!

Save the Date - Charity Night at Jack's Extra Fancy! Neighborhood restaurant Jack's Extra Fancy is hosting a Charity Night for SMSJ on Sunday, September 28th in the evening. A portion of all proceeds from that evening will support our EDEN Mission Programs! This is a great opportunity to bring friends and family and have a night out for a good cause - and support a wonderful local business!

We have honey for sale! Our EDEN honey bees have been busy, and we've got honey jarred up and ready for you! We have 6 oz jars, available for an \$8 donation. We will likely have more after an early fall harvest from the beehives!

SMSJ Weekly Calendar

August 18-24, 2025

Monday, 8/18	<p><i>Church Office Closed</i></p> <p>10 am - SOOP Interns Community Breakfast</p>
Tuesday, 8/19	<p>9 am-2 pm - SOOP Interns On-Site</p> <p>1:00 pm - Food Shelf Bagging (St. Thomas' Volunteers)</p> <p>4:00-5:00 pm - Gardening @ EDEN Parsells (Mike)</p> <p>5:00-6:00 pm - Gardening @ EDEN Merchants (Deb)</p>
Wednesday, 8/20	<p>9:00-10:00 am - Gardening @ EDEN Church (Mary Ellen)</p> <p>10:30 am-Noon - Food Shelf</p> <p>9 am-2 pm - SOOP Interns On-Site</p>
Thursday, 8/21	<p>9 am-2 pm - SOOP Interns On-Site - Last Day!</p> <p>1 pm - Naz in Action Service Day</p>
Friday, 8/22	
Saturday, 8/23	
Sunday, 8/24	<p>9:30 am - Worship with Eucharist and Healing (<i>Rev. Julie Cicora, presiding & preaching</i>)</p> <p>1:00 pm - Red Wings Game</p>

Worship Leader Schedule

Date	First Lesson	Psalm	Prayers of the People & Greeter
8/17	Terri C.	Heather G.	Bob C.
8/24	Dave E.	Steve F.	Mary E.
8/31	Theresa H.	Tom F.	Mary Ellen F.
9/7	Nancy R.	Bonnie H.	Nancy W.
9/14	Sharon K.	Helena W.	Michele H.
9/21	Joe C.	Deb S.	Terri C.
9/28	Heather G.	Bob C.	Dave E.

Worship Leader Schedule

Date	Common Cup	Single Cup Tray	Collect Cups
8/17	Terri C.	Sharon K.	Nancy W.
8/24	Nancy R.	Mary Ellen F.	Tom F.
8/31	Theresa H.	Mary E.	Dave E.
9/7	Bob C.	Heather G.	Terri C.
9/14	Deb S.	Joe C.	Michele H.
9/21	Sharon K.	Nancy W.	Nancy R.
9/28	Mary Ellen F.	Tom F.	Theresa H.

A collection of colorful illustrations of gardening tools and supplies arranged around the central text. These include a yellow apron with scissors, a pair of brown gloves, a blue rubber boot, a pair of blue gloves, a red-handled trowel, a purple-handled trowel, a purple-handled rake, a purple-handled fork, a silver watering can, a green garden hose, a red and orange bucket, and a tray of seedlings. A person is also shown planting seedlings in a garden bed.

E.D.E.N. Garden COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER DAYS

**2ND & 4TH SATURDAYS
10 AM-NOON**

Find out what garden we'll be
working in at
stmarksandstjohns.org/volunteer



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