



Thanksgiving Day

November 25, 2021

Welcome



Covid-19 numbers have increased in Monroe County over the last several weeks. Therefore, we are requiring all attendees to wear a mask at all times during the service except when taking communion and drinking coffee.



We're excited to now have a Keurig Coffee maker. Help yourself to a fresh cup of tea, hot chocolate or coffee (there's decaf too). You are welcome to bring it to your pew.



Our live YouTube broadcast begins at 10am today and 9:15am on Sundays. The link to our live/recorded SMSJ Channel is available on our website, stmarksandstjohns.org.

PRELUDE AND OPENING MUSIC

OPENING SENTENCES

Celebrant: Look at the birds of the air;
they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns and
yet God provides for the basic sustenance of life.
May our hearts be open to trust you.

ALL: **Look at the birds of the air;
they neither study nor plan nor plot their course and
yet God provides the instinct for migration in their hearts.
May our eyes be open to see you.**

Celebrant: Look at the birds of the air;
they neither talk nor vote nor debate their responsibility
Yet God weaves them into communities which nurture
May our hands be open to serve you.

*~ written by Katherine Hawker, and posted on **Liturgies Outside***

OPENING COLLECT

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them. Make us, we pray, faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice, for the Lord has done great things! Do not fear, you animals of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are green; the tree bears its fruit, the fig tree and vine give their full yield. O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I,

the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

Joel 2: 21-27

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 126

In convertendo

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,
then were we like those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."

**The Lord has done great things for us,
and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Those who sowed with tears
will reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed,
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

SECOND READING

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For

there is one God;

there is also one mediator between God and humankind,

Christ Jesus, himself human,

who gave himself a ransom for all

-- this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

1 Timothy 2:1-7

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

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

Jesus said, "I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you-- you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:25-33

Deacon: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

HOMILY

Pastor Cindy

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Celebrant: We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

People: **We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.**

Celebrant: We trust in God.

People : We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

Celebrant: In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.

People: We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING

Give thanks to God who is good
God's love is everlasting

For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and awesome; for seen
and unseen splendors;
Thank you, God.

For the gift of community; for talking and moving and thinking together for
common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying.
Thank you, God.

For family; for living and eating together; for family amusements and family
pleasures;
Thank you, God.

For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and startling
frankness; for their sudden sympathies;
Thank you, God.

For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in
leisure; and for time made precious by its passing;
Thank you, God.

For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our brokenness and
dis-ease; for preserving us in temptation and danger
Thank you, God.

Above all, O God, for your Son Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation; for our hope in him; for the joy of serving;

Thank you, God.

All: We thank you and praise you, Eternal God, for all your goodness. Give thanks to the Lord, who is good. God's love is everlasting.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING

Our Thanksgiving Offering will go to support our weekly Food Shelf ministry.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

on screen

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

on screen

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

It is right indeed that we should praise you, God of love, our source and our fulfillment,

for you create all things, and in you we live and move and have our being.

Your wonder is manifest in land and sea and sky.

When the times had at last grown full and the earth had ripened in abundance, you made us in your image for yourself.

And even though we turn from you, again and again you call us to yourself, and in every age, promise liberation.

As a parent tenderly gathers their children, you embraced a people as your own to rear them in your way of compassionate love. From your own being you sent Jesus among us, incarnate of the Holy Spirit and born of Mary our sister.

Jesus revealed your care for all you have made, and showed us your way of reconciliation. Looking forward to the joy of new life Jesus suffered the pangs of the cross

and in rising again became the first-born of the renewed family.

You sent your Holy Spirit and gave birth to us your church. Your Spirit stays to nurture and to guide us.

Now we join hands around your table, and with all creation we hymn your praise for your unending love, as we sing ,

Holy, holy, holy, holy

Holy Lord God of hosts

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory

Hosanna in the highest

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord, of the lord

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

To you indeed be glory, almighty God, because 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 to remember 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 as often as you drink it to remember me.**

And so in this great 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 now Christ's death and resurrection, we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and our 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 body in the world.

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,

and be a voice for those who are not heard. In union with your whole church we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Blessing, honor and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and forever. Amen.

Our Father, which 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation.

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

All who thirst, all who hunger, come 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.

If you would like to receive a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms in front of you.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

**Lord of the harvest,
with joy we have offered thanksgiving for your love in creation
and have shared in the bread and the wine of the kingdom:
by your grace plant within us a reverence for all that you give us
and make us generous and wise stewards
of the good things we enjoy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

DISMISSAL

Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia



The Rev. Cindy Rasmussen, Rector
The Rev. Mike Finn, Deacon
The Rev. Julie Cicora, Mission Developer/ Evangelist
Andy Lacey, Music Director
Rob Thorton, Audio and Video Producer
Hannah Zuegel, Administrative Assistant
Chloe Louthan-Green, AmeriCorp Member
Ja'Vyon Winston, Youth Intern

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