

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

We welcome all to worship here: those who are strong in faith and those who are seeking, those who are hurting, and those who give comfort; all who are drawn to worship and faith. We represent a variety of backgrounds, political positions, races and ethnicities. We recognize that we are not of one mind or persuasion on many significant issues, and yet we gather in Christ to worship God together.

Children are welcome in this worship service, and encouraged to participate in any way they are able to. Teach the children sitting around you how to use their hymnals, bulletins, and to sing and speak loudly! We value the noise made by children!

If you have questions or need assistance, please ask. If you have concerns, please let us know. We are glad that you are here with us today.

Visitors, we are especially glad to see you. Please come again!!

*God's Blessing,
Saint Mark's Lutheran Church*

— The **BOLD** is read by the Congregation—

The Small Church with a **Big** Heart

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated..

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING:

Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM:

Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart,
and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me;
you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me,
O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life;
they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me;
give your strength to your servant,
and save the child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷ **Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.**

SECOND READING:

Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW 174

The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

Celtic Alleluia



GOSPEL:

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The holy gospel according to...

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

CHILRENS SERMON

SERMON

Pastor Lue Moua

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism of Grace Catherine Sandness

Parents: Andy & Kim Sandness

Sponsors: Mark McCoy, Krissy & Jacob Nerud



Candidates for baptism, sponsors, and parents gather with the minister at the font.

PRESENTATION

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word, God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world.

Parents and Sponsors of Grace: Before God and on behalf of this congregation, we present Grace Catherine Sandness to receive the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

COMMITMENT AND PROMISE

Andy and Kim, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Grace baptized into Christ?

Parents: We do. As we bring Grace to receive the gift of baptism, we know we are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with her among God's faithful people,

to bring her to the Word of God and the holy supper,

to teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten

Commandments,

to place in her hands the holy scriptures and to nurture her in faith and prayer,

so that she may learn to trust God,

proclaim Christ through word and deed,

care for others and the world God made,

and work for justice and peace.

We promise to help her grow in the Christian faith and life.

Sponsors of *Grace*, do you promise to nurture *Grace* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help her live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors of Grace: We do.

Saint Mark's Lutheran, people of God, do you promise to support *Grace* and pray for her in her new life in Christ?

St. Mark's Congregation: We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Parents, Sponsors, and St. Mark's, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

Grace Catherine Sandness, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The assembly respond by saying:

Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughter new birth, cleanse her from sin, and raise her to eternal life. Sustain *Grace* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Grace, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

IMAGES OF BAPTISM

You are the salt of the earth. Receive the salt of wisdom, that you may conduct your life with the sound judgment of a child of God.

You have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ to stand before the throne of the Lamb, joined with the great multitude of the communion of saints—our elders and ancestors, as well as generations yet to come.

Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life. Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to God.

O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon *Andy and Kim*. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for *Grace*. Strengthen them in their own baptism so they may share eternally with *Grace* the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMISSION AND WELCOME

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**We welcome you *Grace* into the body of Christ
and into the mission we share.**

Join us in God's work in the world.

**Unite your voice with ours
in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word
to all the world.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 679

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

For the Fruit of All Creation



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYDY NOS, Welsh traditional

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: ...God of grace,

The congregation responds: **Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

Please be seated.

OFFERING *You can send your offering through the mail to :*
Saint Mark's Lutheran Church
PO Box 206
Randolph MN 55065

*or download the **Vanco Mobile** app on your mobile phone*
*or go to our **website** and click on the give button on the top.*

OFFERING PRAYER

Please stand as you are able.

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE MEAL

THE GREAT 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed...

...Do this for the remembrance of me.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who 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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The Lord's banquet is before you, taste and see that God is good.

DISTRIBUTION

For those communing at the altar:

Pastor will direct one side of the sanctuary at a time to come to the altar. You will form a single file line in the middle aisle. You will receive bread from the pastor and wine/grape juice from the communion assistant. Once you receive communion and wine, please return to your pew.

If you have limited mobility, please let the pastor know and pastor will come to your seat with communion and wine.

If you need gluten-free options, please let the pastor know.

For those communing online:

After communion at the altar is completed, Pastor will commune those who are joining us virtually. Please take out your bread. Pastor will say, "The body of Christ given for you," and you may eat the bread.

Please take out your wine or juice. Pastor will say, "The blood of Christ shed for you," and you may drink the wine/juice.

After everyone has received communion, Pastor will conclude communion by saying:

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Please stand as you are able.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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 risen Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.



SENDING SONG

ELW 689

Praise and Thanksgiving



1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's
4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work
guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -
fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.
joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.
hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Thank You!

It is a pleasure to have you worship with us today. We sincerely pray that the service was inspiring, and comforting. If you find occasion to worship with us again, please know that we appreciate your presence. If you are looking for a home church, please let the pastor know by phone, email, or text. Wherever you go, may God be at your side and bring you peace and joy.



Prayer Requests

Will Burleigh, Levi Stein (deployment to Kosovo),
Don Otto, Joe & Barb Betzler (Fischer's friends),
Sheryl Fischer, Kate Moorhouse (Marie Otte's niece), Sandy Kutz,
Don Otte, Tami Little (Karen Slininger's friend), Carolyn Horsch,
Marc Slininger, Mary Ohmann, Dennis Kuhn, Carolyn Chester,
Sarah & Jim Otto, Tim Post (Stephanie Kruegers brother),
Cami Zeien (friend of Besters & Ottes),
Cyndi Christopher (Jill Ballards sister),
Jerry & Elaine Orvold (Lisa Molitor's parents).

When requested, we will be keeping loved ones on the prayer request list for a month. If you would like them to stay on longer please let Dixie know.

Please keep all our seniors in your prayers, especially:

Robert & Margaret Hayes, Carolyn Horsch, Sharon Kappedahl,
Clarice Krenik, Leatrice Taylor, and Carolyn Weidner.

Pray for those who have lost loved ones recently, especially:

The family & friends of Ellen Mulvihill Braun (Schaffer's niece)
The family & friends of Wayne Weidner.

Events this Week:

Newsletter Deadline - Monday 11:30 am
Bible Study - Tuesday 9:30 am - 11:00 am
Quilting - Tuesday 10:30am
Food Shelf - Tuesday 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Worship Service - 10:00 pm

Announcements

Coffee Fellowship Change

For the summer, we will be having our coffee fellowship only on the 1st Sunday of the month.

Bible Study - When We Pray

Starting July 7th for 6 weeks from 9:30 - 11 am,
Each week has a new focus.

If you can't make it to all, come when you can.

Prayers: The Lord's Prayer, Prayers of Petition & Thanksgiving,
Prayers of Adoration, Prayers of Lament, Prayers on Intersection,
Prayers that Unify.

Community Events

Community Food Shelf

Here at Saint Mark's Lutheran, we try our best to serve our neighbors. One of the many ways we help is by providing food to our local communities. Saint Mark's Lutheran would like to thank you for your generosity in supporting our food shelf.

If you know anyone that could benefit from receiving some extra food please let them know we're here to help.

1st Tuesday 8:00 am to 9:30 am

2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays 4:30 pm to 6:00 pm

All cash donations are used to buy healthy perishable food.

College Student Food Shelf Invite

The Food Shelf is inviting any College Student to come and get some supplies from the food shelf.

We want to help with your expenses during these years.

Please come when the Food Shelf is open or

at 9 am before Church on Sunday or

contact Beth Bester at randolphmnfoodshelf@gmail.com



YOU'RE INVITED - JOIN US AUGUST 2ND!!

We will be hosting our annual **Feast & Festival** on **Sunday, August 2nd** and would love to see you there! There's something for everyone, stop by and check it out!

There are many ways that you can get involved and help out.

- **Come to the festival!** Invite your family and friends!
- **Donate NEW items** for the live auction and games we'll be doing this year (ideas include: themed baskets, gift cards, bottles of wine or spirits, cash). All items must be new unless discussed with the planning committee.
- **Buy your raffle tickets** before they are gone! The raffle tickets are \$20 each and we pay out \$3,000 in cash. There is a limited number of raffle tickets that will be sold. If you could help sell a few tickets to your family and friends, please contact Keri Lorenzen (contact info below) to get started.
- **Baked donations are needed** for the Bake Sale. Donate your favorite food items.
- **Plan to help** with set-up, clean-up, and serving.

About the Feast & Festival:

We'll be having our 10am worship service outside in the pavilion. Music will be provided by the Roe Family Singers. They are fabulous so come and enjoy some great music.

Then we'll be serving the feast from 11am-1pm. You can purchase your meal tickets when you arrive. Bring your family and friends for a great lunch - and don't forget the pie and root beer floats.

You'll find lots of festivities for all ages. Sit back and enjoy the music, visit with your neighbors, take an opportunity to win some great prizes, experience the petting zoo, bid on items in the live auction, and so much more.

If you have questions, please call 507-263-9182 or e-mail us at stmarksrandolph@gmail.com

2026 Feast & Festival Planning Committee:

- Blake & Chicky Otte - sddotte@gmail.com - 507-291-0197
- Dave & Lucinda Preston - lucindapreston@gmail.com - 651-253-6408 •
- Cory & Keri Lorenzen - keri_lorenzen@yahoo.com - 507-202-0663
- Doug & Jeannette Bakken - 612-532-5101
- Matt & Lindsay Bester - 651-399-4133

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Secretary	Keri Lorenzen
Treasurer	Christine Otte
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Trustees	Robert Nivala Dean Taylor Luke Dubbels

Saint Mark's Lutheran Church

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