

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost & Feast of St. Francis of Assisi with the Blessing of the Animals



Photo by National Cancer Institute on Unsplash

October 3, 2021
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, ELCA

P = Pastor, A = Assistant, C = Congregation
SFNC = Songs for a New Creation ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship
“+” in the bulletin indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able

Service of Holy Communion – WOV Setting 5-Bread of Life



Francis Bernardone was born in 1181 in Assisi to a family of wealth and privilege. Wounded in a war between Assisi and Perugia, he was held as a prisoner of a war. After his release, Francis refuted his family's wealth and took on a life of serving the poor. He demonstrated great compassion, simplicity, and charity. For Francis, the beauty and diversity of all God's creation was the utmost example of reliance upon God's grace and mercy. Today we remember Francis who regarded all living things as brothers and sisters.

GATHERING

+Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence for reflection.

P God, our comforter,

C **like lost sheep, we have gone astray.**

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

P All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✚ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

C **Amen.**

+Gathering Hymn

Morning Has Broken

SFNC 1/ELW 556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates

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+Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

+Kyrie



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord. . . . have mer - cy:



A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ. . . . have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord. . . . have mer - cy:

+Hymn of Praise



C Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;



glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

+Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

God of the living law, whose will is to protect the weak and educate our desires: may we learn from you not to dominate or put aside but to give each other dignity and find in you our unity; through Jesus Christ, who makes us one household

C Amen.

WORD

First Scripture ♦ Genesis 1:1, 20–25

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, God said, “Let the waters be alive with a sea of living creatures, and let birds wing their way above the earth across the vault of heaven.” And so it was.

God created great sea monsters and all the creatures that glide and teem, in the waters in their own species, and winged birds in their own species. God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful, multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and the birds multiply on land.” Evening came and morning came: the fifth day.

God said, “Let the earth produce every kind of living creature in its own species: cattle, creeping things and wild animals of all kinds.” And so it was. God made wild animals in their own species, and cattle in theirs, and every creature that crawls along the earth in its own species. God saw that it was good.

L Holy wisdom, holy word.

C **Thanks be to God.**



Relief from The Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis of Assisi, Santa Fe, NM,
picture by Fr. Daniel Ciucci on Unsplash

Psalm 8

O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?

Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:

all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

O Lord our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

+Gospel ♦ Matthew 6:25–34

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 10th chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Therefore 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.

“So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Nic Leither

We hear God's Word as it is spoken in the preaching.

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

Hymn of the Day

Spirit of Gentleness

SFNC 16/ELW 396

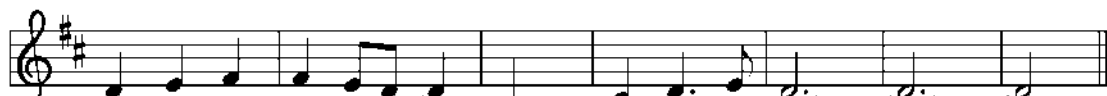
Refrain



Spir - it, Spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the wil - der - ness



call - ing and free; Spir - it, Spir - it of rest - less - ness,



stir me from plac - id - ness, wind, wind on the sea.



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters, you called to the deep,
- 2 You swept through the des - ert, you stung with the sand,
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble, you cried from a hill,
- 4 You call from to - mor - row, you break an - cient schemes.

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then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the val - leys of sleep;
and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a law and a land;
then you whis - pered in si - lence when the whole world was still;
From the bond - age of sor - row all the cap - tives dream dreams;



and o - ver the e - ons you called to each thing:
and when they were blind - ed with i - dols and lies,
and down in the cit - y you called once a - gain,
our wom - en see vi - sions, our men clear their eyes.



"A - wake from your slum - bers and rise on your wings."
then you spoke through your proph - ets to o - pen their eyes.
when you blew through your peo - ple on the rush of the wind.
With . . . bold new de - ci - sions your peo - ple a - rise.

Text: James K. Manley, b. 1940
Music: SPIRIT, James K. Manley
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Apostles Creed

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

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 to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**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.**

+Litany of Creation

P: O God, Creator of the Universe, from your sacred breath came forth birds and beasts, fish and fowl, creatures of such variety and beauty that we are continually amazed at your divine imagination.

Q: C: We give you thanks for your continued creative and redeeming presence in our world that now suffers the effects of human sin and suffering. We ask that in your unfailing love, you continue to renew and restore the earth and all living things

P: We give thanks to you, O God, for the life and witness of all who have nurtured the earth—for prophets who remind us of our responsibility, for those who minister with tenderness to all things living, and for those who bring their healing touch to the creatures of your hand.

C: We give thanks to you, O God, for animals who live in our homes, on farms, in the wild, and in havens of refuge. Make us ever aware of our responsibility to your creatures, who in so many ways bless us, and bring us closer to you. Help us to be faithful in our caring for them.

P: We remember those animals who have been dear to us and have died. We give you thanks for the devotion, the joy and the playfulness they brought to us and we beg for your comfort in our loss. They were dear to us and we miss them. We also remember the animals who are separated from their owners, are lost, or are themselves mourning.

C: We pray today, O loving God, for animals who suffer at the hands of humankind. Make us sensitive to the injustices they bear and help us protect and guard your creatures so that they may fulfill the purposes of your creation.

P: By our consumptive desires, we have all contributed to the spoiling of your creation. Give us courage to restore the earth, and grace to regard all living things as our brothers and sisters in the created world. Grant us wisdom to

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change our ways and help us to be instruments of your peace following in the way of your child and our brother, Francis.

C: Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Blessing of the Animals

Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another with these or similar words:

Peace be with you.

MEAL

Stewardship Temple Talk

Diana Mendia Guerrero

Offertory Prayer

A Let us pray.

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

+The Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

C We lift them to the Lord

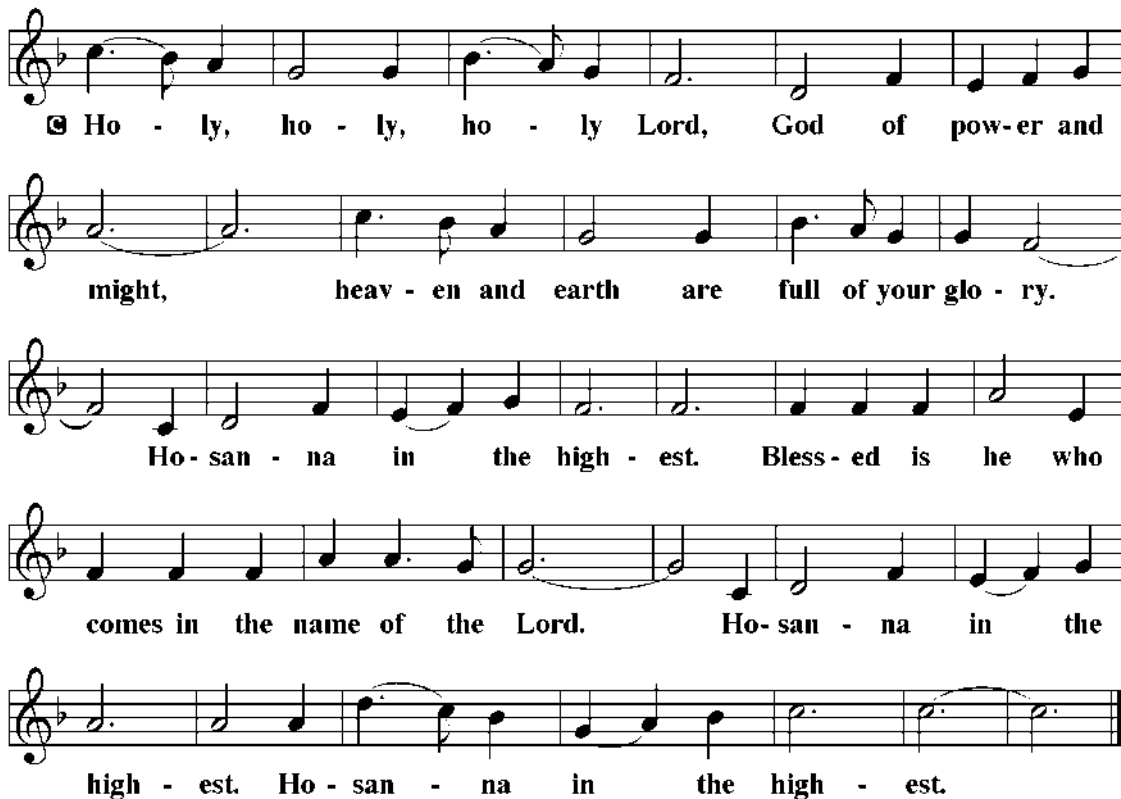
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,...
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

P Eternal God, in the abundance your love...
...All honor and glory be yours, for ever and ever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P Let us live and pray together the prayer Our Lord 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.**

Communion

P Behold who you are.
Become what you receive.

Communion Hymn

Let Us Break Bread Together

SFNC 91/ELW 471



1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;



let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing
 sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: BREAL BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

- P** May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you in his grace.
- C** **Amen.**
- A** Lord of life,
 in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Announcements

SENDING

+Blessing

- P** You are the children of God.
 Gifted with dreams and visions.
 Upon you rests the grace of God like flames of fire.
 May the deep peace of Christ ✝ be with you.
 The strong arms of God sustain you.
 And the Holy Spirit strengthen you in every way.
- C** **Amen.**

+Sending Hymn

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands

- 1 He's got the whole world in his hands, X2
 he's got the whole wide world in his hands X2
 He's got the whole world in his hands X2
- 2 dogs and cats 5 everybody here
 3 lizards and hamsters 6 whole world
 4 lions and giraffes

Text: Traditional

Music: WHOLE WORLD, Spiritual.

Public domain

+Dismissal

- A Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.
 C **Thanks be to God.**

SUMMARIZED REPORT OF INCOME & EXPENSES			
Submitted by Bill Stephenson, Treasurer			
August, 2021			
Current Month	Amount	Year to Date	Amount
Total Income	\$19,479.26	Total Income	\$133,179.87
Total Expenses	-\$12,436.03	Total Expenses	-\$99,150.98
Net Income	\$7,043.23	Net Income	\$34,028.89
<i>Less Foundation Grant for 2020 Budget Deficit</i>			-\$7,187.24
			\$26,841.65
BUDGET COMPARISON OF ENVELOPE OFFERING			
Monthly Budget Amount	Actual Current Month	Budget Year to Date	Actual Year to Date
\$11,931.67	\$10,761.62	\$95,453.36	\$87,213.51
Over/Under Budget	-\$1,170.05		-\$8,239.85

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OUR PRAYERS ARE WITH:

We welcome your requests for prayers for persons in need or prayers of thanksgiving for blessings received. Please note that prayer requests will remain on the list for four Sundays; a request may be extended by contacting the church office.

Recent hospitalizations, illnesses, and concerns:

Anne Hermanson (*friend of church, brain tumor*)
Sonny Pethan (*recovery from stroke*)
José Luis Mendia (*Santi and Diana's father, surgery*)
John Nelson (*Kinna Kemp's uncle, kidney tumor surgery*)
Alice Thurlow (*health and physical rehab*)
Jay (*Ellie Weaver's son's father-in-law, bladder cancer*)
Doug Benson (*home from hospitalization for heart health*)

For homebound members and friends:

Gil Bliss (*skin cancer treatments*)
George Devers Colleen Graham
James & Marie Hughes Palma Kruger
Christel Loftesness Les and Diana Ortt
Dorothy Parker Gerry Redlin
Daphne Remington Arlene Selk
Vernita Wild Don Snook & Trish Kulp

For the faithful departed and those who mourn:

Family of Mark (*Joan Chamber's son*)
Family of Sandra and Rosalino Gonzalez-Tapia (*Sandra (Aitzza), Karen, and Adamaris' parents*)
Family of Toni Sinaga's mother

For those with ongoing concerns:

Jared Elvir and family
Steve Brelsford (*Bob's son, stroke recovery*)
Greg Kimball (*Ann Howell's husband, breathing health and cancer treatments*)
Jeff Martin (*health*)
The Pulido and Nava families
Gene (*physical rehab for partial paralysis, Joan Gustafson's son-in-law*)
Karl Feller (*chronic lymphatic leukemia*)
Ollie Daniels (*pain/ breathing issues*)
Irene Seelmeyer (*at home physical rehab*)
Cesar Lomeli & Alvaro Cassillas Garcia (*nephew & friend of Laura Garcia, missing*)
Jeannie Blom (*former member, corneal transplant surgery*)
Sally Lynch (*pain & breathing issues*)

Norman (*Diana Ratliff's uncle, hospice*)
Ele Lopeman (*health*)
Karen Schelm (*Randy Jensen's daughter*)
Cass (*Ann Howell's granddaughter, car accident*)
Kevin Gustafson (*back pain*)
Brian Hodgson (*long-term recovery, heart surgery*)
Bob Hempel (*former member, cancer*)
Monaliza Abdo (*Chris Prillwitz's friend, health*)
Lydia Scott (*cancer*)
Patrick Stephenson (*melanoma recurrence*)
Rose Kvern (*health*)
Judith Graham (*Quai Barker's mother, cancer*)
Jeff Gamel (*health*)
Jean Rose (*back pain*)
Sandy Day (*health*)
Jeff (*Hugo Redlin's son, health*)

In the interest of keeping concerns timely, all prayer requests more than a year old without a recent update have been removed from under Ongoing Concerns.

If someone you care about is still in need of prayer, please submit a new prayer request/ update.

Assisting with Worship:

Pastor	Nic Leither
Guitarist	Ken Barger
Assisting Minister	Mary Stephenson
Lector	Mary Stephenson
Sound Engineer	Bill Stephenson
Assisting with Virtual Worship	Mary Katherine Smith



ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 111 Del Mar Circle, Aurora CO 80011

Called by the Holy Spirit. Equipped to serve. Sent to love all!

Important Information About St. Mark's

Sunday Worship – 10:00 a.m.

Office: 303-366-9702

Website: www.stmarksaurora.org

Pastor: Nic Leither

Youth & Family Minister: Kinna Kemp

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. M–Th

E-mail: admin@stmarksaurora.org

E-mail: pastor@stmarksaurora.org

For pastoral emergencies call: 320-220-1384

E-mail: MissKinna.cyf@gmail.com

Phone: 303-889-9844

If you are in need of help, be it spiritual or in physical resources, please share your need with the church and we will help you as best as we can during this challenging time.