

W e l c o m e
ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Church Staff:
The Rev. Dr. David O. Guss, Fr., Ph.D.
Ms. Josie Largacha, Administrative Assistant
Mr. Adam Cahill, Choir Director
Mr. J. Sebastien Rogers, Organist

June 17th
ALTAR GUILD: Josie Largacha
ASSISTING MINISTER: Adam Cahill
FELLOWSHIP: Jose & Julia Rego
COUNTERS: Don Bickel/Traute Baur
USHERS: Jose Rego & Don Bickel

Serving Next Week, June 24th
ALTAR GUILD: Marina Wijesinha
ASSISTING MINISTER: Julia Rego
FELLOWSHIP: Raul & Miriam Calzadilla
COUNTERS: Miriam Calzadilla/Pat Price
USHERS: Raul & Miriam Calzadilla

Congregational Council 2018-2019

Officers:

President: Raul "Bubba" Calzadilla
Vice President: Jacob Perry
Secretary: Charlene Grall
Treasurer: Julia Rego

Church Council:

Miguel Guerrero
William Hill
Laurie Hill
Tom Johnson
Bob Kramer
Josie Largacha
Maria Martin
Timi Nichols

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



A Reconciling Works Congregation



Happy
Father's
Day

ORDER OF MASS

and

St. Mark's Messenger

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

June 17, 2018

10:00 A.M.

**3930 LEJEUNE ROAD
CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33134
305.444.0425**

EMAIL: SAINTMAR@BELLSOUTH.NET

WEB: WWW.STMARKSLUTHERANCORALGABLES.COM



Welcome

TO ALL OUR VISITORS, FRIENDS, AND MEMBERS: Welcome to worship at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, a multicultural, all-inclusive ecumenical ministry to the community. You are encouraged to join us for refreshments following worship. Please sign our guest book located at the church’s front entrance. Restrooms are located on the other side of the east gate as you exit the sanctuary. If you are interested in becoming part of this loving church family, please speak to Pastor today. St. Mark’s is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and welcomes all believers to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please visit us www.stmarkslutheranccoralgables.org. Thank you for being with us today!

INVITE A FRIEND TO CHURCH: Please consider inviting a family member, a friend, or a neighbor to church with you next Sunday. Share the Good News!

TO ALL OUR FATHER’S – HAPPY FATHER’S DAY!

St. Mark’s wants to say HAPPY FATHER’S DAY to all our fathers in the congregation today. Today’s Fellowship Hour will be held in honor of all our fathers.

MINISTRIES

SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM

We are looking for musicians, instrumentalists, and vocalists to provide special music for worship during the summer months. If you think you might be interested, please see Choir Director, Mr. Adam Cahill at your earliest convenience. We would love to hear what wonderful talent there is among us at St. Mark’s.

NEXT CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE THIS TUESDAY, JUNE 19th, 7:00 PM

Our next church council meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 19th at 7:00 PM. All Church Council members are encouraged to be in attendance as we make plans for our summer retreat scheduled for Saturday, July 21st.

NEXT CARE NETWORK MINISTRY MEETING – JUNE 26th, 7:30 PM

Pastor and Church Council are seeking interested individuals who are willing to be part of St. Mark’s Care Network. This group of individuals sends cards, makes phone calls, and occasionally makes visits to the homes of members and friends of the congregation who may not have been able to attend church for a while and/or who need some good cheer. If you are interested in serving in this vital and important ministry, please attend our Care Network Ministry Team meeting Tuesday, June 26th, 7:30 PM.

MUSIC LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING WILL BE TUESDAY, JULY 3rd, 7:30 PM

Thank you to all our Music Leadership Team members who met this past week to plan our summer music program. Our next Music Leadership Team meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 3rd, 7:30 PM.

OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN TASK FORCE MEETING IS TUESDAY JULY 10th, 7:30 PM

Come join our efforts in identifying new friends and neighbors in the community who are interested in finding a church home. Our next Membership Campaign Team will be meeting Tuesday, July 10th at 7:30 PM. Consider becoming part of this new effort as we bring forward recommendations to our Church Council which will be holding their Annual Retreat on July 21st.

On What Has Now Been Sown

1 On what has now been sown, your bless-ing Lord, be - stow; the
 2 To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs; ac -
 3 Oh, grant that each of us, now met be - fore you here, may

pow'r is yours a - lone to make it sprout and grow. O Lord, in
 cept what is your own and par-don what is ours. Our prais - es,
 meet to - geth - er thus when you and yours ap - pear, and fol - low

grace the har - vest raise, and yours a - lone shall be the praise!
 Lord, and prayers re - ceive and to your word a bless - ing give.
 you to heav'n, our home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.
 Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731-1789

SENDING

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord! **C:** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE – J. Sebastien Rogers, Organist

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“How Great thou Art”

Please Use Hymnal

COMMUNION HYMN

“In His Time” - Words and Music by: Diane Ball

Verse 1:	Verse 2:
In His time...In His time;	In Your time...In Your Time;
He makes all things beautiful in His time.	You make all things beautiful in Your time.
Lord, please show me ev'ry day	Lord, my life to You I bring;
As You're teaching me Your way,	May each song I have to sing
That You do just what You say in Your time.	Be to You a lovely thing in Your time.

(After the Eucharistic meal has ended and everyone has returned to their seats, please stand.)

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Let us Pray:

C: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor ✠ And give you peace.

C: Amen.

THANK YOU!

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS TODAY are given by Steven Tyler & Cindy Tyler to the Glory of God in Honor of their father, Arland Tyler and all the other fathers.

PLEASE MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO WELCOME FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS

Let us all make a special effort to always make our friends and neighbors welcome at St. Mark's: 1) introduce them to the Pastor, 2) invite them to sign the guest book, and 3) bring them to fellowship hour to enjoy fellowship and meet new friends. Also, if you know of a friend or neighbor who would be interested in joining St. Mark's, please see Josie or Pr. Guss. Thank you for your support!

CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL RETREAT TO BE HELD SATURDAY, JULY 21st, 8:30 AM-1:00 PM

Church Council's Annual Retreat will be held at the University of Miami on Saturday, July 21st, at 8:30 AM. Church Council, please make a special effort to be in attendance for this important meeting as we reflect, pray, discuss, plan, and ask God to lead and guide St. Mark's ministry for the coming year.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT OFFERING A RIDE TO YOUR FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR TO WORSHIP?

Here is an ABSOLUTELY WONDERFUL IDEA! Have you considered offering a ride to your neighbor, friend, or family member to come to church? What a great way to help a friend and grow our church. Think about it!

COMING TO CHURCH IS IMPORTANT!

As we work together to expand our programs of ministries, all members and friends of the parish are requested to regularly attend weekly worship.

ST. MARK'S NEEDS EVERYONE TO BECOME PART OF AN OUTREACH MINISTRY

Think about serving God and your church in one of the following exciting ministry opportunities!

WORSHIP MINISTRIES (6) – altar guild, lectors/worship assistants, ushers/greeters, vestry, Chancel Choir, Children's Choir

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRIES (4) – Children Sunday Church School, Adult Bible Study, First Communion & Confirmation Ministry, Youth Ministry

EVANGELISM MINISTRIES (11 ministries) – Prayer Ministry, Visitation Ministry, Counseling Ministry, Care Network, Fellowship Ministry, Community Outreach, Transportation Ministry, Media Ministry, E.L.C.A. Hunger Fund Ministry, Discretionary Fund Ministry

LEADERSHIP MINISTRIES (4): Finance Bookkeeping Committee, Property Work Team, Music Leadership Team, Church Council

(Please see Pr. Guss or Administrative Assistant Josie Largacha if you have interest. Also, check out saintmarkslutherancoralgables.org for more information on each ministry.)

Happy Birthday!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JUNE CELEBRANTS

06/02 Samuel Givens, 06/06 Arthur Bein, 6/16 Werner Baur
6/18 Shirley Wijesinha, 6/24 Don Moore, 6/25 Johanna Johnson, 6/25 Maria Morarin
6/25 Allegra Hill, 6/27 Ionas Kopania

If we missed listing your birthday, forgive us, Please call the church office
and update your information at 305/444-0425

This Week ... AT ST. MARK'S

SUNDAY 06/17: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 a.m.: Family Worship Mass and Children's Time

11:00 a.m.: Fellowship and Refreshments

TUESDAY 06/19:

7:30 p.m.: Church Council Meeting

SUNDAY 06/24: John the Baptist

10:00 a.m.: Family Worship Mass and Children's Time

11:00 a.m.: Fellowship and Refreshments

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

C: 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

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

(Please be seated.)

COMMUNION CANTICLE

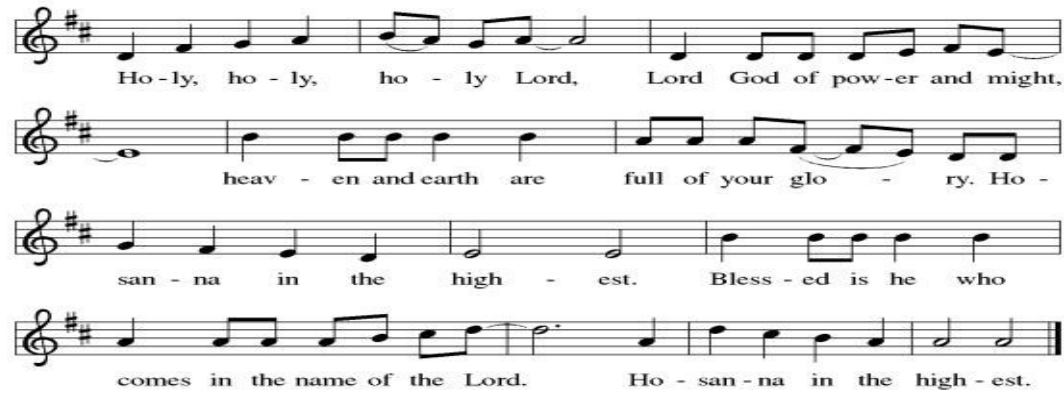
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

EUCCHARISTIC MEAL:

(Congregation invited to kneel during Communion by Intinction.)

ORDER OF MASS

Mass Intention: Today We Remember Maria Pacheco and Andres Pacheco



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord, Jesus, took bread, and gave thanks: broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

P: Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

Acclamation *Great Thanksgiving*



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a-gain.

Music: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949
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P: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen *Great Thanksgiving*



A-men, a-men, a-men.

Music: Paul D. Weber, b. 1949
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Introduction

The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

PRELUDE & PEALING OF THE ST. MARK'S MEMORIAL CARILLON

WELCOME/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the Name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, our God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(A time for personal confession and prayer)

P: Most merciful God,

C: You asked for my hands, my mouth, and my eyes to serve. I've given only a small part of my life to you. Forgive me, renew me, and send me into the world with a changed heart, O God, that I might live to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his only Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained Pastor of the Church of Jesus Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare unto you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the Name of the ✠ Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

INTRODUCTORY RITE *(Please greet your fellow worshippers with a sign of peace.)*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN

(Please stand.)

ELW # 533

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;
 3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;

where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.
 where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.
 let my soul, where it is plant - ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,
 how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, may thy word still o'er me shine
 may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.

Oh, how bless - ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!
 To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!
 so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 as my guid - ing star through life, as my com - fort in all strife.
 Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.
 Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650-1680

OFFERING

Offertory Anthem - "Seed, Scattered and Sown" Text: Based on Didache 9, 1 Corinthians 10: 16-17, Mark 4: 3-6; Dan Feiten.
 Music: Dan Feiten; keyboard acc. By Eric Gunnison and R.J. Miller
 Text and music c. 1987, Ekklesia Music, Inc.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us Pray.
C: Merciful God, you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray through Christ our 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 up to the Lord.
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: It is right to give thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

APOSTLES' CREED

A: Let us confess the words of our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed.

C: 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 into hell. 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.

FAMILY PRAYER

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Jesus Christ, and for all people according to their needs. (*Congregation may be seated.*)

(*After each prayer petition is offered:*)

P: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayers.

A: We Pray for: Jennifer Rego, Heloise Woods, Johanna Johnson, Josefina Kaye, Josefina Cortina, Sharon Arbuz, The Pacheco Family, Petra Lichtenberger, Stephanie Delgado, Irene Hahn, Helmuth Wagner, Hans Winzer, Renardo Hardy, David Calzadilla, Cindy Crebbin, Dottie Bobbitt, Kevin Padron, Janine Weideman, Adriaan Visser, Jacob Mestre, Robyn Moore, Ricardo Guerrero, Alicia Corrales, Lois Gee, Walt Stone, Werner Baur, Anne Mace, Jeremiah David Hines, Michael Daley, Annette Perez, Pastor Arnold Perry, Betty Phillips, Arland Tyler Sr., Arland Tyler Jr., Maria Teresa Ruiz Montalvo Bombino, Susie Holloway, Alisson & Sandra Osvaldt, Maria Landin, Dinusha Dietrich, Reinaldo Gomez, Frank Nelson, Erick Largacha, Laurie Hill, Bob Collins, Bob Kramer, Julia Rego, David Pacheco, Willie Silverio

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: And also with you.



(Pass your prayer requests to the center aisle during the hymn of the day.)

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
 to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
 high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

1 Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa-ther,
 we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
 to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
 high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God,
 Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
 have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right
 hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

Refrain
 Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace
 to God's peo-ple on earth. Glo-ry to God in the
 high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord, you a -
 lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther.

Final refrain
 Glo - ry to God in the high - est.
 A - - men, a - - men.

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,

now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
 but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
 but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
 that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775-1852, alt.
 Music: ST. FLAVIAN, J. Day, *Psalter*, 1562

GOSPEL: Mark 4: 26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 4th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁶[Jesus] said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated.)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: *Whoever Would Have Thought We Could Be Like A Banyan Tree?*

HOMILY: *Hamburgers Don't Grow On Trees.*

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated.)

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17: 22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the Lord will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

A: A reading from Ezekiel, the 17th chapter.

²²Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain.

²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind.

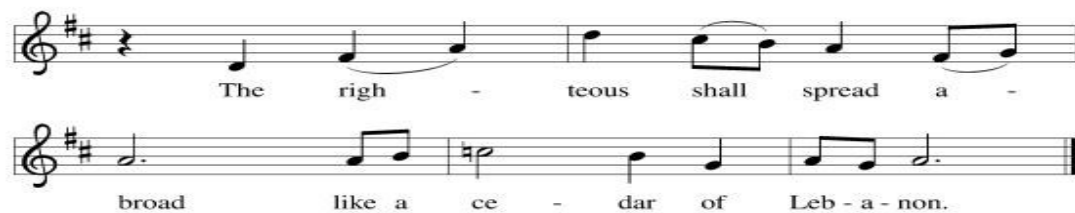
²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15

The refrain is sung once by the cantor, then by the congregation at the beginning and ending of the psalm. The psalm is chanted responsively with the congregation singing the **bold** verses.



Psalm 92:12
Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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PSALM TONE



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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- ¹It is a good thing to give thanks | to the LORD,
to sing praise to your name, | O Most High;
²**to herald your love | in the morning**
and your faithful- | ness at night;
³on the psaltery, and | on the lyre,
and to the melody | of the harp.
⁴**For you have made me glad by your | acts, O LORD;**
and I shout for joy because of the works | of your hands.
¹²The righteous shall flourish | like a palm tree,
and shall spread abroad like a ce- | dar of Lebanon.
¹³**Those who are planted in the house | of the LORD**
shall flourish in the courts | of our God;
¹⁴they shall still bear fruit | in old age;
they shall be | green and succulent;
¹⁵**that they may show how up- | right the LORD is,**
my rock, in whom there is | no injustice. R

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5: 6-10 [11-13] 14-17

Paul encourages believers to live by faith and not by sight. We do not consider Jesus from a human perspective but through the eyes of faith, believing he died for all and was raised. All who are in Christ are now in God's new creation.

A: A reading from 2nd Corinthians, the 5th chapter.

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

[¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. ¹²We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.] ¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

A: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand.)

