



**St. Mark's City Heights
Episcopal Church**
MANOS DE DIOS - WE ARE GOD'S HANDS

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost Sunday August 23, 2026

Join online at 9:45 am tinyurl.com/stmarkszoom

If this is your first time worshipping at St. Mark's, we welcome you! Wherever you are on your journey of faith we are glad you are here, and we invite you to join us in all that we do. If you are joining us online today and would like to have Holy Communion brought to your home please email Fr. Richard at fr.richard@stmarks-cityheights.org

The in-person service is being streamed live and pictures may be taken during the service. If you don't wish to be seen on camera or to be photographed, please ask someone at the welcome table for appropriate seating.

Welcoming Prayer

Holy Spirit living within us, guide our hearts and minds as we welcome today all those who worship with us as part of the St. Mark's family. Give us discerning hearts so that everyone who worships with us feels welcomed in the spirit of your love. Help us to recognize each person as an individual sent by you who will enrich our lives. And most of all, O God, let this community be a place of love and acceptance of all your children; in the name of your child, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Gathering Hymn Now Thank We All Our God vs 1 & 3 Hymnal 397

1 Now thank we all our God with heart, and hands, and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
Eternal, Triune God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

The Introduction

Presider Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

Presider 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.

Kyrie Eleison

The musical score for 'Kyrie Eleison' is written in 8/8 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the text: 'Ky-ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: 'Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri -'. The third staff contains the melody for the third line: 'e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son!'. The fourth staff contains the melody for the fourth line: 'ste e - le - i - son. Chri-ste e - le - i - son!'. The fifth staff contains the melody for the fifth line: 'repeat Kyrie'. Chords are indicated above the staff: A7, Dm, G7, and C.

Words: from The Book of Common Prayer (1979) of the Episcopal Church USA.
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Confession of Sin

Presider Let us confess our sins to God. *[Silence may be kept.]*

People **God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Absolution

Presider 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 Collect

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Readings

A Reading from the Book of Exodus

Exodus 1:8-2:10

Now a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. He said to his people, "Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor. They built supply cities, Pithom and Rameses, for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread, so that the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites. The Egyptians became ruthless in imposing tasks on the Israelites, and made their lives bitter with hard service in mortar and brick and in every kind of field labor. They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, "When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstool, if it is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, she shall live." But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and allowed the boys to live?" The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." So God dealt well with the midwives; and the people multiplied and became very strong. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every boy that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every girl live."

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him, "This must be one of the Hebrews' children," she said.

Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Yes." So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, "because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 124 Read responsively by reading the **bold** text.

English followed by Spanish below

LECTOR 1 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
let Israel now say;

**ALL 2 If the Lord had not been on our side, *
when enemies rose up against us;**

3 Then would they have swallowed us up alive in their fierce anger toward us;

4 Then would the waters have overwhelmed us * and the torrent gone over us;

5 Then would the raging waters *
have gone right over us.

**6 Blessed be the Lord! *
he has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.**

7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler; * the snare is broken,
and we have escaped.

**8 Our help is in the Name of the Lord, *
the maker of heaven and earth.**

ESPAÑOL

LECTOR 1 Si el Señor no hubiera estado de nuestra parte, * diga ahora Israel;

**TODO 2 Si el Señor no hubiera estado de nuestra parte, * cuando los
enemigos se levantaron contra nosotros;**

3 Entonces nos habrían tragado vivos, * cuando se encendió su furor contra
nosotros;

4 Entonces nos habrían sumergido las aguas, * hasta el cuello habría subido

el torrente;

5 Entonces hasta el cuello habrían subido * las aguas furiosas.

6 ¡Bendito sea el Señor! *
No nos ha dado por presa a sus dientes.

7 Hemos escapado cual ave de la trampa del cazador; * se rompió la trampa, y hemos escapado.

8 Nuestro auxilio está en el Nombre del Señor, * que hizo los cielos y la tierra.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God-- what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel Hymn

I Sing Praises

vs 1 & 2 Renew 79

1. I sing praises to your name, O Lord, praises to your name, O Lord,
for your name is great and greatly to be praised.

I sing praises to your name, O Lord, praises to your name, O Lord,
for your name is great and greatly to be praised.

2. I give glory to your name, O Lord, glory to your name, O Lord,
for your name is great and greatly to be praised.

I give glory to your name, O Lord, glory to your name, O Lord,
for your name is great and greatly to be praised.

The Gospel

Matthew 16:13-20

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon **Fr. Richard**

The Nicene Creed

People **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

The Prayers of the People: the response to each bidding is: **Hear our prayer.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Announcements, Blessings for birthdays and anniversaries.

For a Birthday

O God, we come before you with hearts full of gratitude and joy as we celebrate this/these birthday(s). Thank you for this special day, for the gift of life, and for the opportunity to celebrate another year together. In your Holy name we pray. Amen.

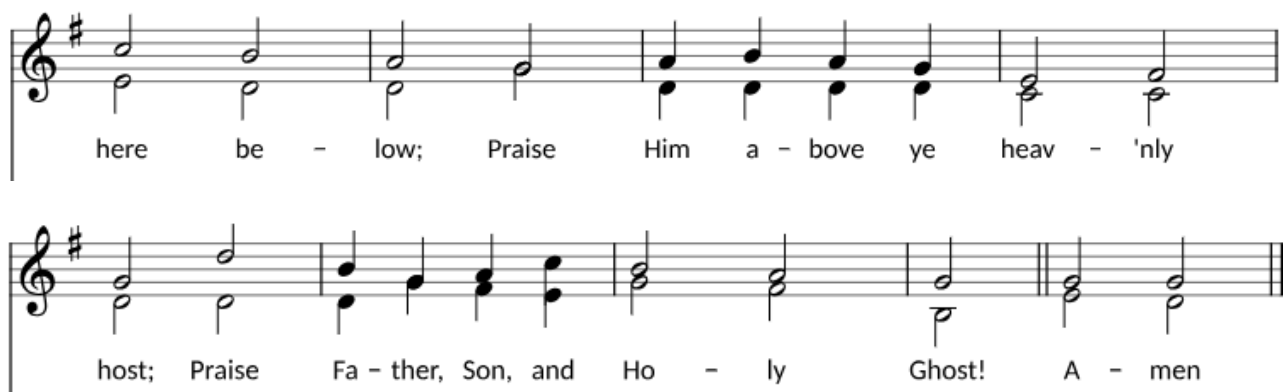
For an Anniversary

O God, we thank and praise You for the gift of this anniversary and the love and joy that it brings. Pour out we pray, Your love, joy, grace and peace into the hearts of all who are celebrating this day. We pray that in this remembrance, that you join each of us closer, to each other, and to You. Amen.

The Offertory *The Table is prepared*

The Doxology *Hymnal 380 Vs 3 Tune Old Hundredth*





The Great Thanksgiving

Enriching Our Worship Eucharistic Prayer 1

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Presider It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body.

Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus *Argentine Santo, Santo, Santo WLP 785*



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You

gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine.

By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world.

Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with St. Mark and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, in the language of our own heart.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as 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 forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Presider We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

The Invitation

Presider This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him, and for those who want to love him more. So, come, those who have much faith and those who have little, those who have been here often and those who have not been here long, those who have tried to follow and those who have failed. Come, not because the Church invites us; it is Christ, and he invites us to meet him here.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Prayer of Spiritual Communion For Those On Zoom

Presider We know that some of us are joining this morning on zoom, and although they can not physically receive the holy sacraments, they can receive in their hearts.

People **In union, Blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of Your Church where Your blessed body and blood are offered, I long to offer you praise and thanksgiving. I believe that You are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot at this time receive communion, I pray you to come into my heart, my soul, and my mind. I unite myself to You, and embrace You with all the affections of my soul. Let nothing separate me from You; let me serve You in this life until, by Your grace, I join You in Your reign of unending peace. Amen.**

All are invited and welcome to receive communion. We will be offering communion in both kinds: bread & wine. As you come forward to receive communion the priest will be standing in the center, in front of the altar and will give you the bread into your hand. If you would like to also receive the wine, you can either drink from the chalice (in which case, after receiving the bread, go to the altar server on the left) or have the bread intincted (dipped) into the wine and given to you (in which case go to the altar server on the right after receiving the bread.) If you would like to receive the bread only please return to your seat after receiving it. If you would prefer not to receive the bread and wine but receive a blessing, please cross your hands over your chest.

If you would like to receive gluten free bread please tell the priest.

Communion Hymn

I Am the Bread of Life

Renew 246

Post Communion Prayer

People God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sending Out of Eucharistic Ministers with Home Communion

Presider In the name of God, we send you forth to share communion with those who are not able to be with us today.

People **As you have been fed, now feed others.**

Presider Our prayers are with you, go in peace.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Blessing

Sending Hymn Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

vs 1 & 4 Hymnal 522

1 Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.
He whose Word cannot be broken formed thee for His own abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

4 Blest inhabitants of Zion, washed in the Redeemer's blood!
Jesus, whom their souls rely on, makes them kings and priests to God.
'Tis his love his people raises over self to reign as kings;
And as priests, this solemn praises each for a thankofferings brings.

Dismissal

Priest: Our worship service this morning has ended, our service to the world continues. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God Speed Debbie Kistler | Today we say *Goodbye* to Debbie as she is moving to Oregon. After the service, please add your name to the picture mat and plan on lingering a bit as you nosh on the available goodies in celebration of Debbie's time with us. Thank you Debbie for your many contributions to St. Mark's. Go with God! ¡Vaya con Dios!

White Elephant Sale | Thank you to those who helped in bringing the clothing from St. James-by-the-Sea to St. Mark's yesterday. We appreciate you!

August Choir Practices | Today after church and Tuesday, August 25 at 6 pm, here at St. Mark's.

Food Pantry | It's summer time which means that our regular pantry volunteers are taking vacation and/or traveling. If you can step in on Wed and/or Thu morning (even if just for one or two weeks), please contact Joanna: jonnas@stmarks-cityheights.org or Chris: chrisn@stmarks-cityheights.org