



ST. MARK
REFORMED CHURCH

*Morning Worship
22 January 2023
Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

GREETINGS TO OUR VISITORS!

If you are visiting St. Mark today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. We are delighted the Lord has brought you to worship with us and look forward to meeting you. If you are baptized in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, you are welcome to partake of the Lord's Supper.

ABOUT US:

St. Mark Reformed Church is a member church of the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC). Our congregation is centered on classical Christian worship that is robust, reverent, and joyful. We offer solid biblical preaching and teaching from a Reformed perspective. We are a family-friendly, welcoming congregation, desiring unity with all fellow believers. We believe and seek to embody the good news of the gospel—that salvation from sin is found in Christ alone, to be received by faith alone. We long to be a community that practices love, service, and mercy toward our community and the world.

CHURCH OFFICERS:

TJ Draper, Deacon
Abe Goolsby, Elder
Jeff Kernodle, Elder
Randy Sadler, Deacon
Joe Thacker, Pastor

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen. **(Stand at the conclusion of the Prelude)**

The Lord Calls Us

Pastor: Let us worship God! We are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

Pastor: There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse;

People: And a Branch shall grow out of its roots.

Pastor: Arise; shine, for your light has come!

People: And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22

Pastor: Amen!

People: Amen!

Hymn of Procession

Psalm 145:1-7

p. 4

1. ¹I will Thee praise, my God, O King, And I will
 2. ³The LORD is great; He praise ex - ceeds; His great-ness
 3. ⁵Up - on Thy glo - rious maj - es - ty And won-drous
 4. ⁷They ut - ter shall a - bun - dant - ly The mem - 'ry

ev - er bless Thy name; ²I will ex - tol Thee
 ful - ly search can none; ⁴Race shall to race ex-
 works my mind shall dwell; ⁶Men shall re - count Thy
 of Thy good - ness great, And shall sing prais - es

eve - ry - day And ev - er - more Thy praise pro - claim,
 tol Thy deeds And tell Thy might - y acts each one.
 dread - ful acts, And of Thy great - ness I will tell.
 cheer - ful - ly While they Thy right - eous - ness re - late.

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: I rejoiced when they said unto me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!"

People: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

(Psalm 122:1-2)

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord!

People: The Maker of heaven and earth!

(Psalm 124:8)

Pastor: Let us pray . . .

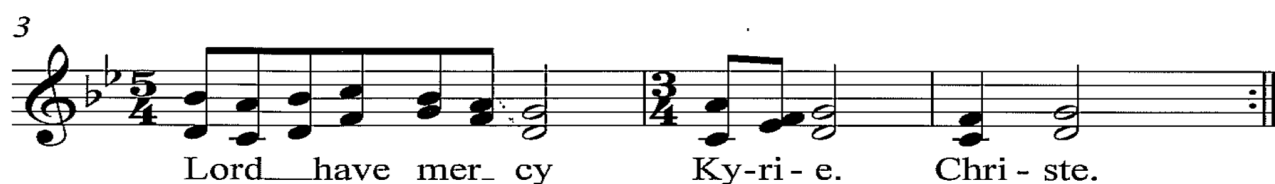
The Lord Cleanses Us

THE PURIFICATION OFFERING

Pastor: Let us call upon God's mercy.

Hymn of Confession

Kyrie Eleison



Pastor: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him. Let us humbly kneel and confess our sins together . . . (Kneeling if able)

Almighty and all Holy Father,

We confess ourselves unworthy of Your unspeakable Gift. We have not loved You as we ought; nor have we always been loving to one another; kindhearted, forgiving one another; even as You, for Christ's sake, have forgiven us. We have lived in selfishness and worldly pride; and the good gifts You have bestowed upon us; we have not used to relieve the burdens of others. Pardon and blot out our offenses, we beseech You.

O merciful Father, who in compassion for Your sinful children did send Your Son Jesus Christ to be the Savior of the world: Grant us grace to feel and lament our share in the evil which made it needful for Him to suffer and to die for our salvation. Help us by self-denial, prayer, and meditation to prepare our hearts for deeper penitence and a better life. And give us a true longing to be free from sin, through the deliverance wrought by Jesus Christ our only Redeemer. Amen.

Pastor: Arise and hear the good news of God's forgiveness!

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God says, "Comfort, yes, comfort my people! Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned." Your Heavenly Father sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem you from the curse of sin. Receive his promise of forgiveness by faith and rejoice in the assurance of God's favor. Amen!

People: Amen!

The Lord Consecrates Us

THE ASCENSION OFFERING

Hymn of Ascent

Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

1. Ye ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim,
2. God rul - eth on high, al - might - y to save;
3. Sal - va - tion to God, who sits on the throne!
4. Then let us a - dore, and give him his right,

and pub - lish a - broad his won - der - ful name;
and still he is nigh - his pres - ence we have.
Let all cry a - loud and hon - or the Son.
all glo - ry and pow'r, and wis - dom and might,

the name, all vic - to - rious, of Je - sus ex - tol;
The great con - gre - ga - tion his tri - umph shall sing,
The prais - es of Je - sus, the an - gels pro - claim,
all hon - or and bless - ing, with an - gels a - bove,

his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all.
as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our King.
fall down on their fac - es and wor - ship the Lamb.
and thanks nev - er ceas - ing for in - fi - nite love.

Charles Wesley, 1744; alt.

LYONS 10.10.11.11.
Johann Michael Haydn, 1737-1806
Arr. in William Gardner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

Congregation: AMEN!

THE SURSUM CORDA

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: O Lord, open our lips!

People: And our mouths will declare your praise!

The Doxology (with hands upraised - 1 Timothy 2:8)

OLD HUNDREDTH (L.M.)
Genevan Psalter, 1551
Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

Thomas Ken, 1709

Praise God from Whom all bless - ings flow;

Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;

Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

(The congregation may be seated)

Pastor: The law of the LORD is perfect,

People: reviving the soul;

Pastor: the testimony of the LORD is sure,

People: making wise the simple;

Pastor: the precepts of the LORD are right,

People: rejoicing the heart;

Pastor: the commandment of the LORD is pure,

People: enlightening the eyes.

(Psalm 19:7-8)

THE LESSON:
Lector: The Word of the Lord!
People: Thanks be to God!

Isaiah 9:1-4

THE PSALM:

Psalm 27:1-9



- [1] The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom | shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I | be afraid?
- [2] When evildoers assail me to eat | up my flesh,
my adversaries and foes, it is they who stum- | ble and fall.
- [3] Though an army encamp against me, my heart | shall not fear;
though war arise against me, yet I will be | confident.
- [4] One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek | after:
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his | temple.
- [5] For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of | trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high up- | on a rock.
- [6] And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with | shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody | to the LORD.
- [7] Hear, O LORD, when I | cry aloud;
be gracious to me and | answer me!
- [8] You have said, | “Seek my face.”
My heart says to you, “Your face, LORD, | do I seek.”
- [9] Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger,
O you who have | been my help.
Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my | salvation!

Congregation: AMEN!

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:1-18

Lector: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

(Please stand)

THE GOSPEL

Matthew 4:12-25

Pastor: The Gospel of Christ!

People: Praise be to Christ!

Gloria Patri (with hands upraised - 1 Timothy 2:8)

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the

Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in

the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er

shall be, world with - out end. A - men, a - men.

2nd cent.; tr.

GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)
Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

Pastor: Let us confess our faith together. Christian, in whom do you believe?

Unison: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds;

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God;

begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

He suffered and was buried;

and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures;

and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father;

and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life;

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified;

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

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

(The congregation may be seated)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 47:13-26

Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

“Life from Death”

Sermon Notes, p. 20

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The Lord Collects Our Gifts

THE TRIBUTE OFFERING

COLLECTION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

(Please stand.)

Offertory Hymn

Jesus, Master, Whose I Am

1. Je - sus, Mas - ter, whose I am, pur - chased thine a - lone to be
2. Je - sus, Mas - ter, I am thine: keep me faith - ful, keep me near;
3. Je - sus, Mas - ter, whom I serve, though so fee - bly and so ill,
4. Lord, thou need - est not, I know, ser - vice such as I can bring;

by thy blood, O spot - less Lamb, shed so will - ing - ly for me,
let thy pres - ence in me shine all my home - ward way to cheer.
strength - en hand and heart and nerve all thy bid - ding to ful - fil.
yet I long to prove and show full al - le - giance to my King.

let my heart be all thine own, let me live to thee a - lone.
Je - sus, at thy feet I fall, O be thou my all in all.
O - pen thou mine eyes to see all the work thou hast for me.
Thou an hon - or art to me: let me be a praise to thee.

Frances R. Havergal, 1865

WELLS 7.7.7.7.7.
Dmitri Bortniansky, 1752-1825; arr.

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: What gifts have you brought for your Lord?

People: We give only what the Lord has first given to us. We offer ourselves in Christ through confession, praise and thanksgiving; we give our prayers and alms for the sake of the world; and we participate in the Lord's Supper as a memorial of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Father, receive now these gifts offered to you in and through the Lord Jesus Christ, as we return to you a portion of that which you have freely given us. Use these tithes and offerings to support the work of the church, to care for the poor and needy, to promote the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth, and to build up your kingdom. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

People: Amen.

The Lord Communes with Us

THE PEACE OFFERING

Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God; that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The first system begins with a treble clef and a bass clef. The second system begins with a treble clef and a bass clef. The third system begins with a treble clef and a bass clef. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

John Merbecke, 1549

Pastor: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You praise and thanks for all Your goodness and tender mercies. We bless You for the love that created us, and that sustains us day by day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, through whom You have made known Your will and favor. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, our Comforter; for the holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of the faithful and godly people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness by lives that are given wholly to Your service. Father, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: Save and defend Your Church universal, purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Give to her pastors and ministers endowed with your Holy Spirit, and strengthen her through the Word and the holy sacraments. Make her perfect in love and in all good works, and establish her in the faith delivered to the saints. Sanctify and unite Your people in all the world, that one holy, catholic, and apostolic church may bear witness to You, the God and Father of all. Father, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: We humbly entreat You for all sorts and conditions of men, that You would be pleased to make Your ways known to them, Your salvation to all nations. Send forth Your light and Your truth into all the earth. Raise up, we pray, faithful servants to labor in the gospel at home and in distant lands. Lord, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: Preserve our nation in righteousness and true honor, and grant Your blessings to us as a people, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, and cause them to acknowledge and obey Your holy will. King Jesus, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: God of all comfort and protection, we bring before You all who are in any wise afflicted, all persons oppressed with poverty, sickness, unemployment, or other trouble of body or mind, especially those whom we name now in our hearts before You. . . . Grant them the consolations of which they have need, and overrule their present sufferings to their eternal good. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy upon those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow or mourning. And to all grant a measure of Your love, taking them into your tender care. O Holy Spirit, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: We rejoice with thanksgiving in all those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your people, and bring us at length to the joy of Your everlasting kingdom. O Holy Spirit, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: All these things, and whatever else You see that we need, grant us, O Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ Your Son, who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

And now we pray as Your Son has taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

p. 15

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed be Thy Name, Thy King - dom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread,

and for - give us our debts, as we for - give our debt - ors,

and lead us not in-to temp-ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For Thine is the king-dom, and the pow-er and the glo-ry For - ev-er! A-men.

PREFACE AND SANCTUS

Pastor: The love of God the Father, the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Holy things for holy people!

People: The gifts of God for the people of God!

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you!

People: And also with you!

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is good and right to do so!

Pastor: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who has given us Your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon Him that we might become sons of God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:

The first system of musical notation for 'The Sanctus' is in G major (one sharp) and 3/8 time. It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with accompaniment in the bass staff. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:'.

7 Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The second system of musical notation starts at measure 7. It continues with two staves. The lyrics are: 'Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'.

12 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The third system of musical notation starts at measure 12. It continues with two staves. The lyrics are: 'Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'.

JS Bach (BWV 325)

arr. Ralph Mullenax and TJ Draper

(The congregation may be seated).

[Note to Visitors: If you are baptized in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit you are welcome to partake of the Lord's Supper.]

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE BREAD: Prayer of thanksgiving, breaking the bread, distribution, eating together.

THE WINE: Prayer of thanksgiving, distribution, drink after you have taken your cup.

Hymn of Distribution

The Church's One Foundation

p. 18

* We will sing vv. 1-3 during the distribution of the bread, and vv. 4-6 during the distribution of the wine.

1. The church - 's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
3. *The church shall nev - er per - ish!* Her dear Lord to de - fend,
4. *Though with a scorn - ful won - der* Men see her sore op - pressed,
5. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, And tu - mult of her war,
6. Yet she on earth hath un - ion With God the Three in One,

She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
Her char - ter of sal - va - tion, One Lord, one faith, one birth;
To guide, sus - tain, and cher - ish, Is with her to the end:
By schis - ms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis - tressed:
She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more;
And mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion With those whose rest is won,

From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
One ho - ly Name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
Though there be those who hate her, And false sons in her pale,
Yet saints their watch are keep - ing, Their cry goes up, "How long?"
Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

With His own blood He bought her And for her life He died.
And to one hope she press - es, With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
A - gainst or foe or trai - tor She ev - er shall pre - vail
And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song!
And the great church vic - to - rious Shall be the church at rest.
Like them, the meek and low - ly, On high may dwell with Thee.

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: The body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you all steadfast in the true faith and in unity unto life everlasting, in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.

People: Amen! (Please stand)

The Lord Commissions Us

Hymn of Dismissal

The Song of Simeon (Nunc Dimittis)

Luke 2:29-32, para. James Quinn

Traditional American melody



1. Lord, bid your ser - vant go in peace, your word is now ful - filled.
2. This is the Sav - ior of the world, the Gen - tiles' prom - ised light,



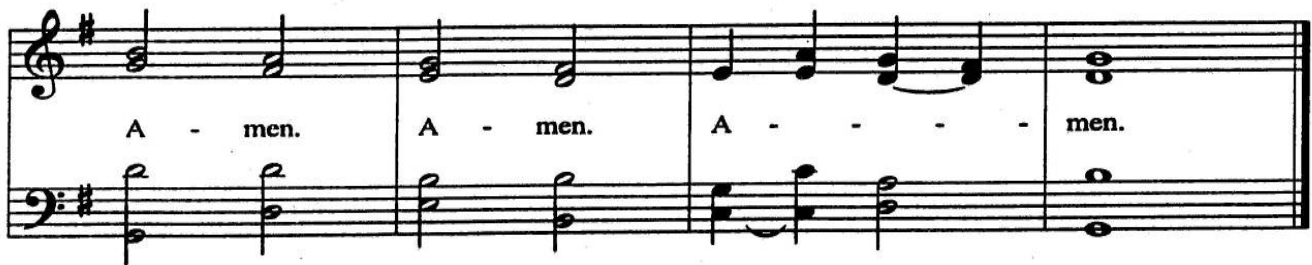
These eyes have seen sal - va - tion's dawn, this child so long fore - told.
God's glo - ry dwell - ing in our midst, the joy of Is - ra - el.

Pastor: And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:18-20

Pastor: And now look up to receive the Lord's blessing ...

THE BENEDICTION

THREEFOLD AMEN



POSTLUDE

The whole world is _____.

Phase I (v. 14):

The text doesn't simply say "money" but _____.

Tyrannical rule results in _____, and Joseph is doing everything in his power to combat _____.

Phase I: Silver for _____.

Phase II (vv. 15-17):

The Egyptians exchange their _____ for bread.

Joseph's brothers are taking care of all of the _____ of Egypt.

Phase III (vv. 18-22):

The people over themselves and their _____.

They're offering themselves as _____.

Joseph is the one _____ them to pass by.

Notice the progression that's indicated here from bread to _____.

Bread indicates taking _____ of the _____.

All of Egypt is going through their own _____ experience.

The Hope of _____ and Exaltation (vv. 23-26).

Joseph is the _____ of the seed.

Joseph is the _____.

This form of slavery is really _____.

God _____ this situation

The text is trying to create a sense of _____.

Biblically speaking, men cannot be absolutely _____.

Jesus Christ is the Savior of the _____.