

Eighth Sunday in Pentecost

Sunday July 15, 2018

When Amos told what he saw when God held up the plumb line of justice next to Israel—that the poor were being trampled—he was a threat to the power of priests and king. John the Baptist also spoke truth to power, and Herod had him beheaded. In Herod’s fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed: that all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them.



Hymns and Music for Today:

Prelude:	<i>Allemande from French Suite BWV 817 J.S. Bach</i>
Gathering Hymn:	ELW 556 - Morning Has Broken
Hymn of the Day:	ELW 717 - Let Justice Flow Like Streams
Offertory:	<i>Minuet from French Suite BWV 817 J.S. Bach</i>
Communion:	ELW 813 - Faith of Our Fathers ELW 760 - O Christ the Same
Sending Song:	ELW 776 - What God Ordains is Good Indeed
Postlude:	<i>Gigue from French Suite BWV 817 J.S. Bach</i>

Assisting with worship today:

Presiding Minister:	<i>The Rev. Bryan Penman</i>
Director of Music:	<i>Emily Ballentine Erb</i>

Assisting Minister:	<i>Open</i>	Altar Guild:	<i>The Dryburghs</i>
Communion Assistant:	<i>Lauren Parkin</i>	Ushers:	<i>Joe Dryburgh, Karen Hanna</i>
Reader:	<i>Gail Penman</i>	Counters :	<i>Joanne Copestick, Stef Conklin</i>
Nursery:	<i>The Inderbitzens</i>	Offering Recorder:	<i>Pam Keebler</i>
Acolyte:	<i>Open</i>	Fellowship Hour:	<i>The Penman Family</i>

Altar Flowers: | *By Michael Sloan in loving memory of his father, James D. Sloan*

Prayer of the Day

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

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

First Reading: Amos 7:7-15

Amos was not the kind of prophet attached to temples or royal courts. Rather, he was an ordinary farmer from Judah (the southern kingdom) called by God to speak to Israel (the northern kingdom). God's word of judgment through Amos conflicted with the king's court prophet Amaziah, whom Amos encountered at Bethel.

⁷This is what the Lord GOD showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, holding a plumb line. ⁸And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"See, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

¹⁰Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

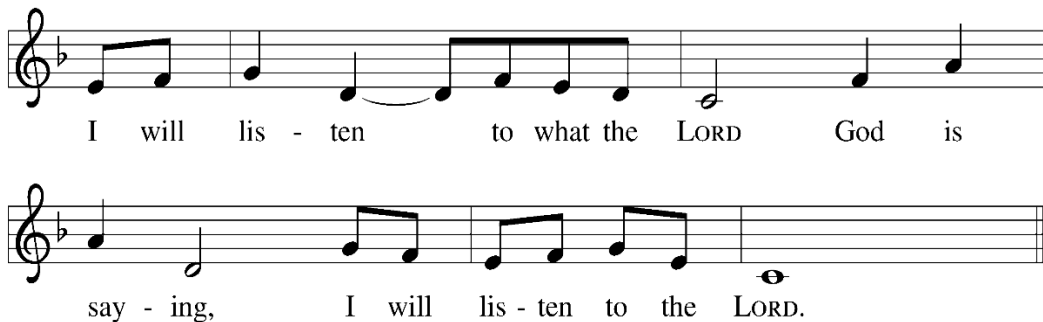
'Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from its land.'

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

¹⁴Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a

shepherd, and a dresser of sycamore trees,¹⁵ and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

Psalmody | Psalm 85:8-13



I will lis - ten to what the LORD God is
say - ing, I will lis - ten to the LORD.

⁸I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;
for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.

⁹**Truly, your salvation is very near to | those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell | in our land. R**

¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have | met together;
righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

¹¹**Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,
and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.**

¹²The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,
and our land will | yield its increase.

¹³**Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD
and shall prepare for | God a pathway. R**

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-14

In Jesus, all of God's plans and purposes have been made known as heaven and earth are united in Christ. Through Jesus, we have been chosen as God's children and have been promised eternal salvation.

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵God destined us for adoption as children through Jesus Christ; this was God's good pleasure and will, ⁶to the praise of God's glorious grace freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In Christ we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of God's grace ⁸lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹God has made known to us the mystery of the divine will, according to God's good pleasure set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of the one who accomplishes all things according to the divine counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of God's glory. ¹³In Christ you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of God's glory.

Gospel: Mark 6:14-29

As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.

¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to marry your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against John, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John,

knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When Herod heard John, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. ²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. ²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, “Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.” ²³And he solemnly swore to her, “Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.” ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, “What should I ask for?” The mother replied, “The head of John the baptizer.” ²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, “I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.” ²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John’s head. The soldier went and beheaded John in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When John’s disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

Faith Formation Ministry Announcements:

Ways you can develop your faith life, learn about God and develop as disciples

Illustrated Faith Books

Faith formation continues over the summer with our “Illustrated Faith books.” Each book contains a lesson of the week, a prayer, and a comic strip featuring our characters from our Sunday morning classes. Extra copies of the book are available on the back ledge of the sanctuary, so make sure to grab your copy and follow along with us.

Vacation Bible School

We are currently looking for leaders for our Vacation Bible School. If you are interested in serving as a leader for VBS this year, please speak with Pastor or Kim Kriebel.

Dates: Sunday July 29 – August 2nd

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Registration is now live via our website & pastor’s email
(www.stmarksconshy.org or pastor@stmarksconshy.org)



VBS Supplies & Materials Needed

Items needed are on a list at the rear of the Sanctuary. There are items we need to have donated, borrowed and lots of them!! Yogurt cups, medium containers (margarine tub size), cardboard or plastic berry (or mushroom) baskets, packing paper, cardboard boxes in a variety of sizes and shapes, empty cereal boxes, plastic bottles, pictures of plants and wildlife (think Better Homes and Gardens magazine, seed catalogs etc.) as well as additional recyclable or re-used items – check the list!

Flat Jesus this summer

Jesus goes with us everywhere this summer! And to remind us, we are inviting folks to take flat Jesus with them to take pictures in their various travels to places. This summer we are featuring a twist with our flat Jesus, we invite you take selfies with other people that you meet this summer with your flat Jesus. Maybe it's your neighbor, or a friend, the waitress at lunch, the flight attendant on a trip, or folks at the beach – let's see how many people Flat Jesus can meet this summer! We then invite you to share those photos with pastor via email, Facebook, or text. We will feature our flat Jesus photos each week in the weekly pastor's email. Can't wait to see where all Jesus ends up this summer.

Service Ministry Announcements:

Learn about ways you can do God's work with our hands

Building Maintenance Position

The Building Maintenance job description is posted to the St. Mark's website (www.stmarksconshy.org). If you know anyone who is interested, please contact pastor (610-828-0581)

Collection Item for Colonial Neighborhood Council

Our local food bank is in particular need of ramen noodles and kid-friendly food as school is out. If you can grab a package or two and while you are doing your weekly grocery shopping, it would be a great way to provide for those in need this week!

Special Collection Envelope This Month: SEPA Synod's "Forward Together in Faith Campaign"

"God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! he does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his spirit deeply and gently within us." – Ephesians 3:20 (The Message)

The “Forward Together in Faith” campaign, initiated by the SEPA Synod of our church body, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in mid-2016 has been helping congregations by offering mission assessments, communications advice and innovation grants to demonstrate what can happen if the Synod pulls together to meet the campaign’s goal of raising \$2.5 million over three years. The “Forward Together in Faith” campaign focuses on supporting congregations as they reform and become networkers, innovators, communicators and equippers, explained Penman, pastor of St. Mark, Conshohocken, and a campaign leader

The Rev. Claire Burkat, Bishop of the SEPA Synod, said, “Believe it can happen! One-hundred percent of our deans, synod staff and Synod Council have committed to giving a gift to the Forward Together in Faith Campaign. Thirty congregations are already making plans to bring this BIG ASK to their people. So far we have almost a quarter-million dollars pledged from early supporters – individuals and a few congregations.

In our 21st Century, post-9/11, globalized world full of “nones” and “dones,” what draws people to church? “This is a Kairos moment,” says the Rev. Bryan Penman, “when God’s grace leads us to new ways of being the Church. We are called to be networks of resources to help those in need, to be innovators with the work of the spirit, to be communicators of god’s grace, to be equippers of the saints,” he said.

Mid-Year Giving Statements

Available now in the back of the sanctuary. Please to check the accuracy of your statement to make sure your records reflect ours.

Evangelism/Fellowship Ministry Announcements:

Learn about ways that you can help spread the “Good News”

Imagine a Church ...

Help us collect ideas for a promotional video for St. Mark's Lutheran church this summer! We are inviting folks to spend some time thinking about what you love about St. Mark's, or things that surprise or inspire you in our faith community, or some of the things that you value about our ministry together.

Then, put your responses and ideas on sticky notes and place them on the “Imagine a Church” wall that’s been set up in the McCarney room. We’ll use your responses to create a video about St. Mark’s that we can share with the wider community inviting them to join us as we worship, serve and follow Jesus.

This Week at St. Mark's

Monday	<i>Office Closed</i>		<i>6 am: Meals on Wheels</i> <i>7 pm: Boy Scouts</i>
Tuesday	<i>Office Hours</i> <i>3pm – 7pm</i>		<i>6 am: Meals on Wheels</i> <i>7 pm: Cub Scouts</i>
Wednesday	<i>Office Hours</i> <i>10am – Noon</i>		<i>6 am: Meals on Wheels</i> <i>8:30 pm: HH AA Group</i>
Thursday	<i>Office Hours</i> <i>3 – 7pm</i>	<i>6 pm: Dinner Church</i>	<i>6 am: Meals on Wheels</i>
Friday	<i>Office Hours</i> <i>10am – noon</i>		<i>6 am: Meals on Wheels</i> <i>6:30 pm: AA / Al-Anon</i> <i>8:30 pm HH AA Group</i>
Saturday			<i>7 pm: AA Group</i>
Sunday		<i>9:30 am – Worship Service</i> <i>10:30 am – Fellowship Hour</i>	<i>7 pm: HH AA Group</i>

Assisting with Worship Next Week

Assisting Minister: Katie Colaneri
Communion Assistant: Lauren Parkin
Reader: Theodora Morley
Nursery: The Ruggieros
Acolyte: Open
Altar Guild: Jen Schreiter
Ushers: Meagan & Aaron Moul
Counters: Lara Hoffman, Pam Keebler
Offering Recorder: Jen Schreiter
Fellowship Hour: Open
Altar Flowers: Don & Jean Nazaryk in loving memory of Casmir & Jean Zielinski and Joseph & Rose Nazaryk

Readings for next Sunday, July 22

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

From David's line, a righteous shepherd for Israel

Psalm 23: *The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)*

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:11-22

Reconciled to God through Christ, our peace

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34, 56 *Christ healing the multitudes*