St. Mark Presbyterian Church

Worship Service 9:45 a.m.

9999 Ferguson Road ● Dallas, TX 75228 ● 214-321-6437 ● saintmarkchurch.org

Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2026

Pastor	Rev. Dr. Paul M. Burns
Director of Music/Organist	Mr. Gary O'Neal
Church Office Administrator	Cathy Schingle

We exist to know Jesus and make Him known.

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

August 30, 2026

(At this time, please silence your cell phone.)

Prelude "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus " Gary O'Neal, Organist
(arr. Jon Spong)

* **Welcome and Greeting One Another** Pastor

* **Congregational Introit** (remain standing)

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

* **Call to Worship** Liturgist and Congregation
(Responsive)
The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light!
Let us worship God!
For all the despised, forlorn, and sinners, God's compassion and mercy reigns!
Let us worship God!

* **Hymn** "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" No. 641

* **Prayer of the Day** Liturgist and Congregation
Let us pray together:
Heavenly Father, we gather today to honor You as the ultimate source of goodness, love, and life. Every perfect gift flows from Your hand, and we express our gratitude for Your abundant blessings. Above all, we cherish

---

* **Invitation to Stand**

the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ. In a world that can often seem dark and uncertain, You sent Jesus to shine His light upon us. May His light guide our steps, warm our hearts, and dispel our doubts today. Amen.

* **Gloria Patri** "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" No. 582

The Sword of the Spirit

Call to Confession Pastor

Prayer of Confession (Unison) Pastor and Congregation
God of wonders, we acknowledge that we often do not understand why you call us when we feel scared, clumsy, busy, or flawed. We confess that we believe we know better than you who is qualified to do your work. Please forgive our fears, excuses, and self-doubts. Lend us your light, fire, and strength as we serve our neighbors, build up your church, love your children, and address the scorched places in our world. Help us to be a source of light and fire for you, without burning out or losing our way. Give us purpose and the courage to be your light in the world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

(In silence, confess your personal sins to God.)

Kyrie Eleison "Change My Heart, O God" No. 695

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

Cámbiame, Señor, con tu gran poder. Hazme como tú; tuyo quiero ser.

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true.
Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.

Assurance of Forgiveness (Responsive) Pastor and Congregation
Hear the good news! New life rises from the ashes. In Christ, your sins are dead, and you are alive to all that is good. In Christ, we are made whole; in Christ, we are forgiven. **Alleluia, Amen!**

---

* **Invitation to Stand**

Lessons from Scripture

Prayer for Illumination Liturgist and Congregation

Let us pray together:

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-7 (p. 573 Pew Bible) Liturgist
This is the Word of the Lord!
Response: **Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: Luke 2:1-20 (p. 857 Pew Bible) Pastor
Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.
Response: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon "The Life and Times of Jesus " Rev. Dr. Paul Burns
Why the World Was Ready for Jesus"

ANTHEM " I Want Jesus to Walk with Me "
Bill Grayson, Soloist, Sanctuary Choir
(arr. Keith Christopher)

* **Affirmation of Faith** (Unison) Pastor and Congregation
– Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

---

* **Invitation to Stand**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer
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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

* **Presentation of Tithes, Offerings, and Faith Promises** Doxology No. 606
A public offering to God is one of the oldest forms of worship. Although we give in varied ways through the week, our participation in the Sunday Offering is a witness to God and to the world of our love and commitment.

If you have not already done so, please place your offering in the offering plates located at the front and back of the Sanctuary as you exit the building.

* **Hymn** "He Came Down" No. 137

* **Charge and Benediction** Pastor

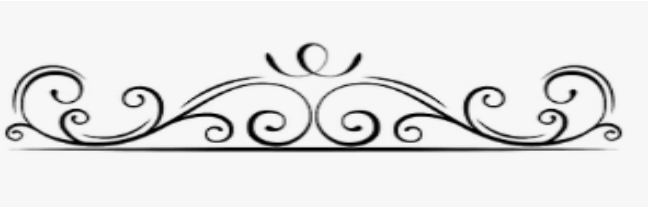
* **Sending Song** "We Are One in Christ Jesus" No. 322
"Somos uno en Cristo"
(sing 2 times)

We are one in Christ Jesus, all one body, all one spirit, all together.
Somos uno en Cristo, somos uno, somos uno, uno solo.

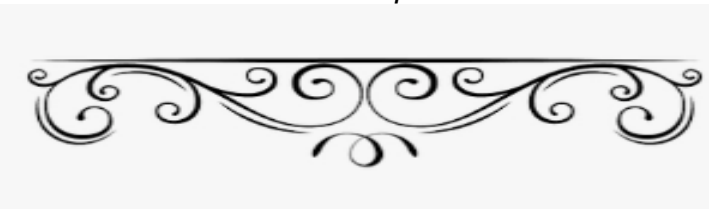
* **Postlude** Gary O'Neal, Organist

---

* **Invitation to Stand**



Flowers are given today in honor
of
Susie Miller's parents.



Assisting in worship today is Becky Page, Liturgist.
The Usher is Voni Robinson.

Refreshments in the Parlor today are served
by the Membership and Mission Committee.

*** Invitation to Stand**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 30th

Sunday	11:00 am	Disciple Followship Group
	11:00 am	Yoga Wellness
	4:30 pm	Sandwich Sunday
Tuesday	11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Church Food Pantry
	6:00 pm	Fellowship Committee Mtg.
Wednesday	5:00 pm	Yoga Wellness
	6:00 pm	Way Out Wednesday
	6:00 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	10:30 am	Bible Study
	11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Church Food Pantry
	3:00 pm	Open Gate
Saturday	1:00 pm	Memorial Service for Philip Vaughan Cannon

SESSION MEMBERS
Cathy Schingle – Clerk

Class of 2027	Class of 2028	Class of 2029
Kathleen Hale	Bill Grayson	Bob King
Dorothy Moore	Shelly Manriquez	Bill Oney
Ann O'Neal	Harry Roberts	Charlene Taylor

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

August 30, 2026

The Weekly Devotional focuses on today's sermon and message. It includes a memory verse, three reflection questions, and a challenge for the upcoming week.

Please take the Weekly Devotional home with you and use it throughout the week.

Sermon:
"Why the World Was Ready for Jesus"

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 9:1-7
Luke 2:1-20

Memory Verse:

"For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders." (Isaiah 9:6)

Reflection Questions

1) Where do you see "darkness" in your own life or in the world around you, and how does Jesus bring light into that darkness?

2) What are you tempted to look to for peace, security, or hope instead of Jesus?

3) The shepherds heard the good news, went to see Jesus, and then told others. Which of those three steps do you most need to take right now?

Challenge for the Week

Look for one place where you are tempted to rely on your own power or the world's solutions for peace. Each day this week, consciously surrender that situation to Jesus and pray, "Jesus, be my King and my peace."

Then, like the shepherds, share one thing about Jesus with someone else.

Prayer
Lord Jesus, thank you for coming into our darkness as our light, our Savior, and our King. Help us to trust you for the peace and hope that the world cannot give. Make us ready to receive you and bold enough to share your good news with others. Amen.