St. Mark Presbyterian Church

Worship Service 9:45 a.m.

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

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

October 18, 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
Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

October 18, 2026

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

Prelude "The King of Love My Shepherd Is" (arr. Eugene Englert) Gary O'Neal, Organist

* **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)

In this place, friends and strangers meet, the broken are mended, and the weary welcomed.

In this moment, the ordinary becomes miraculous, and life is on pause. This is God's time.

In this sanctuary, God's goodness is revealed.

Our doors open with kindness. Our lives join together as we worship God!

* **Hymn** "Come, Thou Almighty King" No. 2

---

* **Invitation to Stand**

***Prayer of the Day** Liturgist and Congregation

Let us pray:

God of goodness, we thank you for choosing us. Teach us your good news, that we might be brought to life: every blessing we receive and every kindness we encounter is your Spirit whispering grace. 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 justice and truth, you ask us to give to you the things that are yours. If we are honest, we know we hold so much back. We have promised you our obedience, but we often fulfill our own desires first. We have promised you our worship, but we give our attention to idols instead. We have promised to do your work in the world, but we put it last on the list of priorities. Have mercy on us and forgive us. Increase our generosity that we might give freely, grateful for all of the gifts you have given us. 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.

* **Invitation to Stand**

Assurance of Forgiveness (Responsive) Pastor and Congregation
The good news remains true: God has chosen us, forgives us, and walks beside us, helping us become imitators of Christ.
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Alleluia!

Lessons from Scripture

Prayer for Illumination Liturgist and Congregation
Let us pray with one voice:
Lord, as we come to hear your Word for us, still in us all that distracts us. Open our ears to hear your Word for us, read and proclaimed. And open our hearts to be transformed to be your people, to love and serve with faithful obedience. Amen.

First Reading: Luke 5:17-26 (p. 861 Pew Bible) Liturgist
This is the Word of the Lord!
Response: **Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: Luke 15 (p. 874 Pew Bible) Pastor
Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.
Response: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon The Life and Times of Jesus Rev. Dr. Paul Burns
"Jesus Came to Forgive Sinners"

Anthem "Gospel of Grace" Sanctuary Choir
(arr. Mary McDonald)

* **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,

---

* **Invitation to Stand**

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.

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** "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" No. 415

* **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**

Assisting in worship today is Diane Llywelyn, Liturgist.
The Usher is Bar Tuinstra.

Refreshments in the Parlor today are served
by the Worship Committee.

*** Invitation to Stand**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18TH

Sunday	11:00 am	Disciple Followship Group
	11:00 am	Yoga Wellness
Tuesday	11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Church Food Pantry
	6:00pm	Stewardship and Finance Com. Mtg.
Wednesday	5:00 pm	Yoga Wellness
	5:00 pm	Prayer Team
	6:00 pm	Handbell Rehearsal
	6:00 pm	Way Out Wednesday
	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

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

October 18, 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:
"Jesus Came to Forgive Sinners"

Scripture Readings: Luke 5:17-26
Luke 15

Memory Verse:
"Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."
(Luke 15:10)

Reflection Questions

1) When you read the stories in Luke 5 and Luke 15, what do you learn about Jesus' attitude toward sinners? How does this shape your understanding of God's character?

2) Is there a past mistake, a feeling of guilt, or a personal failure that makes it difficult for you to receive God's forgiveness? What would it mean to entrust that burden to Jesus?

3) Is there someone in your life whose mistakes make it difficult for you to offer forgiveness or celebrate their restoration? How might God be calling you to extend grace?

Challenge for the Week
Begin by honestly bringing your own sins and failures before God in prayer, trusting in Christ's mercy. Then look for one opportunity to extend grace to another person—through a word of encouragement, an act of kindness, a willingness to forgive, or an invitation to begin again.

Remember that Jesus came not to abandon sinners but to bring them home. Let your words and actions reflect that same welcoming love.

Prayer
Gracious and merciful God, thank you for sending Jesus to seek the lost and forgive sinners. Help me to acknowledge my own failures without despair, trusting that your grace is greater than my sin. Give me a heart that rejoices when others experience your forgiveness and restoration. Remove my pride, soften my judgments, and teach me to extend to others the same mercy you have shown me. May my life reflect the welcoming love of Jesus, who came to seek and save the lost. In his holy name I pray. Amen.