St. Mark Presbyterian Church

Worship Service 9:45 a.m.

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

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 13, 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
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 13, 2026

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

Prelude "I Need Thee Every Hour" (arr. Steven Scott) 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

(Responsive)
We bow with the rolling rocks.
God is our strength and our salvation.
We sing with the roaring rivers.
God is our justice and our joy.
We will never stop telling God's story.
God is the hope of our ancestors.
With all that we have and all that we are, we say
God is so good! Let us worship God.

* **Hymn** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" No. 610

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* **Invitation to Stand**

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

Let us pray with one voice:

Spirit of mercy, we come to your fountain of forgiveness to begin again. You offer a fresh drink, a new life. Though we are often critical of others and of ourselves, help us to accept that we are accepted. Meet us here in ways that we can understand, that we may be filled with the life only you can offer. 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

Nurturing God, like a hen gathers her brood under her wings, you desire to gather your children. But division and disagreement plague us. We cling to rigid certainties, approach each other in arrogance, and fail to listen. We walk away from conflict, rather than working through it. Forgive us, Holy God. Help us grow in faith, mature in relationship, and be transformed through your steadfast love. 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.

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* **Invitation to Stand**

Assurance of Forgiveness (Responsive) Pastor and Congregation
The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, redeemed and restored to God's path of righteousness.
Alleluia, Amen!

Lessons from Scripture

Prayer for Illumination Liturgist and Congregation
Let us pray with one voice:
As we gather to study the Scriptures today, we ask that you pour out your Holy Spirit upon us. Illuminate the eyes of our hearts so that we may perceive your truth, let go of our hesitance to love as we have been loved, and follow where Christ leads. Amen.

First Reading: Matthew 3:13-17 (p. 808 Pew Bible) Liturgist
This is the Word of the Lord!
Response: **Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: Matthew 4:1-11 (p. 809 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' Identity as the Son of God"

Anthem "Seek Ye First" Choir
(arr. Lloyd Larson)

* **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,

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* **Invitation to Stand**

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.

* **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** "Give Thanks, O Christian People" No. 644

* **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

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* **Invitation to Stand**

Assisting in worship today is Becky Page, Liturgist.
The Usher is Dorothy Moore.

Refreshments in the Parlor today are served
by the Christian Education Committee.

*** Invitation to Stand**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13TH

Sunday	11:00 am	Disciple Followship Group
	11:00 am	Yoga Wellness
	11:00 am	Membership and Mission Com. Mtg.
Monday	6:00 pm	Worship and Music Com. Mtg.
Tuesday	11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Church Food Pantry
	6:00pm	Stewardship and Finance Com. Mtg.
Wednesday	5:00 pm	Yoga Wellness
	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

September 13, 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' Identity as the Son of God"

Scripture Readings: Matthew 3:13-17
Matthew 4:1-11

Memory Verse:
"And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17)

Reflection Questions

1) What does it mean to you that Jesus was declared at his baptism to be God's beloved Son? How does this truth shape the way you understand who Jesus is?

2) In the wilderness, Satan repeatedly challenged Jesus by saying, "If you are the Son of God." What kinds of temptations or doubts challenge your identity as a beloved child of God?

3) Jesus remained faithful to his identity and mission by trusting and obeying God's Word. How can Scripture help you remain grounded when you face temptation, uncertainty, or pressure from others?

Challenge for the Week
Remember whose you are. Each morning this week, take a moment to remind yourself: "Through Jesus Christ, I belong to God." When you face temptation, fear, or self-doubt, ask yourself, "How can I respond in a way that reflects my identity as one who belongs to God?" Read a portion of Scripture each day and allow God's Word to guide your choices.

Prayer
Loving God, thank You for revealing Jesus as Your beloved Son and for showing us his faithfulness in the wilderness. Help us to know Jesus more deeply and to trust him completely. When we face temptation, doubt, or fear, remind us that we belong to You. Strengthen us through Your Word and guide us to live faithfully as Your children. In Jesus' name, Amen.
working in us and through us. Amen.