St. Mark Presbyterian Church

Worship Service 9:45 a.m.

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

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 20, 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
Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

September 20, 2026

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

Prelude " O For a thousand Tongues to Sing" Gary O'Neal, Organist
(arr. Jason D. Payne)

* **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)
The One who has been with us from the beginning calls us to gather.
We come to sing, to pray, to listen, to be refreshed.
Let us offer our praises to the One who gives us great gifts.
We join with the rest of God's Creation sharing praise and thanksgiving.
We praise God! Let us worship together!

* **Hymn** "Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven" No. 619

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* **Invitation to Stand**

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

Let us pray:

Dear God of abundance, it's wonderful to come together in worship once more. We ask you to open our hearts and souls during this special time. Holy Spirit of love, surround us and inspire us to live as part of the Kingdom of God. Help us to see the world in a new light, guiding us to understand and be aware of others' needs. 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

Almighty God, when we allow our anger and frustration to cut us off from others, you sit next to us and call us back to your way of mercy, love, and redemption. It is one thing to accept these gifts for ourselves; it is another to extend them to those who frustrate us. Forgive us for our anger, resentment, and desire to hoard. We lay these impulses at your feet and ask that you create a new heart within us, one modeled after your steadfast love and generosity. Help us to see the world in new ways. 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
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.
Thanks be to God!

Lessons from Scripture

Prayer for Illumination Liturgist and Congregation
Let us pray with one voice:
God, we ask that your Holy Spirit enlighten the sacred scripture for us. Let our minds be open to embrace your Word, our hearts inspired to cherish it, and our wills empowered to follow it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Leviticus 25:8-17 (p. 103 Pew Bible) Liturgist
This is the Word of the Lord!
Response: **Thanks be to God!**

Second Reading: Luke 4:16-30 (p. 859 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 Announces the Arrival of God's Reign"

Anthem "I Hear a Prophet Callin'" Choir, Bill Grayson, Soloist
(Pepper Choplin)

* **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

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* **Invitation to Stand**

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.

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** "Live into Hope" No. 772

* **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 Susie Miller, Liturgist.
The Usher is Bob King.

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

*** Invitation to Stand**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20TH

Sunday	11:00 am	Disciple Followship Group
	11:00 am	Yoga Wellness
Tuesday	11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Church Food Pantry
	6:30pm	Session Meeting
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 20, 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 Announces the Arrival of God's Reign"

Scripture Readings: Leviticus 25:8-17
Matthew 4:1-11

Memory Verse:
The spirit of the Lord God is upon me because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor…" (Isaiah 61:1-2a)

Reflection Questions

1) Where in my life do I most need to experience the freedom, restoration, or new beginning that Jesus announces?

2) Who are the people I might be tempted to exclude from God's grace or overlook in my community? What does Jesus' message in Luke 4 challenge me to reconsider?

3) Where is God inviting me to help bring good news, freedom, restoration, or hope to someone else?

Challenge for the Week
Look for one person who is carrying a burden and intentionally do something that brings them encouragement, dignity, or practical help. It might be as simple as making a phone call, listening to someone who feels forgotten, offering practical assistance, forgiving someone, or including someone who is often left out. As you do it, remember Jesus' announcement: "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." God's reign is not merely something we wait for—it is something we are called to embody.

Prayer
Gracious God, thank you for sending Jesus to announce good news, freedom, and restoration to all people. Open my eyes to those who are hurting or excluded, and give me courage to share your grace and bring hope to others. Help me live each day as a faithful witness to your reign, trusting that your kingdom is already breaking into the world. Amen.