

ST.MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

PENNSBURG, PA

July 11, 2021

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor K. Russell Crouthamel

Office: 215-679-9015

Pastor Russ cell: 267-834-5227

E-mail: stmarks@stmarkspennsburg.com

Web site: www.stmarkspennsburg.com

Director of Music: Judith A. Love

Asst.Minister: Amy Hagenbuch

Lay Reader: Joan Brunner

Acolyte: Alex Schmitt

Please take time during the prelude to prepare your heart and mind for worship

**Indicates Congregational Standing*

PRELUDE

Gather Us In

Marty Haugen / John A. Behnke

WELCOME

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love
you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or stands. Silence is kept for reflection

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have
not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the
sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that
we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen**

***GATHERING HYMN**

Faith Of Our Fathers

812

***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

***KYRIE**

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

Christ, have mercy
Christ, have mercy

Lord, have mercy
Lord, have mercy

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Glory to God in the highest

And peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen

***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.

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 6: 1-5, 12b-19

The ark of the covenant, long a symbol of God's presence with Israel, is brought into Jerusalem by David. The entrance of the ark into this new capital city is marked by great rejoicing, and David himself is the chief dancer.

¹David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. ²David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. ³They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart ⁴with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. ⁵David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

^{12b}So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; ¹³and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. ¹⁴David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. ¹⁵So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

¹⁶As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

¹⁷They brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the LORD. ¹⁸When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts, ¹⁹and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(please join in reading the psalm responsively)

PSALM: Psalm 24

¹The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

**²For the LORD has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.**

³Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD,
and who may stand in God's holy place?

**⁴Those of innocent hands and purity of heart, who do not swear on God's being,
nor do they pledge by what is false.**

⁵They shall receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of their salvation.

**⁶Such is the generation of those who seek you, O LORD,
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob.**

⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

**⁸Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**

⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting doors,
that the King of glory may come in.

**¹⁰Who is this King of glory?
Truly, the LORD of hosts is the King of glory.**

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 he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory.

¹³In him 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 his glory.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



*GOSPEL: Mark 6: 14-29

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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 have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, 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 he heard him, 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?" She 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. He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Russ Crouthamel

SPECIAL MUSIC:

I Lift My Eyes To The Hills

Dan Tuck
Jill Haldeman, soloist

*APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
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

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need and all of God's creation.

Holy parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Awesome Creator, you steadfastly tend to the smallest of seeds and the mightiest of sycamore trees. Spring up green growth from the earth, nourish the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of the oppressed, turn the ears of those who are in power to the voices of prophets in our own day. Protect those who speak difficult truths when it is risky to do so. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. Comfort all who are survivors of violence; victims of prejudice and discrimination. Comfort those who are weary or ill especially

Buddy, Elsie, Lillie, Lisa, Jack, Marilyn, Andrew, Charlie, Marie, John, David, Harold, Marie, Lisa, Dennis, Barbara, Pat, Kenneth, Deb, Barbara, Lenny, June, Mary Jane, Patsy and Charlene. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of love, we pray for this holy house and all those who worship here. We pray especially for those whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed. We pray for all of our volunteers who selflessly share their time and talent. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We thank you, God, for the saints, martyrs, and prophets who have died in the faith. We remember our loved ones who have died. United with them as God's children, assure us that we are yours forever. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Prelude on Resignation

William Walker / Gordon King

OFFERING HYMN

Create In Me A Clean Heart

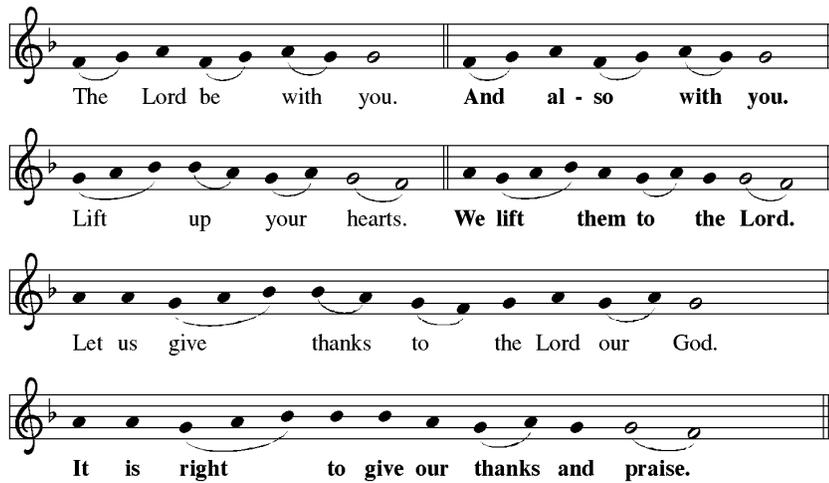
186

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,
you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

*DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

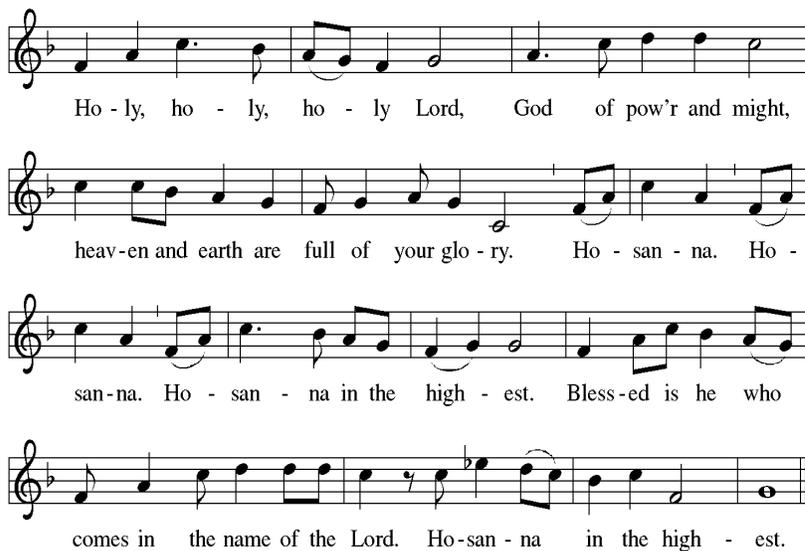
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy,
and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
Amen.

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us –

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good!

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

Music during distribution: Various Communion Hymns

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.

***BLESSING**

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

***SENDING HYMN**

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

717

DISMISSAL:

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

We welcome everyone to worship on this seventh Sunday after Pentecost.. Holy Communion is offered to all baptized Christians. If you would like more information on baptism, Pastor Russ would love to speak with you!

THANK YOU

The altar flowers are presented in loving memory of Jacob R. & Helen Kline by Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Kline and Sherrie

CALENDAR NOTES

- Monday, July 12 Courtyard Office Hours – 9 to 11AM
- Tuesday, July 13 Courtyard Hours – 1 to 3PM
- Wed., July 14 Al-Anon (multi-purpose room) 1:00 PM
- Youth Outreach Group – 6:30PM
- Thurs. July 15 Hoagie delivery – Social Room 6 to 6:30PM

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The deadline is fast approaching! If you are planning to continue your education, please contact the church office for an application. Our Endowment Fund Scholarship Committee will be meeting to determine scholarship funds available. Your application will need to be submitted by July 18, 2021.

Please note that in order for your application to be considered, you must be an “**active**” member of St. Mark’s. Active means that you have a current record of contribution to our church and that you have a record of communing.

CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

To date, we – you – members of St. Mark’s – have raised \$122,800 for the repair of the steeple and return of the bell. Engineering work has begun on this major project. If all goes well, we are hoping – and planning – to have The Bell ring once again this Fall. As the engineering part wraps up and the actual physical work begins, Church Council will send out more information on what is taking place.

To have raised this amount of funding for the steeple and bell project is a testament to your faith and dedication to our church. It is both astonishing and humbling. At the same time, you have continued to support the on-going, every day maintenance and expenses the church must meet each month with your weekly or monthly offerings. This has been a challenging year. We pray that your on-going support continues.

Following the latest covid guidelines, Church Council discussed and voted to make the use of masks optional for in-person worship. We will still have disposable masks on hand if needed.

LIFE LINE SCREENING

Life Line Screening is returning to St. Mark's on **July 21st**. They offer five preventive health screenings. You can choose just one or all of them.

They use ultra-sound screening to test for carotid artery plaque build-up, abdominal aneurysm risk, and osteoporosis risk assessment.

A quick, easy EKG with electrodes placed on arms and legs screens for irregular heartbeat. They also offer peripheral arterial disease screening.

There are flyers in the narthex explaining the services they provide. It also includes information on registering for the tests. Call: 1-888-653-6450 to register or go to: www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners. The date is Wednesday, July 21st. It is held in our social room. Masks are optional for vaccinated people, although the Life Line team will be required to wear masks. Seating will be spaced appropriately.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

The Annual Fall Red Cross Blood Drive will return to St. Mark's on Tuesday, September 14th and Wednesday, September 15th. Hours will be 2:00-7:00 pm on both days. The drive will span two days to allow for continued social distancing protocols. At this time, Red Cross protocol is that masks will be optional. Red Cross will send notification if there are masking protocol changes as we approach the blood drive days. It's never too early to schedule your donation time. New donors are welcome and needed! To schedule an appointment please contact Maribeth Reigner at 215-679-8563 or log on to redcrossblood.org. **A few minutes from you can be worth a lifetime to a recipient. Thank you!**

HOMETOWN HEROS

Another addition to our list of St. Mark's Hometown Heroes:

Roy Stevens is on a banner on the 600 block of Main Street in Pennsburg. Marian Stevens sent me this information today. Roy is Connie Taglieber's Dad.

Thomas W. Hallman, Sr. is on a banner at 820 Main Street in Red Hill. You can find Thomas W. Hallman, Jr. on his banner at 808 Main Street, Red Hill.

Meryl Markley is on a banner on Main Street in Pennsburg. It's across the street from where the old Pennsburg Hotel used to be. Be sure to look for it!

Did you see the banner right across the road from church? It's Harold Schultz back when he was in the Navy.

The banner for Harriett Rapine's husband, Ellsworth, is at 135 Main Street, East Greenville. The banner for her brother, Harold Moffett, is in the 800 block in Red Hill.

Do we have any more St. Mark's members hanging around Main Street? Let me know so I can list the location. We want to see all of them

OTHER NEWS

The link for viewing our live service over the internet is on our website.

The Thursday Evening Al-Anon Group will continue to meet at 80 Main Street (it's across the street from St. Mark's) The meeting begins at 7PM. This is also the location for the 7PM Sunday AA meeting.

Vacation Bible School is July 18 to July 22 from 6:30 to 8:PM at Pennsburg UCC. There are registration forms available here at church.

The Open Link is open! Their hours are 9 to 4PM Monday through Friday. If you wish to bring donations here, the shopping cart is in the hallway. We are still the "cereal" church.

The Altar Flower Chart is posted in the narthex. There are some open dates. If you wish to sponsor flowers, please call Bonnie Gillespie at 215-280-4861.

PRAYER LIST

Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Buddy Allen, Elsie Antonio, Lillie Bosler, Lisa Clark, Jack Cross, Marilyn Donis, Andrew Erb, Charlie Greulich, Marie Grubb, John Gruver. David Haines, Harold Hieter, Marie Jones, Lisa Krause, Dennis Laubach, Barbara Lehmann, Pat Matthews, Kenneth Miller, Deb Mullen, Barbara Opachinski, Lenny Rafalko, June Reigner, Mary Jane Schaeffer, Patsy Wampole and Charlene Wilson.

Please contact the church office with changes. Thank you.

PREPARING FOR NEXT WEEK:

Mon: Psalm 142
Tues: Amos 9: 1-4
Wed: Luke 7: 31-35
Thur: Psalm 23
Fri: Jeremiah 10: 17-25
Sat: Luke 18: 35-43

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS012910. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Hymns and music licensed by Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI). All rights reserved. Copyright License #1349795. Permission to podcast/stream service and hymns under OneLicense Annual License A-715141. All rights reserved.