

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

welcomes you!

March 17,
2024



The Fifth
Sunday
in Lent

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (*1st Saturdays - Chapel*)

SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

in-person & streaming

EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP HOUR: 10:30 AM

105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220

PHONE: 618.233.9809

EMAIL: WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

WEBSITE: WWW.STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

The Reverend Brian M. Robison, Pastor

PLEASE wear a **mask/face covering** *if* you are **exhibiting any upper respiratory symptoms consistent with allergies, a cold, or COVID-19** (runny nose, cough, sore throat).

To parents with small children: We are glad your family is worshiping with us today! “*Quiet Bags*” (supplies & activities for use by small children) are available in the Welcome Area. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to walk to the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is still audible over the speakers).

Parish Hall and Restrooms are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. A second **handicapped access** restroom is available next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level is located in the Welcome Area. An usher will be happy to assist you with the lift.

Assistive listening devices and **low vision items** are available. Please ask one of our ushers for assistance.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Blessed be the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit – the one God who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Please **KNEEL** or remain as you are. Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God, we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

Here is a flood of grace: Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin, washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

“Now the Green Blade Rises”

ELW 339 *Please STAND*



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

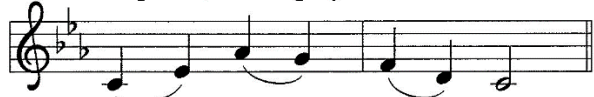
GREETING

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.**

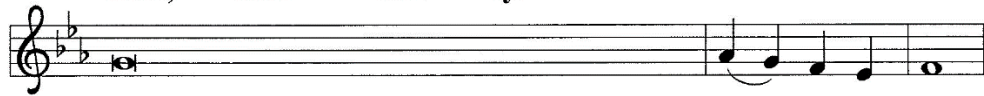
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



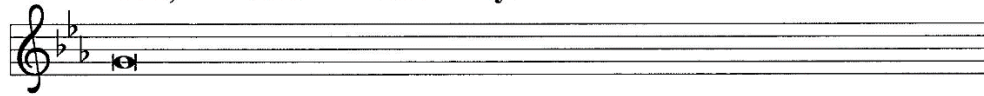
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



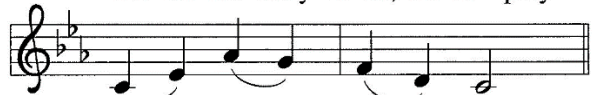
Lord, have mer - cy.



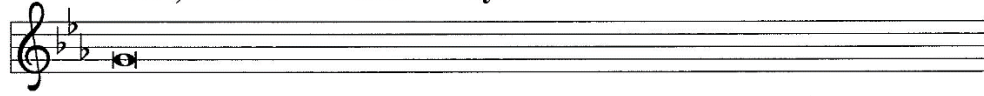
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



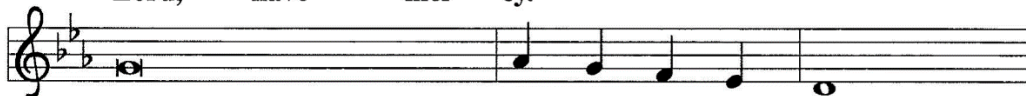
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is SEATED.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:9-16 *spoken in unison*

⁹How shall the young keep | their way clean?

By keeping | to your word.

¹⁰With my whole | heart I seek you;

let me not stray from | your commandments.

¹¹I treasure your promise | in my heart,

that I may not | sin against you.

¹²Blessed are | you, O LORD;

instruct me | in your statutes.

¹³With my lips | I recite

all the judgments | of your mouth.

¹⁴I take greater delight in the way of | your decrees

than in all manner of riches.

¹⁵I will meditate on | your commandments

and give attention | to your ways.

¹⁶My delight is | in your statutes;

I will not forget your word.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you";

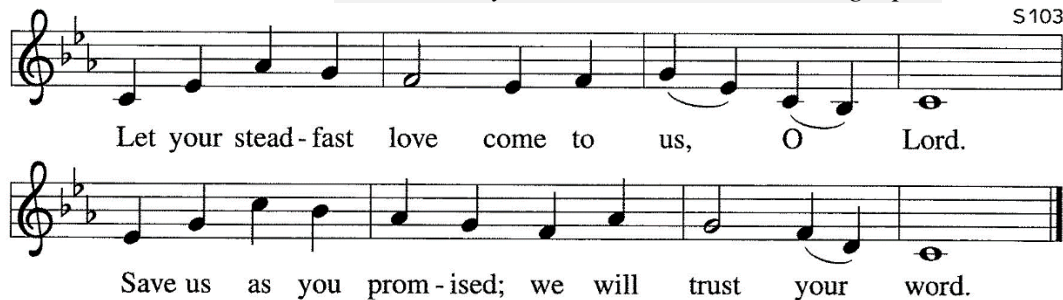
⁶as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek."

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA VERSE *The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.*



S103

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

GOSPEL: John 12:20-33

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Following the Gospel, please SIT.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”

ELW 339



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of death, our foe,
 2 You have suf - fered great af - flic - tion and have borne it pa - tient - ly,
 3 Then, for all that bought my par - don, for the sor - rows deep and sore,



Christ, your - self for me once giv - ing to the dark - est depths of woe:
 e - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion, ful - ly to a - tone for me;
 for the an - guish in the gar - den, I will thank you ev - er - more;



through your suf - f'ring, death, and mer - it life e - ter - nal I in - her - it.
 for you chose to be tor - ment - ed that my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
 thank you for the groan - ing, sigh - ing, for the bleed - ing and the dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks are due, dear - est Je - sus, un - to you.
 for that last tri - um - phant cry, praise you ev - er - more on high.

APOSTLES 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 INTERCESSION *The names of those for whom we pray aloud are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the Mark Times newsletter. The response to God of grace, is **hear our prayer...***

**Eleanor Benton, Gary Dozier, Jan Dressel, Evelyn Duncan, Mary Hill,
Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Fr. Mark Ohlemeier, Kim Palmer, Marilyn
Robinson, Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol Weshinsky, & Barb Wurdinger**

MEAL

PEACE *The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God's peace with one another. Please be respectful to those who wish to do so from a distance. Following **the Peace**, you may be **seated** for a few moments*

Should you wish to leave an offering today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.

ST. MARK MEN'S CHOIR "*Whiter Than Snow*" *by W. Fischer, Arr. by Walters*
Solo: Pr. Brian Robison

OFFERING PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray... **Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

It is indeed right...we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional*

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

Bread for the journey. A feast for hungry hearts.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;

grant us peace.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *Please SIT*

Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel at the altar rail.

- ✘ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✘ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✘ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✘ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✘ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

“As the Grains of Wheat”

ELW 465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
 gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
 all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
 2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

ST. MARK CHANCEL CHOIR “Stay With Us” by Walter Pelz & Herbert F Brokering

Follow along with the lyrics as printed on the back page

Guest Musician: Nick Baker, flute

After the distribution is complete, the assembly **STANDS** for the blessing.

TABLE BLESSING

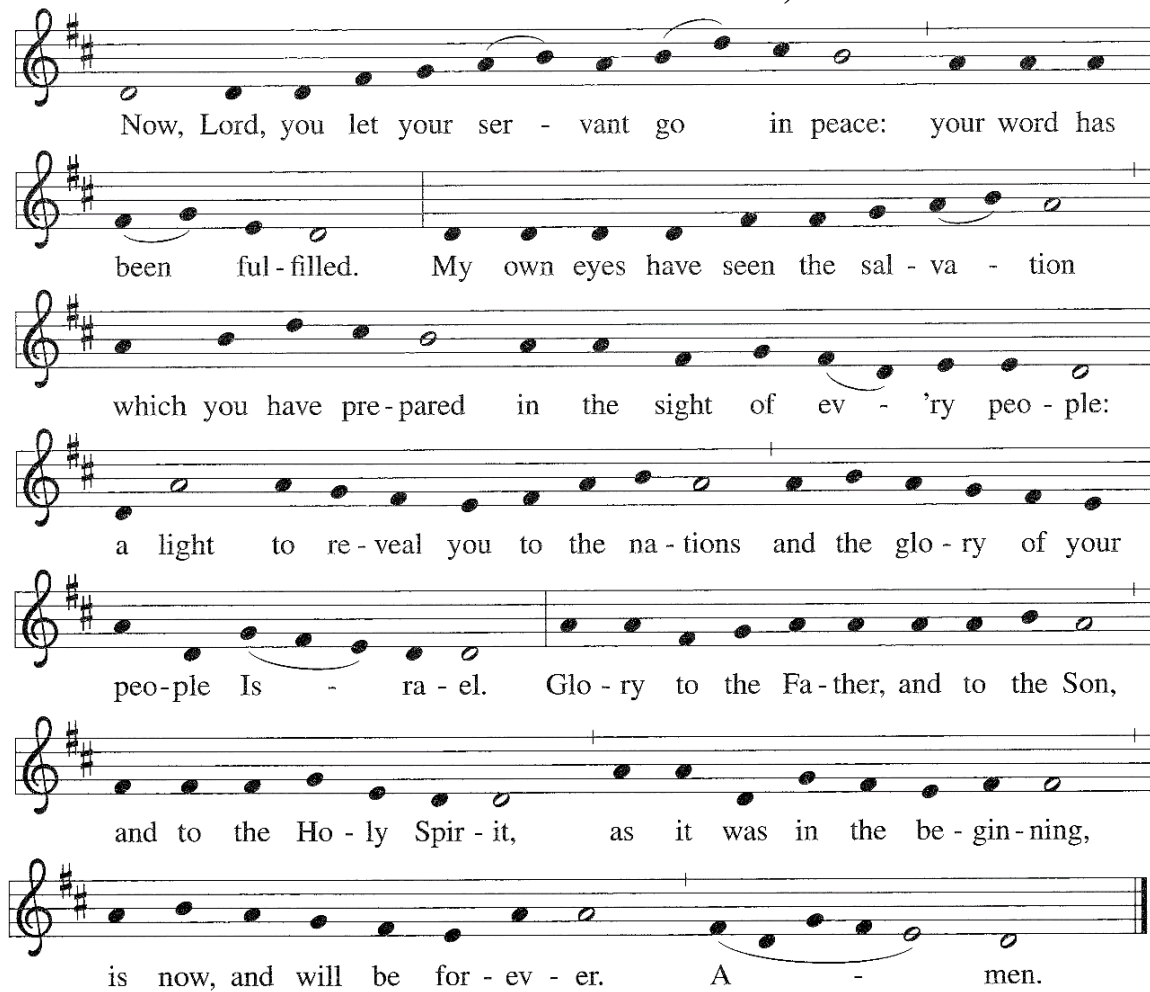
The Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**



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CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION "Now, Lord"

ELW 201



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together... **Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.**



SENDING

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and give you peace, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.
 May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.
 let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.
 Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.
 May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

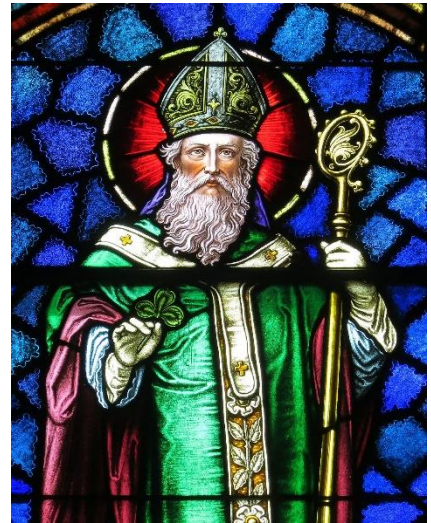
Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Prelude and Fugue”

by J.S. Bach



MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Sherri Foppe

Crucifer: Greg Martens + **Chalice Bearer & Camera Operator:** Mike Murakami

Lector: Curtis Dowty + **Organist:** Evelyn Duncan

Ushers: Danielle Tribout & Curt Gansmann + **Safety Volunteer:** Jan Richards

Guest Musician: Nick Baker

Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Gary Dozier, Jan Dressel, Evelyn Duncan, Mary Hill,
Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Marilyn Robinson,
Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, Carol Weshinskey, & Barb Wurdinger

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Phyllis Booker, Kathy Boxdorfer, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam,
Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson, Christine, Catherine Davis, Brian Dinges, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner,
Taiylar Foppe, Josh Gansmann, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber,
Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Jamie House, Debbie Jacobs, Austin Lickenbrock, Becky Loeschner,
Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Glenda Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall, Allen Martens,
Janet Middendorf, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Fr. Mark Ohlemeier, Theresa Painter,
Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Debbie & Larry Powers, Michelle Rideout, Darrell Robinson,
Sarah and Family, Dave Schaaf, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep,
Ingrid Thompson, Toni Walston, Kris Whitley, Louise Wilson, Elisabeth Woodrome, Karen Woolf,
Wilma Woolf, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Taiylar Foppe, Ryan McKenzie

We pray for those who celebrate their birthdays this week:

**Elizabeth Brendel (3/17), Renee Southers (3/17), Tucker Downen (3/17),
Tina Partelow (3/18), Ken Tegtmeier (3/20), Kylie Martens (3/20),
Alison Buck (3/21), Sis Bain (3/23), and Amanda Kilzer (3/23)**

We pray for those who celebrate wedding anniversaries this week:

Mike & Missy Kimbrell (3/21)

Words to today's Communion Hymn:

Stay with us, till night has come: Our praise to You this day be sung.

Bless our bread, Open our eyes: Jesus, be our great surprise.

Walk with us, our spirits sigh: Hear when our weary spirits cry,

Feel again Our loss, our pain: Jesus, take us to Your side.

Talk with us, till we behold A joyful life You will unfold:

Heal our eyes To see the prize: Jesus, take us to the light.

Stay with us, till day is done: No tears nor dark shall dim the sun.

Cheer the heart, Your grace impart: Jesus, bring eternal life.

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for March 17, 2024

THE WEEK AHEAD:

- Monday 3/18:** 2:30PM Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
6:00PM Pastoral Care Committee – conference room
7:00PM Church Council Meeting – conference room
- Weds. 3/20:** 6:00PM Lenten Soup Supper
7:00PM *The Pilgrimage Way of the Cross* - church
- Thursday 3/21:** 6:15PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:15PM Voice Choir Rehearsal
- Saturday 3/23:** 9:30AM Lenten Quiet Day at ToddHall

Adult Forum: *Monumental Tombs in the Time of Jesus*

We continue with our video series on *The Holy Land Revealed*. This morning's video examines the history and archaeology of *Monumental Tombs in the Time of Jesus*.

Last Midweek Lenten Soup Supper

Come enjoy our last **soup and salad meal** for the season in the **Parish Hall this Wednesday, March 20 at 6:00PM**, before joining us in the church for evening prayer.



Wednesday Evening Prayer: *The Pilgrimage Way of the Cross*

During Lent we renew our commitment to the radical living out of our baptismal promises. The Pilgrimage Way of the Cross we pray on Wednesday evenings this year recall not only Christ's death and resurrection, but also the challenges we each face in living out the baptized life that binds us intimately to both. Join us for the final five Stations this **Wednesday at 7:00PM in the church** as we conclude this thought-provoking journey with Christ.



Palm/Passion Sunday Next Week

We celebrate Palm/Passion Sunday **NEXT Sunday, March 24**. Remember that we begin worship at **8:50AM** in the **chapel**.

Proclaim Christ's Resurrection with Easter Flowers!

Orders are now being taken for Easter flowers. Special envelopes can be found in the pews. Please complete the front portion of the envelope and return it, with a check or cash, to the offering box or to the office **by Monday, March 25**. All dedications will be printed in the bulletin.



Pastoral Care and Church Council Tomorrow, 3/18

To avoid the chaos of Holy Week around the office, the Pastoral Care committee and the Church Council will meet tomorrow, **Monday, March 18** at **6:00PM and 7:00PM, respectively**.

Church Decorating Day

The Altar Guild is holding a **workday** on **Saturday, March 30** at **9:00AM** to prepare the church and chapel for Easter Sunday. Come on down - many hands make work light and quick!

SAVE THE DATE: April 27 BEACON Trivia Night

This year's theme is "ALMOST ANYTHING GOES." Each round will be a new subject. A sign-up sheet for St. Mark members will be available later this month. \$20 per person or \$15 per person when payment is made before April 10. More details to come!

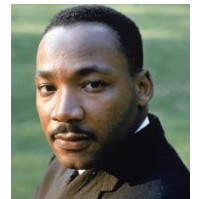


Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thank you to all who have designated Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. Mark. The church has received \$1,321 in 2024. If you have Choice Dollars available through Thrivent, you can still designate them until March 31.

MLK, Jr. Memorial Prayer Service April 4

St. George's will host a service of **evening prayer** in memory of Dr. **Martin Luther King, Jr.** at **7:00PM** on **Thursday, April 4**, the day of his assassination 56 years ago. **All are welcome** to attend and participate in this service of remembrance **in the chapel**.



March Monthly Mission - \$600 to LuMin of St. Louis

"LuMin" is the **L**utheran Campus **M**inistry Network. As a collective center for ministry information, student referrals and campus ministry resources, LuMin seeks to welcome, affirm and accept all students in Christ's name. A network of inclusive faith communities celebrating God's love and grace on or near the campuses of over 230 colleges and universities across the United States.

We support our local LuMin community which serves students at Washington University and Saint Louis University under the leadership of Pastor Tina Reyes.

Additional information is available at lcmstl.org or luminelca.org.



Lenten Quiet Day this Saturday

If you signed up to attend the Lenten quiet day at Toddhall (Columbia, IL) hosted by Fr. Mark and St. George's, a reminder that it is this coming Saturday, March 23 from 9:30AM to 3:30PM.

St. Mark Offerings for 3/10: General Fund: **\$3,434.11** (*incl. online offerings received by 3/15*); Food Pantry: \$25.25; Franklin School Noisy Offering: \$452.28; Easter Flowers: \$30; Thrivent Choice: \$858