

# **ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH**

A congregation of the  
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
welcomes you!

**THE FUNERAL SERVICE FOR**

**+ Barbara “Barb” Wurdinger +**



*March 30, 1959 – April 10, 2024*

## **PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

*“Precious Lord, Take My Hand”*

## **GATHERING**

*The assembly* **STANDS.**

Welcome in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

We are gathered to worship, to proclaim Christ crucified and risen, to remember before God our sister Barb, to give thanks for her life, to commend her to our merciful redeemer, and to comfort one another in our grief.

*A pall is placed upon the urn as a reminder of the righteousness of Christ we receive in Holy Baptism.*

## **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

When we were baptized in Christ Jesus, we were baptized into his death. We were buried therefore with him by Baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live a new life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his.

All who are baptized into Christ have put on Christ. In her baptism, Barb was clothed with Christ. In the day of Christ’s coming, she shall be clothed with glory.

Eternal God, maker of heaven and earth, who formed us from the dust of the earth, who by your breath gave us life, we glorify you.

**We glorify you.**

Jesus Christ, the resurrection and the life, who suffered death for all humanity, who rose from the grave to open the way to eternal life, we praise you.

**We praise you.**

Holy Spirit, author and giver of life, the comforter of all who sorrow, our sure confidence and everlasting hope, we worship you.

**We worship you.**

To you, O blessed Trinity - Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit - be glory and honor, forever and ever.

**Amen.**





Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



- 1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; now is the vic - tor's
- 2 The pow'rs of death have done their worst; Je - sus their le - gions
- 3 The three sad days have quick - ly sped, Christ ris - es glo - rious
- 4 Christ closed the yawn - ing gates of hell; the bars from heav'n's high
- 5 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed you, from death's sting free your



tri - umph won! Now be the song of praise be - gun. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 has dis - persed. Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 from the dead. All glo - ry to our ris - en head! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 por - tals fell. Let hymns of praise his tri - umph tell. Al - le - lu - ia!  
 ser - vants too, that we may live and sing to you. Al - le - lu - ia!

*After the final stanza*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of grace and glory, we remember before you today our sister, Barb. We thank you for giving her to us to know and to love as a companion in our pilgrimage on earth. In your boundless compassion, console us who mourn. Give us faith to see that death has been swallowed up in the victory of our Lord Jesus Christ, so that we may live in confidence and hope until, by your call, we are gathered to our heavenly home in the company of all your saints; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*The assembly is SEATED.*

## WORD

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 55:6-13**

<sup>6</sup>Seek the LORD while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; <sup>7</sup>let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the LORD, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. <sup>8</sup>For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD. <sup>9</sup>For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. <sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

### **PSALM 143** *spoken responsively by whole verse*

<sup>1</sup>Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my supplications in your faithfulness; answer me in your righteousness.

**<sup>2</sup>Do not enter into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.**

<sup>3</sup>For the enemy has pursued me, crushing my life to the ground, making me sit in darkness like those long dead.

**<sup>4</sup>Therefore my spirit faints within me; my heart within me is appalled.**

<sup>5</sup>I remember the days of old, I think about all your deeds, I meditate on the works of your hands.

**<sup>6</sup>I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

<sup>7</sup>Answer me quickly, O LORD; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me, or I shall be like those who go down to the Pit.

**<sup>8</sup>Let me hear of your steadfast love in the morning, for in you I put my trust. Teach me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.**

<sup>9</sup>Save me, O LORD, from my enemies; I have fled to you for refuge.

**<sup>10</sup>Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. Let your good spirit lead me on a level path.**

<sup>11</sup>For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life. In your righteousness bring me out of trouble.

**SECOND READING: Romans 8:35, 37-39**

<sup>35</sup>Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? <sup>37</sup>No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup>For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup>nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL: John 14:1-6**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John.

*As the gospel is announced, you may trace a small cross on your forehead, lips and chest, a prayer that the Word may dwell in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said,] ‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

*At the conclusion of the reading . . .***Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Following the Gospel, the assembly may be SEATED*

**SERMON**

**The Rev. Brian M. Robison**

*Following the sermon, the assembly STANDS to proclaim the word of God in song.*



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 2 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
 3 I need thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
 4 I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
 5 Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes,



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
 earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
 what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
 ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
 Who like thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



help of the help - less, oh, a - bide with me.  
 O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, oh, a - bide with me.  
 I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me!  
 in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

## 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 response to “God of mercy,” is “**Hear our prayer.**”*

### **PEACE**

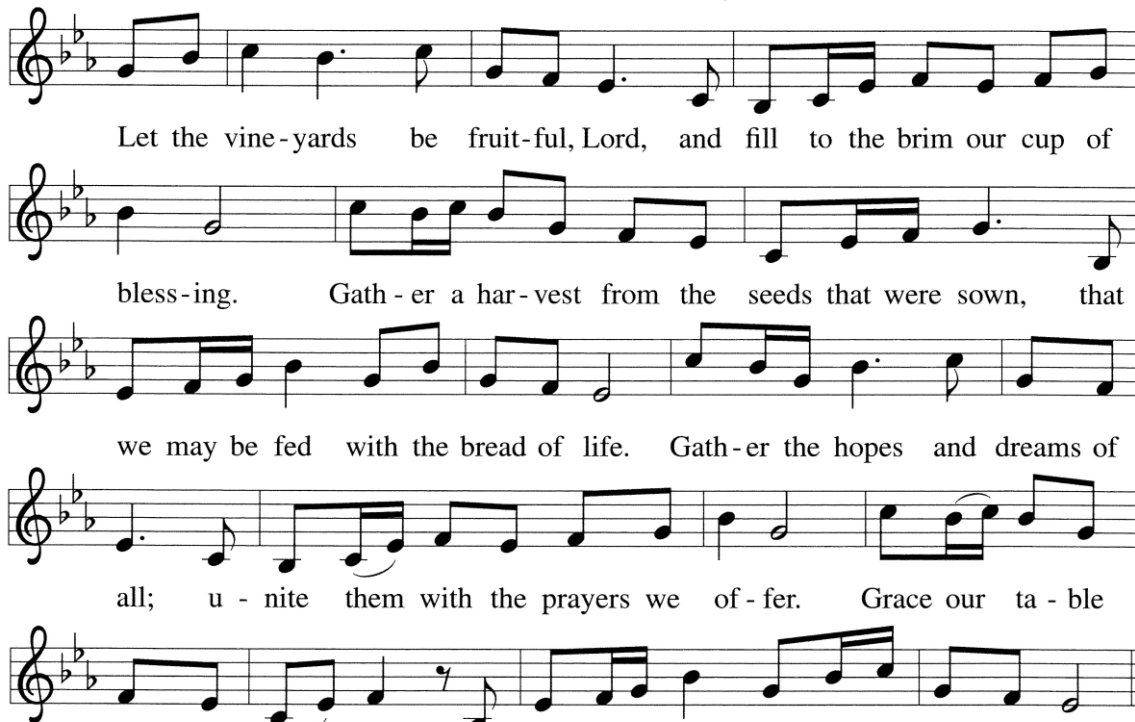
*The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God’s peace with one another. Please be respectful to those who wish to do so from a distance. Following **the Peace**, you may be **seated** for a few moments as the table is prepared.*

## **MEAL**

### **OFFERTORY**

### **“Let the Vineyards”**

**ELW 184**



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

### **OFFERING PRAYER**

**Assistant:** Let us pray together... **Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. Amen.**

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## GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

*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 rose from the dead, and in whom our hope of resurrection dawns. The sting of death has been removed by the glorious promise of his risen 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:*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
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.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER *contemporary*

**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

The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread. Come and eat at God's table.

## LAMB OF GOD

S 154

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, 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.*
- ✘ *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.*

## SONGS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

### “My Faith Looks Up to Thee”

ELW 759

1 My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May thy rich grace im - part strength to my faint - ing heart,  
3 While life's dark maze I tread and griefs a - round me spread,  
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, when death's cold, sul - len stream

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray, take all my  
my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my  
be thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day, wipe sor-row's  
shall o'er me roll; blest Sav - ior, then, in love fear and dis -

guilt a - way, oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine!  
love to thee pure, warm, and change-less be, a liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.  
trust re-move; oh, bear me safe a - bove, a ran - somed soul!

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

ELW 685



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
 it shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own;  
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
 at thy feet its treasure store;  
 take myself, and I will be  
 ever, only, all for thee.

*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.**

**Canticle after Communion:**

**“O Lord, Now Let Your Servant”**

ELW 313



1 O Lord, now let your ser - vant de - part in heav'n - ly peace,  
 2 Then grant that I may fol - low your gleam, O glo - rious Light,



for I have seen the glo - ry of your re - deem - ing grace:  
 till earth - ly shad - ows scat - ter, and faith is changed to sight;



a light to lead the na - tions un - to your ho - ly hill,  
 till rap - tured saints shall gath - er up - on that shin - ing shore,



the glo - ry of your peo - ple, your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
 where Christ, the bless - ed day - star, shall light them ev - er - more.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Assistant:* Let us pray together... **Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

## CHOIR ANTHEM

*“O Lord, Support Us”*

## COMMENDATION

Let us commend Barb to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Into your hands, O merciful Savior, we commend your servant, Barb. Acknowledge, we humbly beseech you, a sheep of your own fold, a lamb of your own flock, a sinner of your own redeeming. Receive her into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and into the glorious company of the saints in light. **Amen.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.

My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people:  
A light to reveal you to the nations, and the glory of your people, Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the + Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. **Amen.**

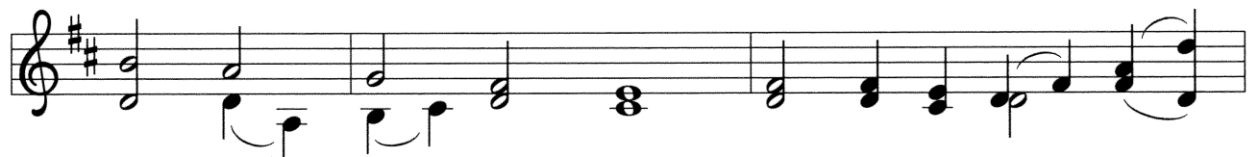
## SENDING HYMN

**“I Know that My Redeemer Lives”**

**ELW 619**



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort  
2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -  
3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to  
4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who  
ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,  
guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort  
wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!  
throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.  
me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.  
trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part. →

**5. He lives and grants me daily breath;  
he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
he lives my mansion to prepare;  
he lives to bring me safely there.**

**6. He lives, all glory to his name!  
He lives, my Savior, still the same;  
what joy this blest assurance gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!**

*Interment will follow at Valhalla Gardens of Memory  
3412 Frank Scott Parkway W, Belleville, Illinois 62223*

*Family and friends are invited to return to the Parish Hall downstairs at St. Mark for a luncheon  
prepared by the members of the congregation.*

**Presiding Minister: The Rev. Brian M. Robison, Pastor  
Organist: Evelyn Duncan + Assisting Minister & Crucifer: Greg Martens**



**Barbara “Barb” Ann Wurdinger**, 64, of Belleville, IL, born May 30, 1959, in Belleville, IL, passed away Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

Barb worked as a mutual fund specialist at Wells Fargo Advisors for over 35 years. She was a dedicated charter member of St. Mark Lutheran Church, Belleville, IL. Barb served on the church council and was active in many church activities. She was a passionate sports fan and especially loved rooting for her Nebraska Cornhuskers (Go Big Red) and the St. Louis Cardinals. Barb loved being outside in her yard, cooking, and enjoyed bowling in her company league.

Barb was preceded in death by her parents, Darrell F. and Darlene A., nee Humphrey, Wurdinger; her brother, Jay Fields; a niece, Arwen Fields; and a sister-in-law, Donna Fields.

Surviving are Barb’s brothers, Morris Fields and Terry (Susie) Fields; her sisters, Bonnie (Mike) Schaefer and Kathy (Steve) Bamvakais; loving nieces and nephews, Wade (Shana) Fields, Rian (Katie) Beatty, Jaimy (Ryan) Voigts, and Brooke (Damian) Summers; dear great-nieces and great-nephews; her sister-in-law, Mary Pinocchio; many dear friends; and her beloved cat, Pee Wee.

Memorials may be made to the St. Mark Food Pantry, Belleville, IL or to the St. Mark Lutheran Church, Belleville, IL. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at [www.rennerfh.com](http://www.rennerfh.com).

The burial will be at Valhalla Gardens of Memory, Belleville, IL.