

ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

welcomes you!

January 21,
2024



The Third
Sunday after
Epiphany

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

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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

“Elevation”

by Couperin (1668-1733)

GATHERING HYMN “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” ELW 588 Please STAND



1 There’s a wide-ness in God’s mer - cy, like the wide - ness of the sea;
2 There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and a prom - ised grace made good;
3 For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sures of our mind;
4 ’Tis not all we owe to Je - sus; it is some - thing more than all:



there’s a kind - ness in God’s jus - tice which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is mer - cy with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
great - er good be - cause of e - vil, larg - er mer - cy through the fall.



There is no place where earth’s sor - rows are more felt than up in heav’n.
There is grace e - nough for thou - sands of new worlds as great as this;
But we make this love too nar - row by false lim - its of our own;
Make our love, O God, more faith - ful; let us take you at your word,

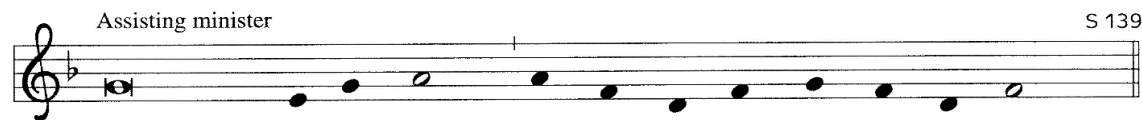


There is no place where earth’s fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment giv’n.
there is room for fresh cre - a - tions in that up - per home of bliss.
and we mag - ni - fy its strict - ness with a zeal God will not own.
and our lives will be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,
 you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
 you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.
 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
 you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

The assembly is SEATED.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you. ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 62:5-12 *spoken responsively between leader and congregation by half verse*

⁵For God alone I | wait in silence;

truly, my hope | is in God.

⁶God alone is my rock and | my salvation,

my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.

⁷In God is my deliverance | and my honor;

God is my strong rock | and my refuge.

⁸Put your trust in God al- | ways, O people,

pour out your hearts before the one | is our refuge.

⁹Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath;

those of low estate cannot be trusted.

Placed on the scales together they weigh even less | than a breath.

¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no | empty pride;

though wealth increase, set not your | heart upon it.

¹¹God has spoken once, twice | have I heard it,

that power belongs to God.

¹²Steadfast love belongs to | you, O Lord,

for you repay all according | to their deeds.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

S 142a

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.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

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

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

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

Following the Gospel, please SIT.

SERMON

"Follow the Leader"

The Rev. Brian M. Robison

HYMN OF THE DAY

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

ELW 815



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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, Dave Brauer, Rick Crosby, Gary Dozier, Jan Dressel, Evelyn Duncan,
Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Sandy Purdy, Marilyn Robinson,
Larry Shurtleff, Carol Weshinskey, Gary Weshinskey, Barb Wurdinger & Cohen Summers.**

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.

ANTHEM *"In This Very Room"* **Soloist: Charlie Duncan** *by Harris*

Follow along with the lyrics as printed on the back page

OFFERING PRAYER

Assistant: **Let us pray... Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 144a

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy... and join in their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

S 144b

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The melody is more rhythmic and includes some eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below each staff. The first staff has four measures, the second and third have four measures each, and the fourth has four measures.

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

At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

LAMB OF GOD

S 146

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.

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.*

"I Love to Tell the Story"

ELW 661

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
2 I love to tell the sto - ry; how pleas - ant to re - peat
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best
of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.



I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



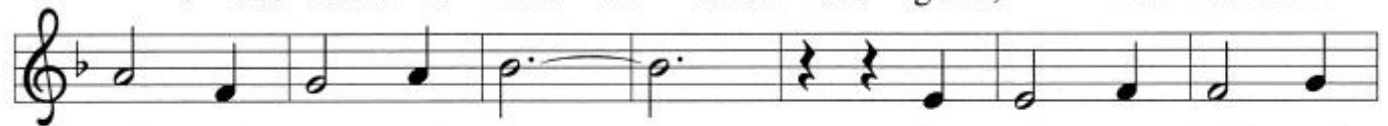
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

“The Word of God is Source and Seed”

ELW 506



1 The Word of God is source and seed; it comes to
 2 The Word of God is breath and life; it comes to
 3 The Word of God is flesh and grace, who comes to



die and sprout and grow. So make your dark earth
 heal and wake and save. So let the Spir - it
 sing, to laugh and cry. So dare to be as



wel - come warm; root deep the grain God bent to sow.
 touch and mend and rouse your dry bones from their grave.
 Je - sus was, who came to live and love and die.



Refrain

Gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no, gau - de - a - mus Do - mi - no,
 In the Lord let us re - jice, in the Lord let us re - jice,
 gau - de - a - mus Do mi - no!
 in the Lord let us re - jice!

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 “Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise” ELW 204

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
 Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
 shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together... **Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

May the One who names you, who claims you, and who dwells in you – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - bless you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

1 Let us en-ter in to the song of thanks - giv - ing and free - dom.
 2 Let us en-ter in to the place where our God has pre - ced - ed.
 3 Let us en-ter in to the heart of a world that is bro - ken.

Let us en-ter in to the long line of peo - ple in need.
 Let us en-ter in to the face of the fear and the pain.
 Let us en-ter in to the start of a hope we can share.

Let us en-ter in to the strong mind that God is still liv - ing.
 Let us en-ter in to the grace of the love when it's need - ed.
 Let us en-ter in to the part where we call one an - oth - er

Heal - ing, for - giv - ing— Let us en - ter in.
 Death is de - feat - ed! Let us en - ter in.
 sis - ter and broth - er. Let us en - ter in.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL Go in peace. You are God’s beloved. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“*Allegro from the Organ Concerto #13*”

Handel

MINISTERS OF TODAY’S LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister & Cantor:** Charlie Duncan
Crucifer: Keith Kniepkamp + **Chalice Bearer:** Mike Murakami + **Camera Operator:** Aaron Fuchs
Lector: Curtis Dowty + **Organist:** Carol Kugler
Ushers: Danielle Tribout & Curt Gansmann + **Safety Volunteer:** Jan Richards

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Words to today's Choir Anthem:

*In this very room There's quite enough love For one like me
And in this very room There's quite enough joy For one like me
And there's quite enough hope And quite enough power To chase away any gloom
For Jesus Lord Jesus Is in this very room*

*In this very room There's quite enough love For all of us
And in this very room There's quite enough joy For all of us
And there's quite enough hope And quite enough power To share wherever we go
For Jesus Lord Jesus Is in this very room*

*In this very room There's quite enough love For all the world
And in this very room There's quite enough joy For all the world
And there's quite enough hope And quite enough power To reach to all of the earth
For Jesus Lord Jesus Is in this very room*

Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Dave Brauer, Rick Crosby, Gary Dozier, Jan Dressel, Evelyn Duncan, Mary Hill,
Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Sandra Purdy, Marilyn Robinson,
Larry Shurtleff, Carol Weshinskey, Gary Weshinskey, & Barb Wurdinger

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Phyllis Booker, Kathy Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson,
Dorothy Cheek, 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, Donna Koudelka, Austin Lickenbrock, Becky Loeschner,
Elroy Luffman, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Glenda Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall,
Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, 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

St. Mark Thanksgivings

We pray for those who celebrate their birthdays this week:

Julie Valerius (1/23) and **Laurie Geppert** (1/24)

We pray for those who celebrate wedding anniversaries this week:

Nancy & Terry Tribout (1/25)

We pray with those welcoming new life into the world:

Brooke & Damian Summers and the birth of **Cohen** Darrell Summers (1/13)

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for January 21, 2024

THE WEEK AHEAD:

Monday 1/22: 6:00PM Pastoral Care Meeting
7:00PM Church Council Meeting

Thurs. 1/25: 6:15PM Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:15PM Voice Choir Rehearsal

Diaper Drive for Epiphany Extended through 1/28!

Our Epiphany Diaper Drive for little ones in need in our community **has been extended through January 28**. Items collected will be donated to The Pregnancy Care Center of Belleville, Fontabella Maternity Home in O'Fallon and other local organizations.



Diapers sizes 4 through 7 and pullups sizes 2T and 3T are most needed. Open packages will be accepted. **Unopened packages of diaper wipes and diaper rash cream are also welcome.**

Realizing diapers are expensive, members are encouraged to join together on purchases or provide monetary donations to Sherri Foppe or Ann Martens. Donations may also be made electronically at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-14EWR> through January 15th.

It's a New Year!

It's a great time to do something new and different, like **joining the choir!** Rehearsals are at 7:15PM on Thursdays. No tryouts or solo voices needed; just a love of singing, a desire to praise God, and the ability to more-or-less carry a tune. One or two bell ringers are also needed. See Music Director Carol Kugler for details or to sign up!



Neighborhood Watch Opportunity for St. Mark & St. George's

The Joint Safety Committee has identified a neighborhood need our churches might be able to help with. St. George's has begun the process of organizing a Neighborhood Watch (NW) program, and they have invited St. Mark to participate. Beyond wanting to be helpful to the neighborhood, we have our own interest in neighborhood safety and health. Organizational leadership, facility support, and hosting quarterly meetings are just a few of the ways our churches could support a NW program. Anyone interested in serving to implement this endeavor, please contact Mark Bearth, mark.bearth@gmail.com.



Adult Forum: *The House of Peter*

Because a number of members stayed home to avoid the extreme cold last Sunday, Pastor Brian will repeat his class on the archaeological search for "The House of Peter" this morning during the Education Hour.

St. Mark/St. George's SHARE THE WARMTH Project

Inspired by Phillip's Wish in the movie **5000 Blankets**, our collection of clean GENTLY USED or new blankets, hats, mittens, gloves, scarfs, etc. for the homeless continues until January 31.

The collection bin in the Narthex/Canterbury Room has overflowed **4 times** and we have **EXCEEDED our 125 blanket goal!** I can't wait to see how far beyond we will be when the project ends!

As of January 6, the following donations have been received:

138 blankets; 149 hats/ear covers; 90 pairs of gloves; 51 neck scarves/mufflers; 95 pairs of socks

Donations have been distributed to:

St. George/St. Mark Food Pantry (2); Union United Methodist Church homeless program; Belleville Christian Center; Moms on a Mission in Dupo; Violence Prevention Center of Southwestern Illinois; Pregnancy Care Center in Belleville (planned for 1/16)

There's still time to check your closets and ask family and friends to share blankets/quilts gloves, hats, scarves that will help keep our homeless a little warmer this winter!

Do you or someone you know have the talent of knitting and/or crocheting? FREE yarn is available to anyone (member or non-member) to make hats, mittens, gloves, scarves for this project. Contact Peggy Anderson 618 791-0992 for your FREE yarn.

Week of Christian Unity Service 1/31

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Belleville will host the annual **ecumenical prayer service** for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on **Wednesday, January 31 at 9:30AM** at the **Cathedral of St. Peter (200 W. Harrison Street, Belleville)**. A light reception will follow in the Undercroft. Bishop Brian K. Burgess of the Episcopal Diocese of Springfield will be the preacher for this service. Clergy and members from many local congregations have been invited to participate in this annual event, which gives us an opportunity to know each other a little better as sisters and brothers in Christ. Any interested members of St. Mark are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Great (Super) Bowls of Fire!



St. George's famous **white chili** (both mild and hot) will be sold **Sunday, February 11**, from **noon to 3:00PM** in the Parish Hall. Cost is **\$11/ quart when ordered in advance with payment; \$12/quart for walk-ins**. Orders with payment can be made to Henry in the office or by mail to St. George's.



St. Mark T-Shirts



The ordering window for St. Mark t-shirts will remain open until January 31. Orders **must** be placed through **Rich's Stiches** <http://www.richsstichesemb.com>. When the webpage opens, scroll down to **Online Stores**, then scroll down and click on St. Mark Lutheran Church.

Adult shirts sizes S-XL are \$19.50 including tax 2XL, 3XL,4XL & 5XL are \$22.75 including tax. *Payment is required when the order is placed.*

For those who are not computer oriented, you may contact Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148 with your order and payment information.



St. Mark Offerings for 1/14: General Fund: **\$3,744.11** (incl. online offerings received by 1/12); Food Pantry: \$100