

Welcome to
ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

September 22,
2024



The
Eighteenth
Sunday after
Pentecost

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

“Jesus Loves Me”

arranged by J. Spong

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Please STAND as you are able*

Blessed be the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit – the one God who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

You may KNEEL or remain as you are. Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in our time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

Please STAND as you are able

GATHERING HYMN

“God, We Gather as Your People”

ACS 1038



1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and



bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your love.
free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to be,
shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they love.
wide can . . . live their lives with dig - ni - ty and pride.



Though the day may not yet be here, we
that they nev - er have a rea - son to
May the mes - sage now be ban - ished that your
As they grow in strength and stat - ure, may they



trust it soon will be, when your chil - dren will be free.
doubt that they are blest. May they, in your love, find rest.
love is for the few; may their faith in you re - new.
join us hand in hand, as a - gainst all hate we stand.



Refrain

Oh, may our hearts and minds be o-pened, fling the church doors o-pen
 wide. May there be room e-nough for ev-'ry-one in - side.
 For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -
 long. May that wel - come be our song.

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

Let us pray... O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please SIT.

WORD

PSALM 54 *chanted in responsively between choir and congregation*

- ¹Save me, O God, | by your name;
 in your might, de- | fend my cause.
- ²**Hear my | prayer, O God;**
give ear to the words | of my mouth.
- ³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have | sought my life,
 those who have no re- | gard for God.
- ⁴**Behold, God | is my helper;**
it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life.
- ⁶I will offer you a | freewill sacrifice
 and praise your name, O LORD, for | it is good.
- ⁷**For you have rescued me from | every trouble,**
and my eye looks down | on my enemies.

SCRIPTURE READING: James 3:13—4:2a, 7-8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

^{4:1}Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and God will draw near to you.

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.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

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

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

ELW 765



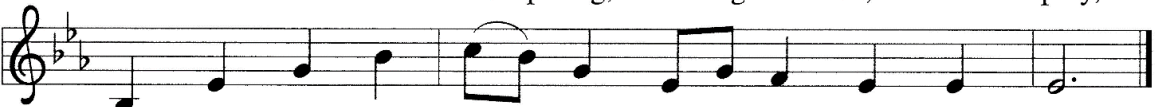
1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

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 back of this bulletin.*

*The response to "Hear us, O God," is **Your mercy is great...***

**Eleanor Benton, Toni Brendel, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Bruce Martens,
Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer, Marilyn Robinson,
Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, & Carol Weshinsky.**

PEACE *The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God's peace with one another. Following **the Peace**, you may be seated for a few moments*

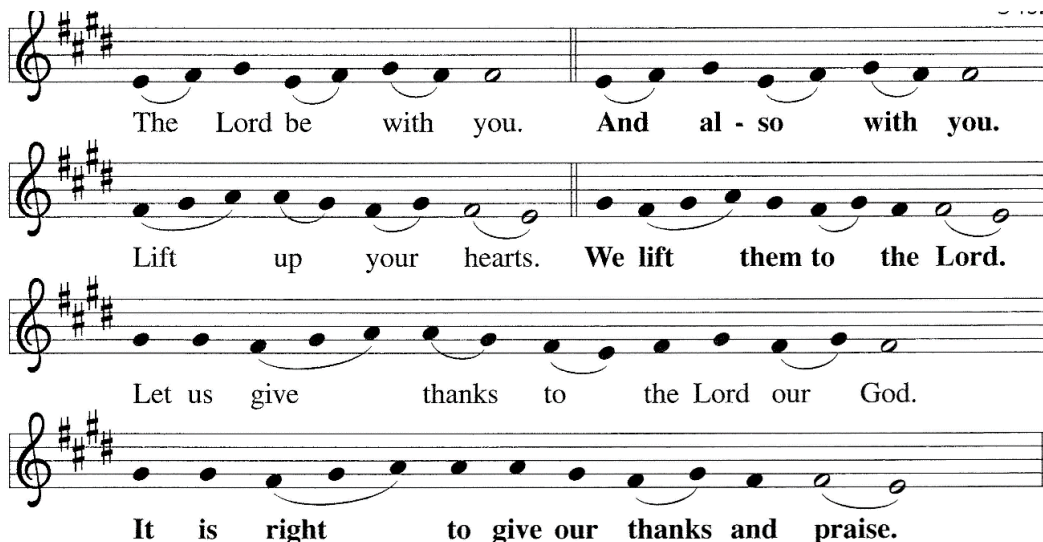
OFFERING *Should you wish to leave an offering today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.*

OFFERTORY "What Wondrous Love is This?" Walker/arr. Tucker St. Mark Bell Choir

OFFERING PRAYER

Assistant: Let us pray together... **Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

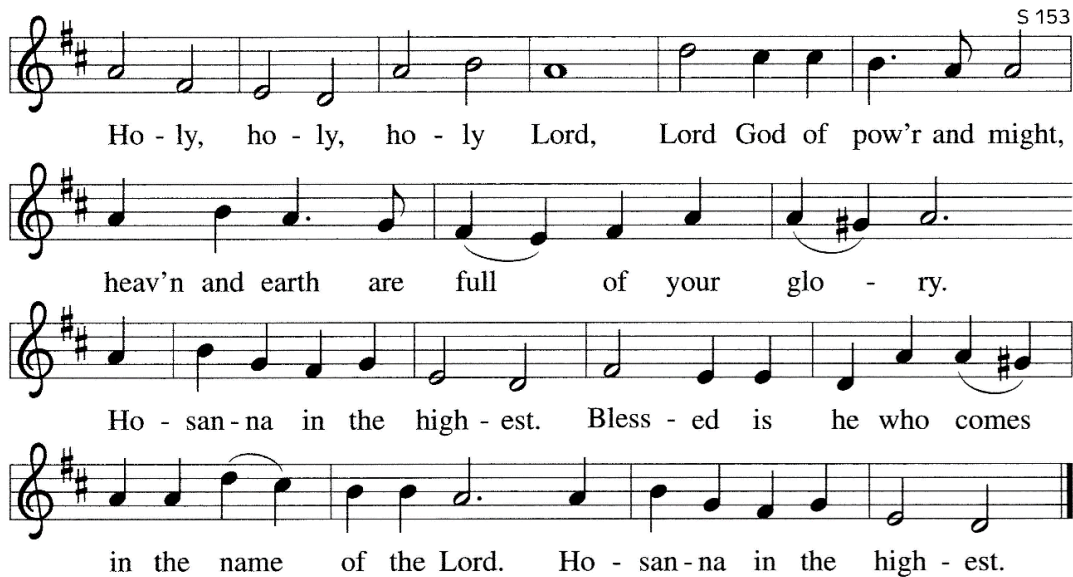
GREAT THANKSGIVING



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... and join in their unending hymn:

S 153



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

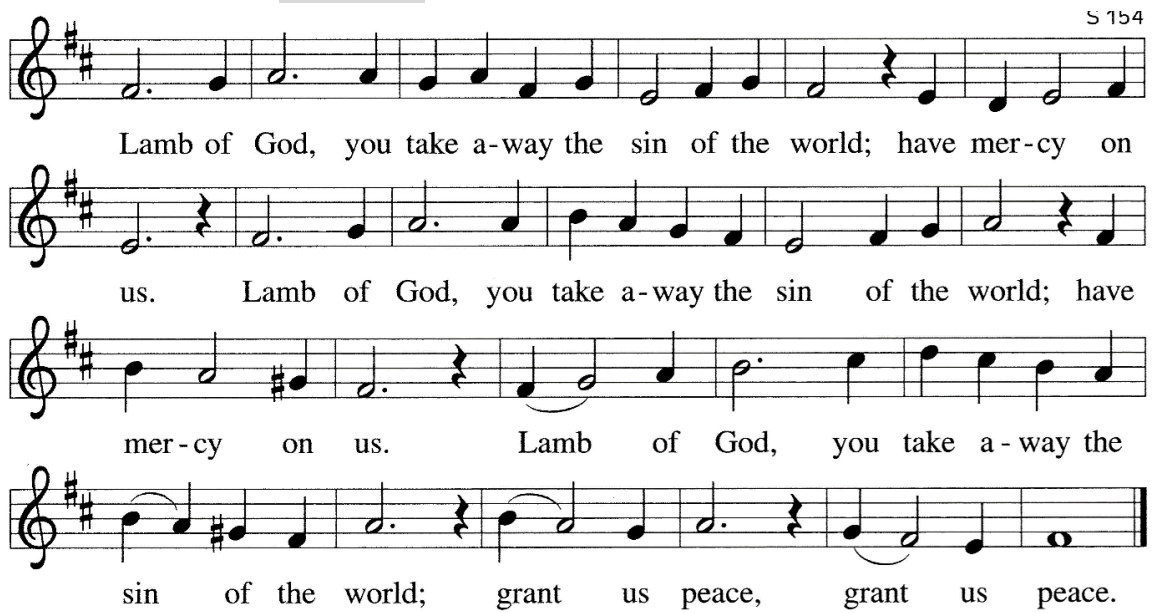
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kingdom come;
 thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread,
 and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus welcomes you to this table. Come forth; your God meets you here.

LAMB OF GOD *Please SIT*

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

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.*

HYMN DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW 781



Tryg - ga - re kan ing - en va - ra än Guds lil - la bar - na - ska - ra,
1 Chil - dren of the heav'n-ly Fa - ther safe - ly in his bo - som gath - er;
2 God his own doth tend and nour-ish, in his ho - ly courts they flour-ish.
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er from the Lord his chil - dren sev - er;
4 Though he giv - eth or he tak-eth, God his chil-dren ne'er for - sak - eth;



stjär - nan ej på him - la - fäs - tet, få - geln ej i kän - da näs - tet.
nest - ling bird nor star in heav - en such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
From all e - vil things he spares them, in his might - y arms he bears them.
un - to them his grace he show - eth, and their sor - rows all he know - eth.
his the lov - ing pur - pose sole - ly to pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

“Jesus Loves Me”

ELW 595

**1 Jesus loves me! This I know, for the Bible tells me so;
little ones to him belong, they are weak, but he is strong.**

Ref.: Yes, Jesus loves me; yes, Jesus loves me; yes, Jesus loves me - the Bible tells me so.

**2 Jesus loves me! He who died, heaven's gates to open wide;
he will wash away my sin, let his little child come in. Refrain**

**3 Jesus loves me! He will stay close beside me all the way;
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high. Refrain**

Follow along with the lyrics as printed on the back page

TABLE BLESSING After the distribution is complete, please **STAND** as you are able.

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

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... **Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

God all mighty, God most merciful – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - bless you, keep you, and give you peace. **Amen.**

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus! **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE

“Fugue”

G. Handel

MINISTERS OF TODAY’S LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Charlie Duncan

Lector: Jan Richards + **Crucifer:** Keith Kniepkamp

Tech Minister: Melanie Robison + **Chalice Bearer:** Greg Martens + **Organist:** Evelyn Duncan

Safety Volunteer: Mark Bearth + **Ushers:** Kathy Casey & Nancy Guenther

Lyrics to today's anthem, "When We are Living" by Hal Hopson

1. When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.
Both in our living and in our dying,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

3. 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

2. Through all our living, we our fruits must give.
Good works of service are for offering.
When we are giving, or when receiving,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

4. Across this wide world, we shall always find
those who are crying with no peace of mind,
but when we help them, or when we feed them,
we belong to God; we belong to God.

Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Toni Brendel, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Bruce Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome,
Kim Palmer, Marilyn Robinson, Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, & Carol Weshinsky

St. Mark Family and Friends

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

Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Taiylar Foppe, Ryan McKenzie

Members Celebrating Birthdays This Week

Evelyn Duncan (9/24), Anna Robison (9/25), Piper Perry (9/27),
Wilma Shroat (9/28), & Kim Palmer (9/28)

Members celebrating wedding anniversaries this week

Ivan & Judy Kohlmeier (9/23), Brad & Laurie Geppert (9/23), Carolyn & Matt Simard (9/25),
Mark & Patty Bearth (9/27), Letitia & Todd Downen (9/27), and June & Jim Isselhardt (9/27)

Hot off the press!

Malagasy Lutheran Church Delegation to Visit St. Mark

At the behest of Bishop Greg Busboom and the Central/Southern Illinois Synod's Global Missions Committee, St. Mark is honored to host a **delegation from the Malagasy Lutheran Church** (*Fiangonana Loterana Malagasy*, or FLM) from Madagascar for a **dinner and meet-and-greet** on **Wednesday, October 2** from **5:00-7:00PM in the Parish Hall**. Bishop Greg will accompany the Presiding Bishop of the FLM, along with the Presidents of the two synods with whom the C/SIS is companion to, an interpreter, and the ELCA missionary to Madagascar.



Plan to join us and be part of this unique event and exchange of cultures while celebrating our common faith heritage!



St. Mark Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Brian M. Robison

Administrative Assistant: Randi Cardoza + **Music Director:** Carol Kugler

Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Parish Nurse:** Becky Schnitzius

Land Acknowledgement

St. Mark Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the **Quapaw**, **Myaamia**, **Kaskaskia**, and **Kickapoo** peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for September 22, 2024

This Week at St. Mark:

Monday, Sept.23:	6:00PM	Pastoral Care Meeting – conference room
	7:00PM	Church Council Meeting – conference room
Thursday, Sept. 26:	6:15PM	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	7:00PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal

TODAY'S Adult Forum: *Living Plants as Archaeological Artifacts*

Continuing a horticultural theme begun in Wednesday's Bible class as we enter the season of harvest, Pastor Brian this morning discusses how plants of the ancient near east that still exist today can serve to illumine the background of certain biblical texts and unveil the deeper meanings behind them.



Church Picnic NEXT SUNDAY, September 29

This year's church picnic will be next **Sunday, September 29** from **noon to 3pm** at **Schranz Memorial Park in Swansea**. Format will be as in years past: bring food enough for you and your family, and a game to share. Some drinks and desserts will be provided!

White Cottage Night THANKS!

Thank you to the members and friends of St. Mark & St. George's who made the White Cottage fundraiser a great success! Not only did we raise **\$172** for our food pantry, but we enjoyed great food and desserts and a fantastic evening of fellowship. We're already looking forward to the next one!



Joint Safety Volunteer AED/CPR Recertification Opportunity

The Joint Safety Committee of St George & St Mark's will be hosting an AED and CPR certification class. It is scheduled in the parish hall on **Saturday, October 19** from **9am-12noon**. The cost is **\$65 for recertification** or **\$75 for new certifications**.

We need additional Safety Volunteers, so if you've thought about joining the Safety Volunteer Team, or even the Joint Safety Committee, this is an ideal time. The AED/CPR certification is all that is required, in addition to a willingness to serve occasionally during church services.

I am available nearly anytime to answer any questions and/or provide greater detail.

Mark Bearth: mark.bearth@gmail.com or text 618-767-6543.



Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet at Spikes Public House, 4 East Washington Street in Millstadt on **Wednesday, October 9** at 12 noon. If you have any questions or need a ride, please contact Marva Dowty at 618-363-3060.

St. Mark Offerings for 9/15:

General Fund: \$4,402.11 Food Pantry: \$53.88

Special Prayer Service for a Nation in Turmoil

St. George's hosts a service of **Evening Prayer with special prayers for the nation** on **first Mondays from now until Election Day**. The service will also feature a common recitation of the Great Litany, the church's ancient and traditional prayer of intercession, to beseech Almighty God for blessing and protection over the church and the world in the months leading up to Election Day.

Evening Prayer for the Nation will be held at **6:00PM** in the **chapel** on **October 7** and **November 4**. St. Mark members are welcome to join and to invite others to take part in this important endeavor in witness to our faith.

Franklin School Lunch Packing

St. Mark will once again be packing and delivering free sack lunches this year to 20 needy students at Franklin School for holiday weekends. Our food shelves are stocked currently, but you can help by volunteering to pack lunches. It only takes about an hour on the last school day before **Columbus Day, election day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Spring Break & Memorial Day weekends**. See Peggy Andersen (618-791-0992) to sign up or to ask questions. Your support is so much appreciated by the Franklin children and staff and our Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee!

Chili Cook-Off Help Wanted!

Belleville's annual Chili Cook-Off is **Friday, October 11 and Saturday, October 12**. The production and sale of St. George's chili benefits both congregations, and volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Plans are to make and sell at least 200 gallons of White Chili this year.



Chicken cooking is scheduled **9:00AM-3:00PM** on **Wednesdays September 25, October 2 & 9**. Each cooking day will need two three-hour shifts of two people to accomplish the grinding, cooking and bagging of the cooked chicken. A signup sheet is in the Parish Hall on the wall opposite the stairs.

Don't "Fall" for Scams

Periodically, members report receiving **scam emails and texts claiming to come from Pastor Brian**. Here are some quick ways to check on the legitimacy of any message you receive:

- Check the sender's email address, if possible. Pr. Brian's email is pastor@stmarkbelleville.org or worship@stmarkbelleville.org, and the church office is office@stmarkbelleville.org. If the message doesn't come from one of those, it's likely bogus.
 - A computer expert told us that if the scam email is not from one of the email addresses above, it is likely that it is *your* email (or someone in your contact list) that has been hacked – not Pastor's.
- The word "Reverend" is always properly preceded by the indefinite article "The," as in "The Reverend Brian Robison," NOT simply "Reverend Brian" or "Rev. Brian." If the article is missing, that should be a red flag. Plus, Pr. Brian will generally sign his emails as "+PB" or "Pastor Brian."
- Pastor Brian will NEVER, EVER ask you to purchase gift cards or anything else through an email or text, unless he's already spoken to you previously about it.
- DO NOT click on any links or open any attachments unless you've verified that the message is real.
- If you're still not sure, call Pastor Brian directly or contact the church office. Otherwise, simply delete the message or flag it as spam.