

# ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

April 14,  
2024



The Third  
Sunday of  
Easter

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (*1<sup>st</sup> 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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WEBSITE: [WWW.STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG](http://WWW.STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG)

*The Reverend Brian M. Robison, Pastor*

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**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**

*“Prelude on Llanfair”*

*by J. Barr*

**WELCOME** *Please STAND as you are able*

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

**HYMN FROM PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11**

Jesus Christ, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.

And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death - even death on a cross.

**Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father!**

**GATHERING HYMN**

**“Alleluia! Jesus is Risen!”**

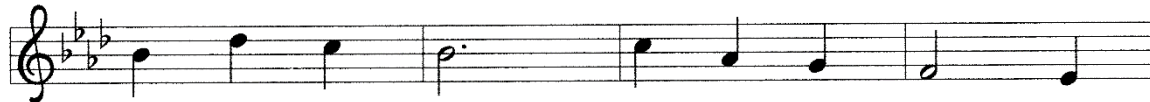
**ELW 377**



1	Al - le - lu - ia!	Je - sus	is	ris - en!			
2	Walk - ing	the	way,	Christ	in	the	cen - ter
3	Je - sus	the	vine,	we	are	the	branch - es;
4	Weep - ing,	be	gone;	sor - row,	be	si - lent:	
5	Cit - y	of	God,	Eas - ter	for	- ev - er,	



Trum - pets	re - sound - ing	in	glo - ri - ous	light!				
tell - ing	the	sto - ry	to	o - pen	our	eyes;		
life	in	the	Spir - it	the	fruit	of	the	tree;
death	put	a - sun - der,	and	Eas - ter	is	bright.		
gold - en	Je - ru - sa - lem,	Je - sus	the	Lamb,				



Splen - dor,	the	Lamb,	heav - en	for - ev - er!		
break - ing	our	bread,	giv - ing	us	glo - ry:	
heav - en	to	earth,	Christ	to	the	peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim	sing:	O	grave,	be	o - pen!	
riv - er	of	life,	saints	and	arch - an - gels,	



Oh,	what	a	mir - a - cle	God	has	in	sight!
Je - sus	our	bles - sing,	our	con - stant	sur - prise.		
gift	of	the	fu - ture	now	flow - ing	to	me.
Clothe	us	in	won - der,	a - dorn	us	in	light.
sing	with	cre - a - tion	to	God	the	I	AM!

→

*Refrain*

Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.  
Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

**GREETING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

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**

**“This is the Feast”**

**ELW 140**

*Refrain* S 140

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb  
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and  
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,



glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Following the prayer, please SIT.*

## WORD

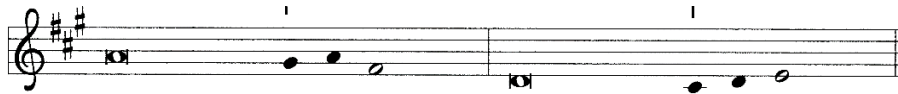
### **FIRST READING: Acts 3:12-19**

<sup>12</sup>[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. <sup>17</sup>"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 4** *sung responsively between choir and congregation by whole verse*



<sup>1</sup>Answer me when I call, O God, defender <sup>|</sup> of my cause;  
you set me free when I was in distress;  
have mercy on me and <sup>|</sup> hear my prayer.

<sup>2</sup>**"You mortals, how long will you dishon- <sup>|</sup> or my glory;  
how long will you love illusions and seek <sup>|</sup> after lies?"**

<sup>3</sup>Know that the LORD does wonders <sup>|</sup> for the faithful;  
the LORD will hear me <sup>|</sup> when I call.

<sup>4</sup>**Tremble, then, and <sup>|</sup> do not sin;  
speak to your heart in silence up- <sup>|</sup> on your bed.**

<sup>5</sup>Offer the appointed <sup>|</sup> sacrifices,  
and put your trust <sup>|</sup> in the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>**Many are saying, "Who will show us <sup>|</sup> any good?"  
Let the light of your face shine upon <sup>|</sup> us, O LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>You have put gladness <sup>|</sup> in my heart,  
more than when grain and <sup>|</sup> wine abound.

<sup>8</sup>**In peace, I will lie <sup>|</sup> down and sleep;  
for you alone, O LORD, make me <sup>|</sup> rest secure.**

**SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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.

**GOSPEL: Luke 24:36b-48**

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

<sup>36b</sup>Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have."

<sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled."

<sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things."

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

**SERMON** *Please SIT.*

**The Rev. Brian M. Robison**

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

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”**

**ELW 385**



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce and sing! Now is the tri - umph  
2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day; death's might - y stone is  
3 Praise we in songs of vic - to - ry that love, that life which  
4 Your name we bless, O ris - en Lord, and sing to - day with



of our king! To all the world glad news we bring:  
rolled a - way; let all the earth re - joi - ce and say:  
can - not die, and sing with hearts up - lift - ed high:  
one ac - cord, the life laid down, the life re - stored:



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

**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, Al Boxdorfer, Toni Brendel, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Mary Hill,  
Bruce Martens, Greg Martens, Dwight Ness, Mae Newsome, Kim Palmer,  
Marilyn Robinson, Larry Shurtleff, Cohen Summers, & Carol Weshinsky**

## 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.*

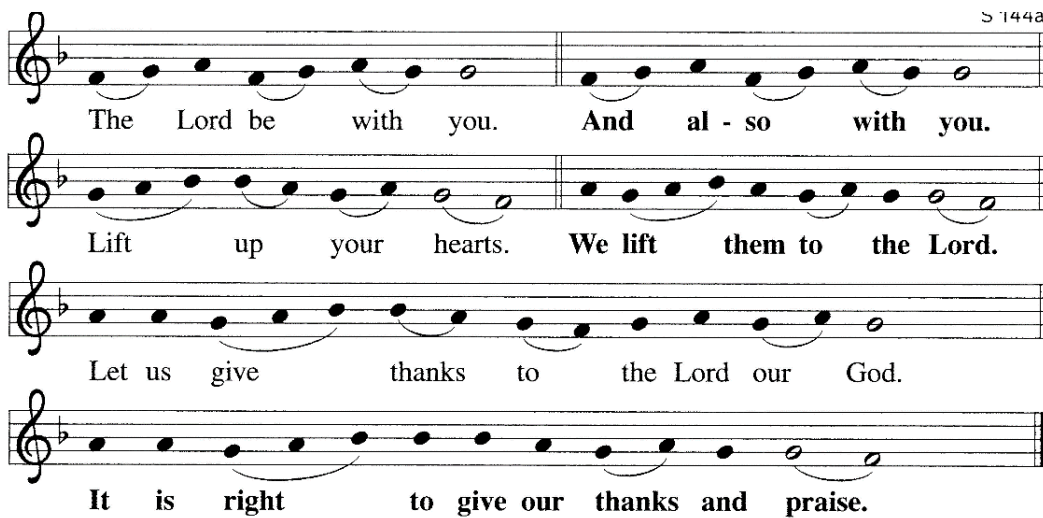
### CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM

"Alleluia"

### 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.**

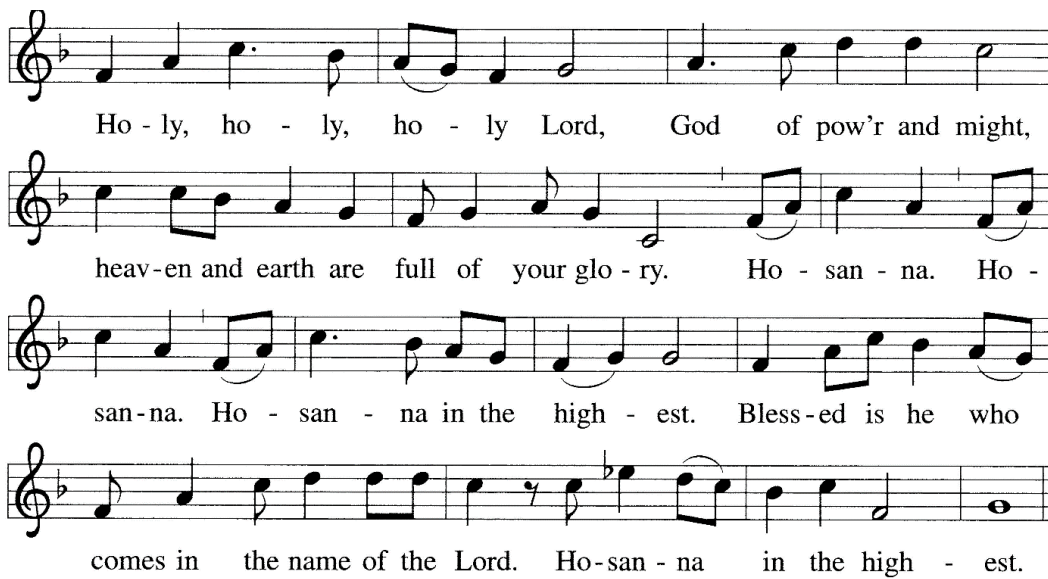
### GREAT THANKSGIVING



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.

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



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

### EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

## THE LORD'S PRAYER *contemporary*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come;**

**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

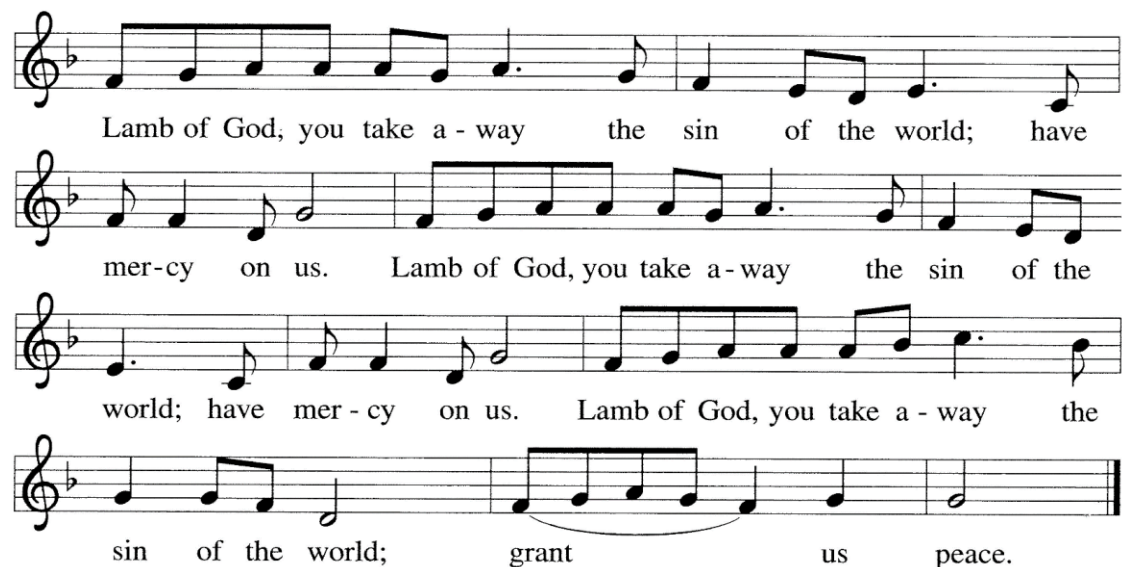
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. 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



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.*

## SONG DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

### “As We Gather at Your Table”

ELW 522



1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor-ship in-to wit-ness in the sac-ra-ment of life;  
3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri-um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for-give as you for-gave;  
There no more will en-vy blind us nor will pride our peace de-stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic-t'ry known.  
may we still be-hold your im-age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an-gels to re-peat the sound-ing joy.

### “Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

ELW 470

*After the distribution is complete, please **STAND** as you are able for the blessing.*

### TABLE BLESSING

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

### POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

### “Thankful Hearts”

ELW 204



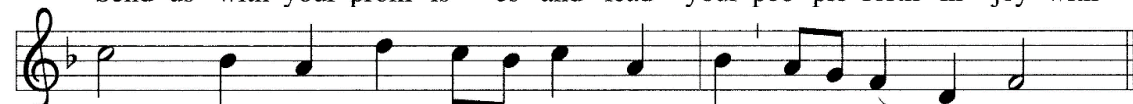
Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice 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... **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.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

Alleluia! Christ is risen! **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

The God of resurrection power and unending joy – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit - bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

### “Christ is Risen! Alleluia!”

ELW 382



- 1 Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!
- 2 Christ is ris - en! All the sad - ness of our Lent - en fast is o'er;
- 3 Christ is ris - en! All the sor - row that last eve - ning round him lay
- 4 Christ is ris - en! Hence - forth nev - er death or hell shall us en - thrall.



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!  
through the o - pen gates of glad - ness he re - turns to life once more;  
now has found a glo - rious mor - row in the ris - ing of to - day.  
We are Christ's, in him for - ev - er we have tri - umphed o - ver all.



Grate - ful - ly our hearts a - dore him as his light once more ap - pears;  
death and hell be - fore him bend - ing see him rise, the vic - tor now,  
See the grave its first - fruits giv - ing, spring - ing up from ho - ly ground;  
All the doubt - ing and de - jec - tion of our trem - bling hearts have ceased;



bow - ing down in joy be - fore him, ris - ing up from griefs and tears.  
an - gels on his steps at - tend - ing, glo - ry round his wound - ed brow.  
Christ was dead, but now is liv - ing; he was lost, but he is found.  
hail the day of res - ur - rec - tion! Let us rise and keep the feast.



Christ is ris - en! Al - le - lu - ia! Ris - en our vic - to - rious head!



Sing his prais - es! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is ris - en from the dead!

## DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad. **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

*“Prelude in Classic Style”*

*by G. Young*

### MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**Presider & Preacher:** The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Danielle Tribout

**Crucifer:** Frank Dressel + **Lector:** Aaron Fuchs + **Organist:** Evelyn Duncan

**Chalice Bearer & Livestream Camera:** Mike Murakami + **Guest Choir Director:** John Andersen

**Trained Responder:** Missy Kimbrell + **Ushers:** Rick Crosby & Rex Rothgangel

### Prayer Intentions

#### St. Mark Members

Eleanor Benton, Al Boxdorfer, Toni Brendel, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Mary Hill,  
Bruce Martens, Greg 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, Catherine Davis, Brian Dinges, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner,  
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, 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

#### Members who celebrate birthdays this week

Elenor Benton (4/16), Nick Rensing (4/17), and Todd Downen (4/19)

#### Members who celebrate wedding anniversaries this week

Charles & Kim Palmer (4/16), Aaron & Susan Fuchs (4/19), and Mike & Sherri Foppe (4/20)

#### Those who grieve the loss of loved ones

The family and friends of **Barb Wurdinger** (4/10)

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# MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for April 14, 2024

## THE WEEK AHEAD:

**Monday 4/15:** 2:30PM Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor  
**Tue. 4/16-Sun. 4/21:** *Pastor on vacation*  
**Thursday, 4/18:** 6:15PM Bell Choir Rehearsal  
7:15PM Voice Choir Rehearsal

***There will not be an Adult Forum class this morning, as Pastor is teaching Confirmation.***

### Pastor on Vacation

Pastor Brian will be on vacation from **Tuesday, April 16 through Sunday, April 21**. We welcome back Pastor **S. Blake Duncan** as our guest preacher and presider on April 21.

**In case of pastoral emergency**, please contact **Fr. Mark Ohlemeier** of St. George's at **785-220-5528**.



### New Trash Can

Last Sunday after worship we dedicated a newly installed industrial trash can in memory of Don Muller. Many thanks to Frank Dressel for acquiring the can, and to Frank and Keith Kniepkamp for pouring the pad and installing the can, and to Don's family and friends for the donations to make this possible. Don was a dedicated caretaker of the grounds around the church, and it is our hope that the new can will help keep trash where it belongs and maintain the beauty of our campus.



### BEACON Trivia Night

It's not too late to get in on the fun and fellowship at Beacon's trivia night on **Saturday, April 27!** St. Mark Team Sign Up Sheets are in the Narthex and the Parish Hall. You may sign up/pay by contacting Sherri Foppe at 618 791-6148. Payment can be given to Sherri Foppe or paid by mailing checks to BEACON, P.O. Box 23468, Belleville, IL 62223 or use PayPal (paypal.me/BeaconMinistry) *Please make checks payable to BEACON Ministry, be sure to write St. Mark Team in the check's memo line.*

St. Mark has one team participating and is looking for others to form a second team! Team members do not need to be members of St. Mark!

**St. Augustine of Canterbury** - 1910 West Belle, Belleville, IL 62226

**Doors open: 6:15PM; Game starts: 7:00PM**

Admission: \$20 per person

B.Y.O.S. (Bring Your Own Snacks); Beer, Wine, Soda, & Water available for purchase

**SILENT AUCTION, 50/50 RAFFLES AND MORE WILL ADD TO THE FUN!**



## Mark Times Newsletter Deadline

The Mark Times Newsletter is printed on Thursday each week. The deadline to add announcements to the newsletter is by Wednesday the week *prior* to the Sunday it needs to be included.

## April Monthly Mission Donations: OBK and Beacon

**\$300 to Our Brothers' Keepers (OBK)** After Kirsten Peterson's Adult Forum presentation on February 11, many folks have expressed realizing how much they were unaware of regarding the difficult process former inmates struggle with in attempting to rejoin communities as productive citizens. The 60-day rule was shocking to many of us! Want to know more? Visit their website <https://obkministry.org/> or contact them at obkministry2@gmail.com.

***Their Mission:*** OBK is an ecumenical faith-based organization dedicated to the full inclusion of former individuals in custody (returning citizens), into St. Clair County, Illinois community.

OBK assists returning citizens in attaining productive citizenship through an array of reentry services, including counseling, life and employment skills training, and referrals to supportive services in order to build community, family and faith-based relationships. OBK reaches out to all social and human services providers, faith communities and government agencies, and to businesses, to help in the process of full inclusion.

***Their Vision:*** We aspire to be an organization that honors the talents and contributions of all its stakeholders including clients, employees, volunteers, donors and vendors. As we assist returning citizens in finding real solutions to their critical needs, no one is left behind: we all progress together, care for the welfare of each other, and help each other grow in personal maturity and independence.

### **Their Core Values:**

***Accompaniment*** is the act of providing emotional, physical and spiritual support to people in need as well as walking in their shoes as a critical part in recognizing the human dignity and experiences of every person.

***Growth*** is the capacity for people to develop their humanity emotionally, physically and spiritually in union with others who provide peer counseling to overcome the traumas of life and give all hope and confidence to succeed.

***Respect*** recognizes all people worthy of high regard and esteem for the human dignity of each as decent and capable of good character behavior.

**\$300 to Beacon Ministry** Beacon is still in the rebuilding phase due to loss of volunteers during COVID. Several financial adjustments have been made but volunteers and financial assistance are needed to continue the rebuilding! Volunteers are specifically needed to pick up and deliver donated furniture. Volunteers are also needed for organizing donated linens and household products.

**St. Mark Offerings for 4/7:** General Fund: **\$4,176.11** (*incl. online offerings received by 4/12*); Coffee Fund: \$191; Sunday Morning Coffee: \$18; Thrivent Choice: \$449

## **Land Acknowledgement**

St. Mark Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Quapaw and Myaamia 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.