

# ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

May 17,  
2026



The Seventh  
Sunday of  
Easter

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAYS-CHAPEL)

### SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

EDUCATION HOUR: 10:30AM

**105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220**

**EMAIL: [WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG](mailto:WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG)**

***THE REV. BRIAN M. ROBISON, PASTOR***

***THE REV. RONALD C. NEUSTADT, PASTOR EMERITUS***

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- + **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 use the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is audible over the speakers).
  - + An **accessible Restroom** is available off the Welcome Area/Narthex next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level. **Parish Hall and additional Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. 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.
  - + **Land Acknowledgement:** This 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 recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and still call this land home.

PRELUDE

“Hail Thee Festival Day”

arr. D. Wagner

WELCOME

GATHERING HYMN “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus” ELW 392 *Please STAND as you are able*



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,  
 2 Al - le - lu - ia! Not as or - phans are we left in  
 3 Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our  
 4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om - nip - o -  
 5 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; his the scep - ter,



his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the  
 sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is near us; faith be -  
 food, our stay; Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to  
 tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of Mar - y, earth your  
 his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the tri - umph, his the



vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful  
 lieves, nor ques - tions how. Though the cloud from sight re -  
 you from day to day. In - ter - ces - sor, friend of  
 foot - stool, heav'n your throne. As with - in the veil you  
 vic - to - ry a - lone. Hark! The songs of peace - ful



Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: “Je - sus  
 ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er, shall our  
 sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, hear our plea where the  
 en - tered, robed in flesh, our great high priest, here on  
 Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood: “Je - sus



out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood.”  
 hearts for - get his prom - ise: “I am with you ev - er - more”?  
 songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.  
 earth both priest and vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.  
 out of ev - 'ry na - tion has re - deemed us by his blood.”

GREETING

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

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.**

*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... O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through 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 1:6-14

<sup>6</sup> When [the apostles] had come together, they asked [Jesus], “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

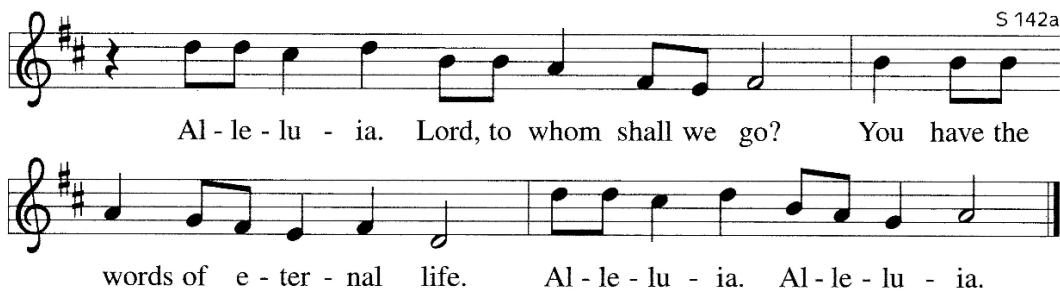
<sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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: John 17:1-11**

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

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus had spoken these words [to his disciples,] he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup> since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup> And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup> I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup> So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup> “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup> Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup> for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup> I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

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

**SERMON**

*“Stupendously Special”*

**The Rev. Brian M. Robison**

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

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1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise  
 2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be  
 3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest  
 4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise  
 5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light

thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread  
 thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee  
 thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be  
 thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways  
 thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly

thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup  
 gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry  
 then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war  
 thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least  
 then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee

thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
 gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
 thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
 then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.  
 thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** *The names of those for whom we pray aloud (members, staff, first-time additions) are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the back of this bulletin. The response to "Merciful God," is "Receive our prayer."*

**Ken** Augustine, **Eleanor** Benton, **Rob** Buck, **Gary** Dozier, **Evelyn** Duncan, **Art** Engelage,  
**Michael** Foppe, **Morris** Kugler, **Diane** Maes, **Bruce** Martens, **Diane** Martens,  
**Lucy** Montgomery, **Ron** Neustadt, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Cohen** Summers,  
**Carol** Weshinsky, **Gary** 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.*

## CHOIR ANTHEM

"All Praise to Thee"

Tallis & Pooler

*Text can be found on the last page*

## 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.*

## OFFERING PRAYER *Please STAND as you are able*

*Assistant:* Let us pray together...

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.

You have set a table before us,

a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more.

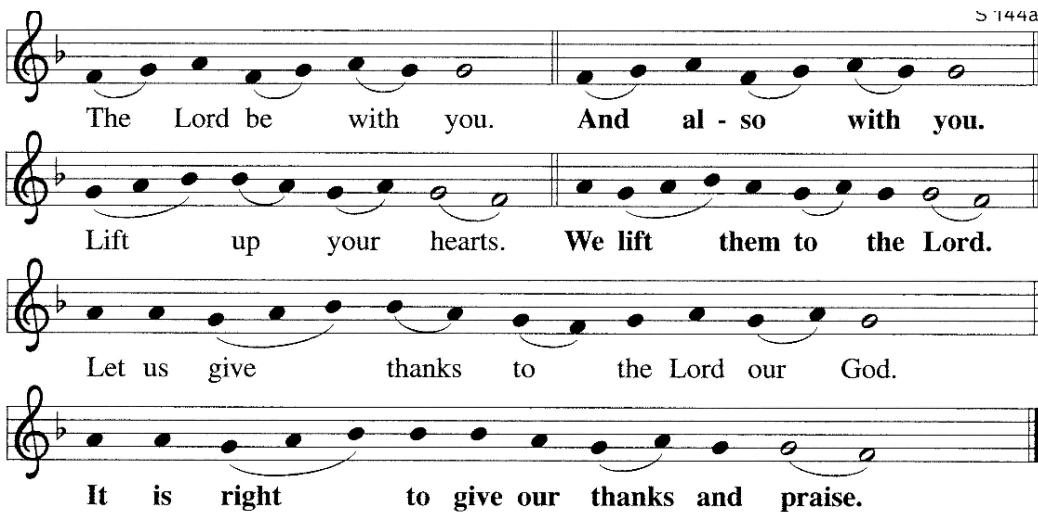
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,

that goodness and mercy may follow us

and bless the world you love.

In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING



S 144a

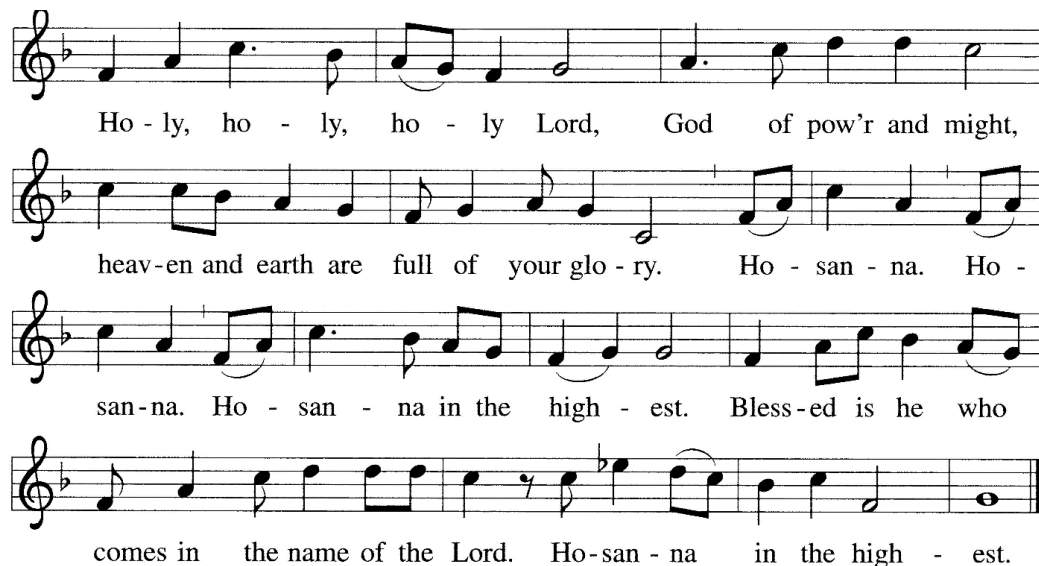
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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.

## EUCCHARISTIC 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.**

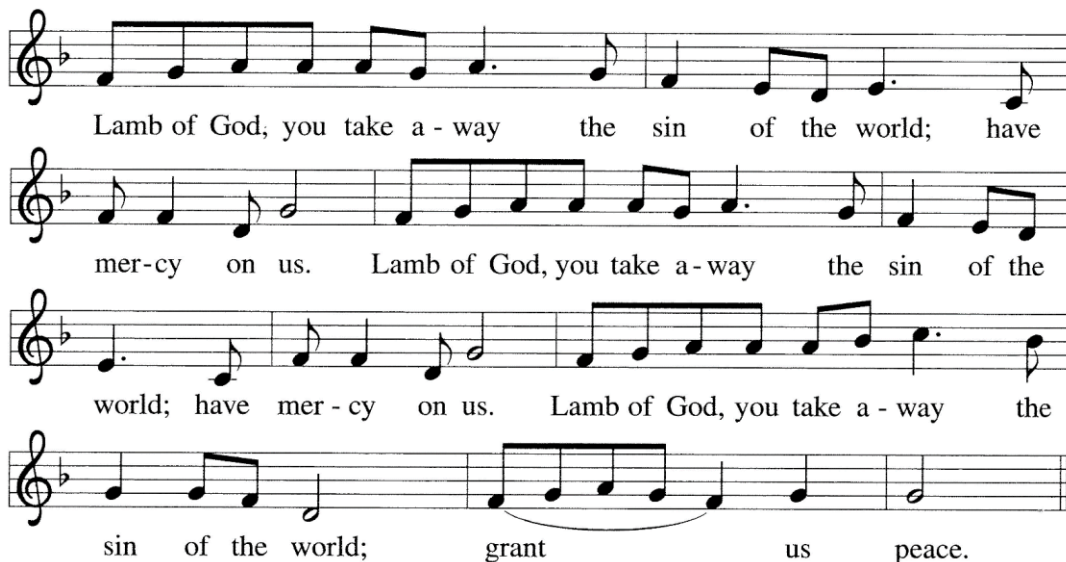
**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table of new life. Receive the risen Lord.

### LAMB OF GOD *Please SIT*



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

***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.*



1 Oh, love, how deep, how broad, how high, be - yond all  
 2 God sent no an - gel to our race, of high - er  
 3 For us bap - tized, for us he bore his ho - ly  
 4 For us he prayed; for us he taught; for us his



thought and fan - ta - sy, that God, the Son of  
 or of low - er place, but wore the robe of  
 fast and hun - gered sore; for us temp - ta - tion  
 dai - ly works he wrought, by words and signs and



God, should take our mor - tal form for mor - tals' sake!  
 hu - man frame, in Christ our Lord to this world came.  
 sharp he knew; for us the tempt - er o - ver - threw.  
 ac - tions thus still seek - ing not him - self, but us.

5 For us by wickedness betrayed,  
 for us, in crown of thorns arrayed,  
 he bore the shameful cross and death;  
 for us he gave his dying breath.

6 For us he rose from death again;  
 for us he went on high to reign;  
 for us he sent his Spirit here  
 to guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

## "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

ELW 403



1 Like the mur - mur of the dove's song, like the chal - lenge of her  
 2 To the mem - bers of Christ's bod - y, to the branch - es of the  
 3 With the heal - ing of di - vi - sion, with the cease - less voice of



flight, like the vig - or of the wind's rush, like the  
 vine, to the church in faith as - sem - bled, to our  
 prayer, with the pow'r to love and wit - ness, with the



new flame's ea - ger might: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.  
 midst as gift and sign: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.  
 peace be - yond com - pare: come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

*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.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Assistant:* Let us pray together... Holy One,

**through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.**

**Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.**

**In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

## SENDING

### BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, ✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

### SENDING HYMN

### “I Come with Joy”

ELW 482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

### DISMISSAL

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

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

### POSTLUDE

“Come, Thou Font”

arr. C. E. Walz

## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

**Presider:** The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Corbin Monfre  
**Lector:** Curtis Dowty + **Crucifer:** Keith Kniepkamp + **Chalice Bearer:** Mike Murakami  
**Tech Minister:** Greg Martens + **Ushers:** Danielle Tribout + **Safety Volunteer:** Tina Partelow  
**Organist:** Evelyn Duncan

### **All Praise to Thee** by Thomas Tallis, arr. Marie Pooler

*All praise to thee, our God and King,  
For all the blessings thou dost bring,  
For loving care thou dost bestow  
On all thy creatures here below.*

*We thank thee, Lord, for thy dear son,  
For all the goodness he hath done,  
For all the sorrow he hath borne,  
For joy he brings to men forlorn.*

*All this for us thy love hath done,  
By this to thee our love is won,  
For this thy loving children sing.  
Our thanks and praise to thee we bring.*

*Teach us to live that we might be  
Most faithful followers of thee.  
Keep us, O keep us, King of Kings,  
Beneath thine own almighty wings.*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

## Prayer Intentions

### Members

Ken Augustine, Eleanor Benton, Mary Boxdorfer, Rob Buck, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Art Engelage, Michael Foppe, Greg Guenther, Morris Kugler, Diane Maes, Bruce Martens, Greg Martens, Diane Martens, Lucy Montgomery, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Cohen Summers, Carol and Gary Weshinskey

### Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Bert Alvarez, Stellamarie Bearth, John Belz, Jim Boeving, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Patrick Campbell, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Josh Gansmann, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Glenna Hamilton, Andrea Hendrix, Jamie House, Jimmy Jurgens, Austin Lickenbrock, Dusty Little, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Bobby McCall, Don McCoy, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Linda Munn, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Lana Perry, Larry Powers, Goldie Rideout, Jerry Robbins, Darrell Robinson, Sarah and Family, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, Denise Sebastian, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Tom Stookey, Ingrid Thompson, David Vaught, Toni Walston, Louise Wilson, Margie Wilson, Molly Witherell, Karen Woolf, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

### Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Ethan Collins, Tom Fox, Taiylar Foppe Merrel, Josh Merrel, Ryan McKenzie, Amy Morgan

### Members celebrating birthdays this week

Rachelle Husch (5/17), Kathy Rothgangel (5/21), Melanie Robison (5/21), and June Isselhardt (5/23)

### Members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this week:

Brian & Melanie Robison (5/18)

# Mark Times

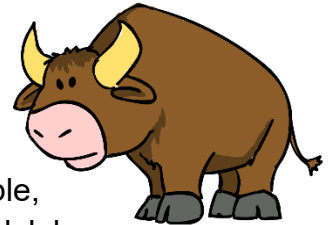
## News & Notes for May 17, 2026

### THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>Monday, May 18:</b>	2:30PM	Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
<b>Tuesday, May 19:</b>	5:00PM	Food Pantry Meeting – Conference Room
<b>Wednesday, May 20:</b>	10:15AM	Wellness Meeting – Conference Room
<b>Thursday, May 21:</b>	4:15PM	Chancel choir rehearsal
	6:00PM	Yoga – Parish Hall

### Adult Forum: *An Ode to Oxen*

On what are traditionally called “Rogation Days,” the church has historically offered particular prayers around planting season in hopes of being blessed with an eventual good harvest. It is with this in mind that Pastor Brian offers **today’s Adult Forum, *An Ode to Oxen***. Cattle are a big deal in the Hebrew Bible, and the ox was a central biblical animal—an embodiment of how connected land, labor, worship, and power were. Join us in the Parish Hall after worship and see the ox as you never have before – **and that’s no bull!**



### ConGRADulations Graduates!

Our sincerest best wishes and prayers for God’s blessings upon this year’s graduates:

**Tucker Downen** – Belleville East High School (*will attend Kansas University*)  
**Ellie Geppert** – Belleville West High School (*will attend Saint Louis University*)  
**Kylie Martens** – Freeburg Middle School (*will attend Freeburg High School*)



### Belleville Summer Sack Lunch Program is Back!

We’re partnering again with Westview Baptist to provide **free lunches for low-income kids!**

**Donations:** Individually packaged Cheez-Its, chips, pretzels, nut-free cookies (homemade cookies are welcome!), and juice pouches (e.g., Capri Sun). Drop off at church or contact **Sherri Foppe** for other arrangements.

+ **Monetary gifts welcome:** Give to Sherri, Ann Martens, or online: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YT91/campaign/C-15AC7>

+ **Volunteers Needed for...**

**Packing:** Wednesdays, 5–5:45 PM @ Westview Baptist

**Delivery:** Thursdays, 10:35 AM–1 PM

**Dates:** June 1–Aug 7 (weekly)

+ Sign-up in Parish Hall!

**Info:** Sherri (618)791-6148 | [cookinsherri2@gmail.com](mailto:cookinsherri2@gmail.com) or Ann (618)235-7762 | [ga72mart@charter.net](mailto:ga72mart@charter.net)

## St. Mark Logo Wear

If you missed the chance to purchase St. Mark logo wear (t-shirts, sweatshirts, polo shirts), the online ordering option remains active at <https://www.richsstitchesemb.com/store.php>.

## ♪ Music Notes ♪

There will be an opening for **one new bell player** in the fall. If you can read music even a little and would like to play bells, see director Carol Kugler.

It would also be wonderful to have new singers join the Chancel Choir. No requirements other than being able to carry a tune and a love for singing!

On another note, **many thanks and much appreciation to all members of both choirs for sharing their time and talent all season long.** Kudos!

## Patriotic Potluck – Save the Date!

This year's "patriotic potluck" will be held in the Parish Hall on **Saturday, June 27** from **4:00PM-6:00PM**. Watch for a sign-up sheet for attendance and dishes to be out soon.

## Singing at Care Facilities

Consider joining the group of us traveling to **EverVella** (formerly Mercy/Rosewood) **Rehab & Care Center** (Swansea) and **another location to be determined** on **Sunday, July 5** to **sing** some patriotic songs and other favorite melodies. More information coming soon!

## Reflection on this Week's Readings

Looking skyward is a ready trope in cinema. Recent examples include *Nope*, the story of a family of Black horse ranchers and a mysterious something stalking their herds. Another is *Don't Look Up*, a tragicomedy that follows a group of scientists as they struggle to prepare humanity to face a planet-killing asteroid. Then there's *What Do We See When We Look at the Sky?*—a dreamy, modern fairy tale about love and perception from the nation of Georgia. This week, reflect on the many reasons we look to the sky, be it in worry, defiance, wonder, and more.

– from *Sundays & Seasons*



**St. Mark Offerings for 5/10:** General Fund: **\$18,283**; Coffee Fund: \$46

