ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

November 16, 2025

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

"SHINE" CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (1ST SATURDAYS-CHAPEL)

SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM
EDUCATION HOUR: 10:30AM

105 EAST "D" STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220
EMAIL: WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG

THE REV. BRIAN M. ROBISON, PASTOR
THE REV. RONALD C. NEUSTADT, PASTOR EMERITUS

+ **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 *"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"* *Dykes/arr. Hayes*

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.**

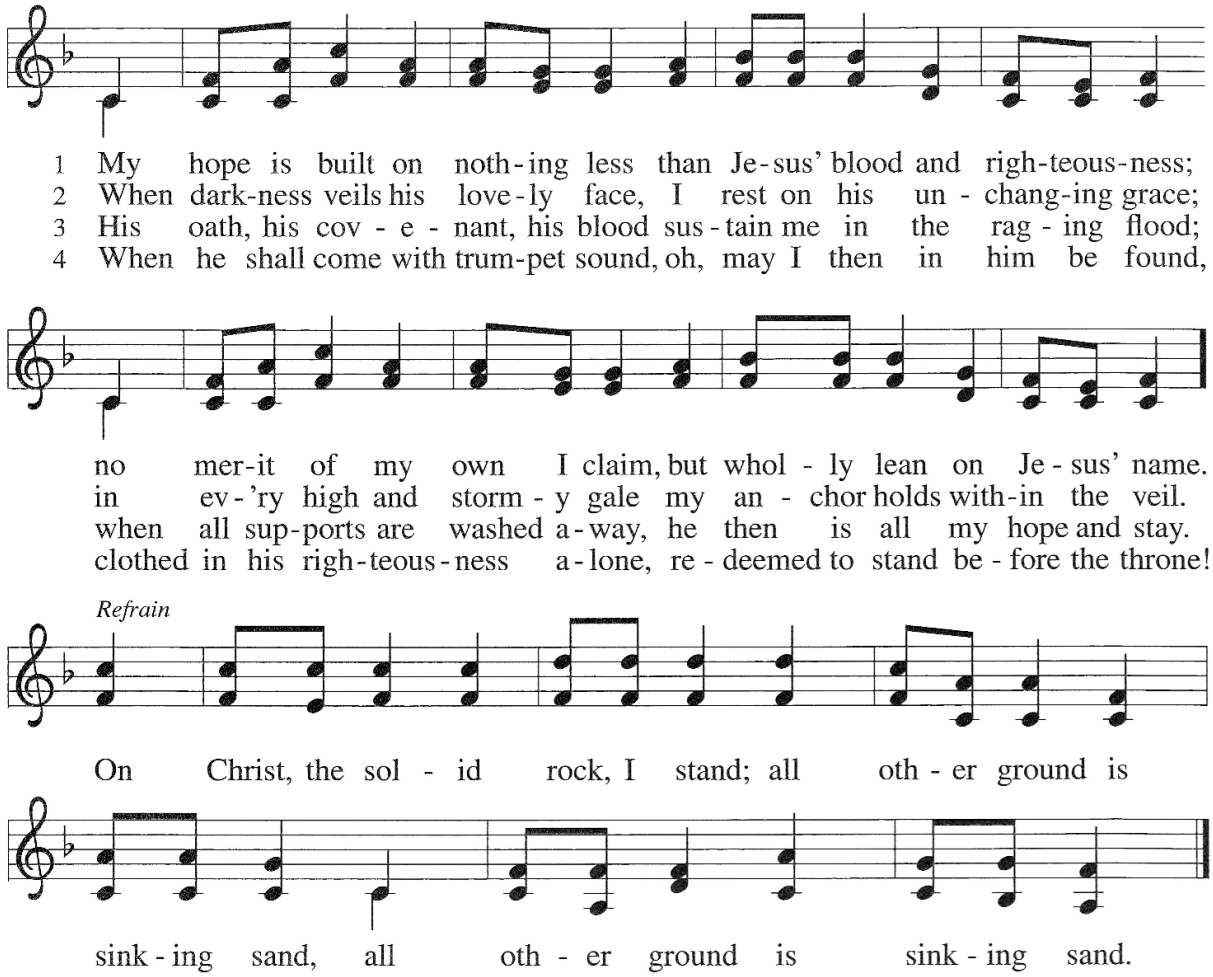
Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Please **KNEEL**, *or* **remain as you are**. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God, **you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths.**
We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises.
We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth.
We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.
Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, in Christ + Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN *Please* **STAND** **"My Hope is Built on Nothing Less"** **ELW 596**



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 eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Following the prayer, please **SIT.**

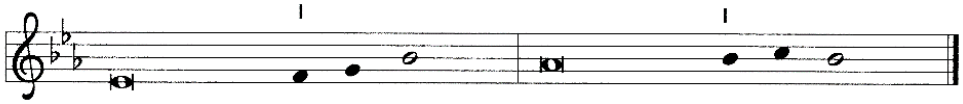
WORD

FIRST READING: Malachi 4:1-2a

[1] See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. [2a] But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

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

PSALM 17:1-9 *chanted responsively between choir and congregation*



[1] Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done | marvelous things,
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.
[2] **O Lord, you have made | known your victory,**
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.
[3] You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.
[4] **Shout with joy to the Lord, | all you lands;**
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.
[5] Sing to the Lord | with the harp,
with the harp and the | voice of song.
[6] **With trumpets and the sound | of the horn**
shout with joy before the | king, the Lord.
[7] Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,
the world and those who | dwell therein.
[8] **Let the rivers | clap their hands,**
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who comes to | judge the earth.
[9] The Lord will judge the | world with righteousness
and the peo- | ples with equity.

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

6 Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away
from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they
received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not
irresponsible when we were with you, 8 and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it,
but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. 9 This
was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. 10 For
even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not
eat. 11 For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any
work. 12 Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work
quietly and to earn their own living. 13 Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

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

GOSPEL: Luke 21:5-19

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

5 When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts
dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, 6 "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not
one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

7 They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take
place?" 8 And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and
say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

9 "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place
first, but the end will not follow immediately." 10 Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against
nation and kingdom against kingdom; 11 there will be great earthquakes and in various places
famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.
12 "But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to
synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my
name. 13 This will give you an opportunity to testify. 14 So make up your minds not to prepare
your defense in advance, 15 for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents
will be able to withstand or contradict. 16 You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by

relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. [17] You will be hated by all because of my name. [18] But not a hair of your head will perish. [19] By your endurance you will gain your souls."

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

SERMON "*Faith Beneath the Waves*" **The Rev. Brian M. Robison**

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

HYMN OF THE DAY "If You but Trust in God to Guide You" ELW 769

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 (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 "Hear us, O God," is* **"Your mercy is great"…**

Ken Augustine, **Eleanor** Benton, **Toni** Brendel, **Gary** Dozier, **Evelyn** Duncan, **Art** Engelage, **Ivan** Kohlmeier, **Bruce** Martens, **Kim** Palmer, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Cohen** Summers, **Carol** Weshinskey**, Gary** Weshinskey

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.*

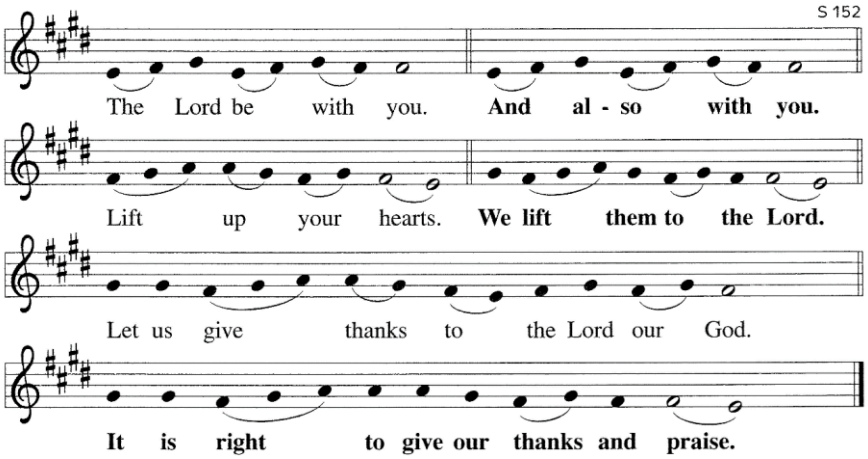
MEN'S CHORUS *"Victory in Jesus"* *By Bartlett; Arr. by Lister*

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

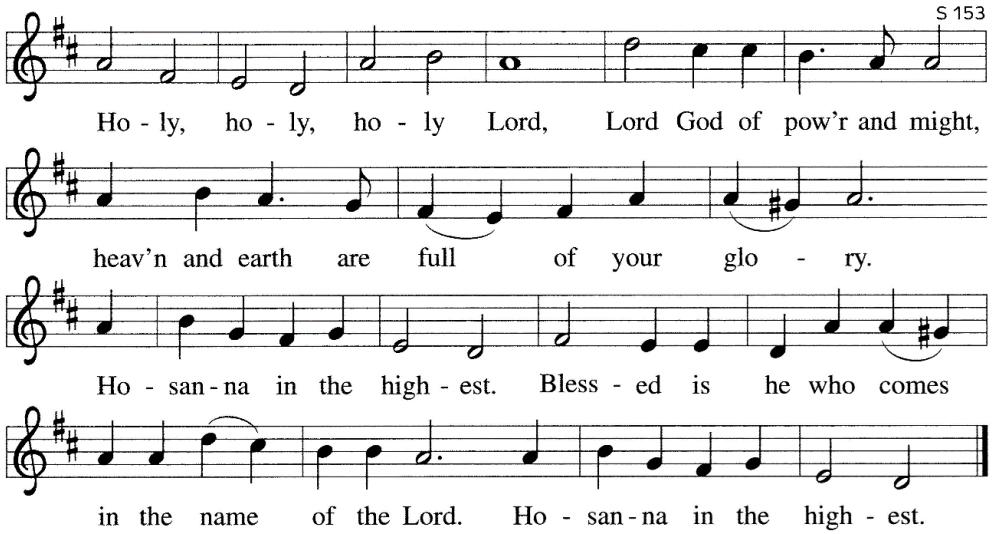
Assistant: Let us pray together…

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

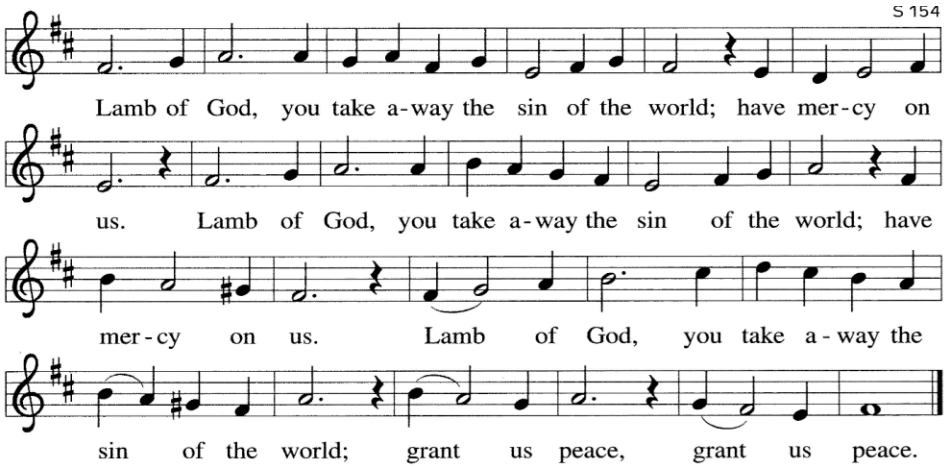
THE LORD'S PRAYER *traditional*

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, the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the table of God.
Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life everlasting.

LAMB OF GOD *Please* **SIT**



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.*

SONGS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

"Light Dawns on a Weary World" ELW 726

CHANCEL CHOIR *The Voice of God* *by Lloyd Larson/Jan McGuire*

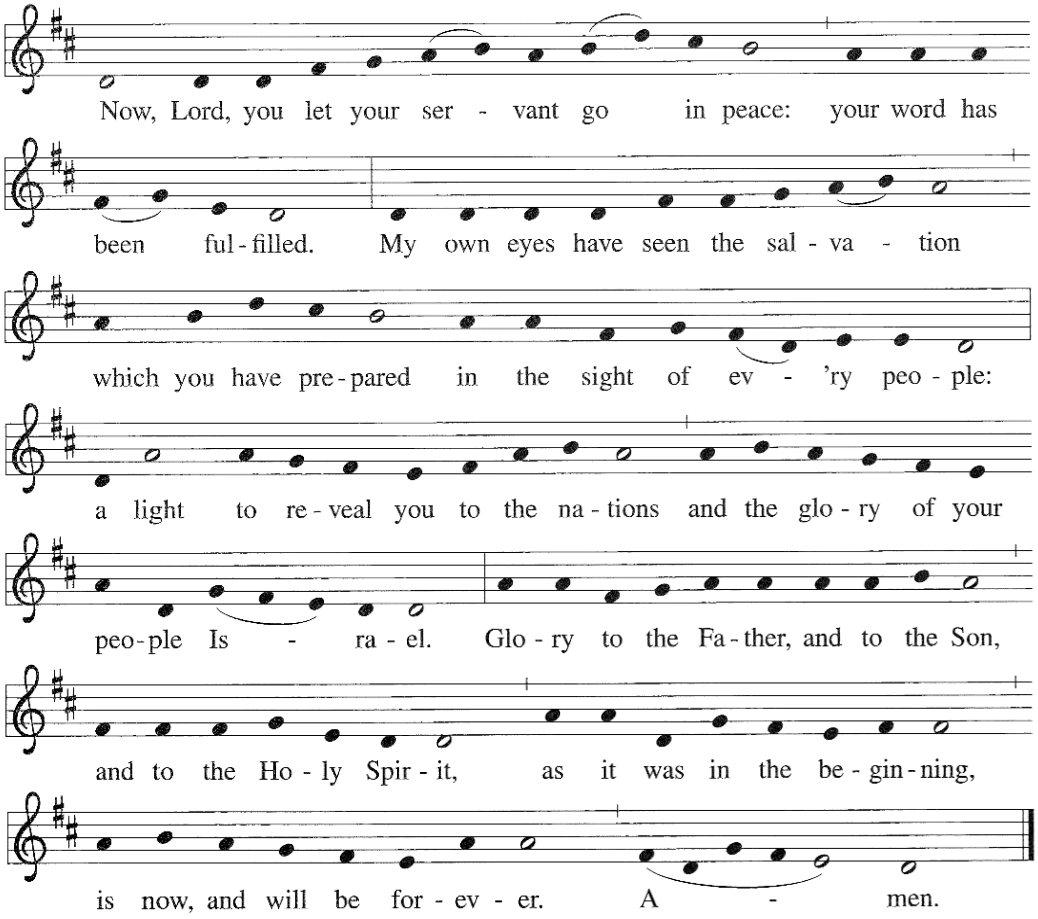
Lyrics can be found on page 10 of this bulletin

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 **"Now Lord"** **ELW 201**



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Assistant: Let us pray together…

God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world.
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst,
and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you,
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.
May the Holy Trinity bless + you and grant you a faithful and courageous heart,

now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN **"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"** **ELW 756**

ANNOUNCMENTS

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart. **Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE *"Rigaudon"* *Campre/arr. Wolff*

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presider & Preacher: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Sherri Foppe
Lector: Terry Tribout + **Crucifer:** Keith Kniepkamp + **Chalice Bearer:** Mike Murakami
Tech Minister: Aaron Fuchs + **Safety Volunteer:** Frank Dressel
Ushers: Danielle Tribout & Curt Gansmann + **Organist**: Evelyn Duncan

The Voice of God

By Jan McGuire, *Music by* Lloyd Larson

In ev'ry local language, in ev'ry native tongue,
God hears the hearts of people and speaks to ev'ryone
The limits of our language God easily transcends.
Love hears our weakest whimper and always comprehends.

Refrain: God speaks in ev'ry language to all both far and near.
With words of grace and mercy Love longs for all to hear.
But whether still and quiet or with a mighty sound,
Wherever love is spoken the voice of God is found.

The languages of nature, of land and sky and sea,
Of all the living creatures, God speaks them fluently.
All that God created in diff'rent ways,
even trees and mountains can offer up their praise! *Refrain.*

God speaks at times with thunder and mighty rushing wind
At other times, a whisper, a gentle thought within.
But whether still and quiet or with a mighty sound,
Wherever love is spoken the voice of God is found.

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Prayer Intentions

St. Mark Members

Ken Augustine, Eleanor Benton, Toni Brendel, Gary Dozier, Evelyn Duncan, Art Engelage, Ivan Kohlmeier, Bruce Martens, Kim Palmer, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Cohen Summers, Carol and Gary Weshinskey

St. Mark Family and Friends

Dennis Althardt, Stellamarie Bearth, Bonnie Baete, John Belz, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Josh Gansmann, Marge Gardner, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Donna Greenwell, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Andrea Hendrix, Jamie House, Jimmy Jurgens, Austin Lickenbrock, Dusty Little, Joe Luffman, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall, Don McCoy, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Linda Munn, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Debbie & Larry Powers, Goldie Rideout, Darrell Robinson, Shirley Saia, Sarah and Family, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, Denise Sebastian, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Ingrid Thompson, Bob Vaughn, David Vaught, Toni Walston, Louise Wilson, Margie Wilson, Karen Woolf, Wilma Woolf, Jeanie Workman, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military

Taiylar Foppe Merrel, Josh Merrel, Ryan McKenzie

Members who celebrate birthdays this week

Nancy Ypma (11/16), Mike Murakami (11/17), Tyler Collins (11/22), and Joe Monfre (11/22)

Members who celebrate Wedding Anniversaries this week

Diane & Robert Maes (11/16)

St. Mark Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Pastor *Emeritus***: The Rev. Ronald C. Neustadt
Administrative Assistant: Randi Cardoza + **Music Director**: Carol Kugler
Organist: Evelyn Duncan + **Parish Nurse:** Becky Schnitzius, RN

MARK TIMES

NEWS and NOTES for November 16, 2025

Sunday, Nov. 16:	4:00PM	Wally Kleist funeral (Visitation 2:30-4p) – *at St. Mark*
Tuesday, Nov. 17:	2:30PM	Fiber Arts at Westfield Manor
Thursday, Nov. 20:	4:00PM	Men's Chorus
	4:30PM	Chancel choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
	6:00PM	Yoga – Parish Hall
Friday, November 14:		Annual reports due
Saturday, Nov. 22:	1:30PM	Scouting for Food drive

Let's Have a PUMPKIN PALOOZA!

TODAY Sunday, November 16, our eagerly anticipated **pumpkin bake sale** between and after all three services is back, with proceeds to **benefit our combined Food Pantry**. **Bake**, **shop**, and join the fun!

Adult Forum: *Radon Safety*

Did you know that the colorless, odorless gas **RADON** is the **SECOND-leading cause** of **lung cancer**?? And yet it remains a problem that is easy to dismiss as irrelevant – until it's too late. In this morning's Adult Forum, **Dan Schnitzius** gives an overview of radon and the threat it poses, and actions to be considered before you become an unwitting victim.

Boy Scout Food Drive 11/22

This year's Boy Scout Food Drive is on **Saturday, November 22**. We need **volunteers** to help **sort food** in the **Parish Hall** for a couple of hours starting at about **1:30PM.**

"Angel Tree" Project with Lutheran Child and Family Services (LCFS)

St. Mark and St. George's are again participating in the Angel Tree Project Christmas Drive through LCFS. The project provides Christmas gifts to especially needy families in our area. *Children's names/wish lists with Information/Instructions and gift tags attached are in the narthex.*

Remember, you are not asked to provide everything on the child's wish list—**a $60 limit per child** is recommended. However, we realize that may not be possible for many so please consider asking other members, family members or neighbors to share the joy of Christmas with you!

Please attach the child's name/wish sheet to the UNWRAPPED gift to be **returned by Sunday, December 7**, and earlier if possible. Gift wrap and/or gift bags may also be donated.

Please contact Sherri Foppe 618-791-6148 cookinsherri2@gmail.com or Ann Martens 618-530-8679 if you have any questions. Monetary gifts will be accepted for those who prefer not to shop, and may be given to Ann or Sherri. Donations for gifts may also be given online at https://shorturl.at/usHZG

Advent Evening Prayer Service & Soup Suppers return **Wednesday, December 3**. Plan to come enjoy a hot meal of soup and salad at 6:00PM in the Parish Hall before joining us in the church for Holden Evening Prayer. **Get a group together and host one of the soup suppers!** A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall near the coffee stand.

Proclaim Christ's birth with flowers!

Anyone wishing to donate should watch for a special envelope in the pews, fill out the front portion and return it, with a check/cash, to the offering plate or the office by 12/18 with "Christmas Flowers" in the memo line. *Online donations may be made through VANCO at https://shorturl.at/ar1Ss. All dedications will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

Meals on Wheels Needs Help!

The Meals-On-Wheels services provided out of our Parish Hall need more volunteers, particularly on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Please see Frank Dressel or David Buckley about serving those for whom this food may be the only substantial meal of the day.

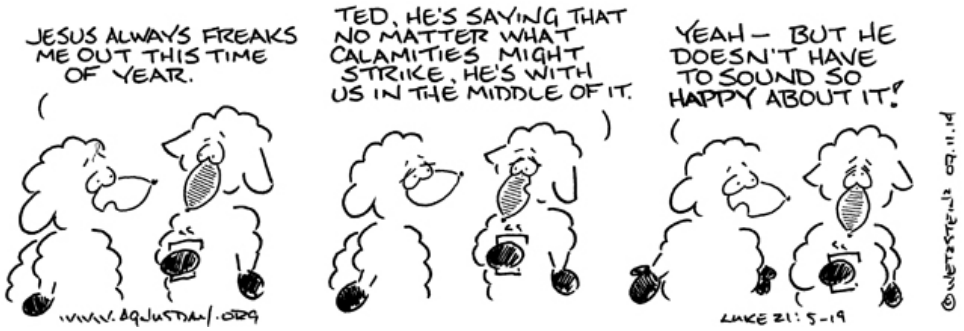
Franklin School Lunch Packing

We pack 20 bag lunches for needy students at Franklin school for all long weekends, and we welcome volunteers! Packing requires about an hour on the day before most holiday weekends. See Peggy Andersen (618-791-0992) to sign up or for questions. Your support is so much appreciated!

Christmas Caroling on December 7

On **Sunday, December 7**, you're invited to join a group of us to sing Christmas carols to the residents of two local long-term care facilities, including some of our own church members. We will meet at **1:50PM** at **EverVella** Care Center (formerly Mercy, formerly Rosewood) in Swansea for our first stop. **All ages are welcome!**

Advent Lessons & Carols

Please join us **Sunday, December 14** at **5:00PM** for our annual service of Advent Lessons & Carols with St. George's. This traditional service is a wonderful way to celebrate the season, with beautiful hymns and scripture passages to guide and focus us in our time of preparation for Christmas and the Lord's return. The service is especially appropriate for inviting friends and family, particularly those who might be searching for "something more" this holiday. A wine and cheese reception will follow.

Offerings (11/9): General Fund: $5,327; Food Pantry: $25; John Andersen Memorials: $50; Coffee Fund: $109