

**ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
and  
**ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
welcome you!

March 5,  
2025



Ash  
Wednesday

**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**SATURDAY**

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

**SUNDAY**

**THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM (ST. MARK)**

**EDUCATION HOUR: 10:30 AM (ST. MARK)**

**HOLY EUCHARIST: 8:00AM & 10:30AM (ST. GEORGE'S)**

**EDUCATION HOUR: 9:00AM (ST. GEORGE'S)**

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

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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.

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The assembly **STANDS** as the ministers enter in silence, then **KNEEL** for the psalm.

**PSALM 51:1-17** *spoken responsively by whole verse*

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your lovingkindness;  
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.

**<sup>2</sup>Wash me through and through from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.

**<sup>4</sup>Against you only have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight.**

<sup>5</sup>And so you are justified when you speak and upright in your judgment.

**<sup>6</sup>Indeed, I have been wicked from my birth,  
a sinner from my mother's womb.**

<sup>7</sup>For behold, you look for truth deep within me, and will make me understand wisdom secretly.

**<sup>8</sup>Purge me from my sin, and I shall be pure;  
wash me, and I shall be clean indeed.**

<sup>9</sup>Make me hear of joy and gladness,  
that the body you have broken may rejoice.

**<sup>10</sup>Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out all my iniquities.**

<sup>11</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

**<sup>12</sup>Cast me not away from your presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.**

<sup>13</sup>Give me the joy of your saving help again  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.

**<sup>14</sup>I shall teach your ways to the wicked,  
and sinners shall return to you.**

<sup>15</sup>Deliver me from death, O God,  
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness, O God of my salvation.

**<sup>16</sup>Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

<sup>17</sup>Had you desired it, I would have offered sacrifice,  
but you take no delight in burnt-offerings.

**<sup>18</sup>The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

## GREETING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy 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.**

*The assembly is SEATED.*

## **WORD**

### **FIRST READING: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17**

<sup>1</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion;

    sound the alarm on my holy mountain!

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,

    for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—

<sup>2</sup>a day of darkness and gloom,

    a day of clouds and thick darkness!

Like blackness spread upon the mountains

    a great and powerful army comes;

their like has never been from of old,

    nor will be again after them in ages to come.

<sup>12</sup>Yet even now, says the LORD,

    return to me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

<sup>13</sup>rend your hearts and not your clothing.

Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,

    slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

<sup>14</sup>Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him,

a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD, your God?

<sup>15</sup>Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a solemn assembly; <sup>16</sup>gather the people.

Sanctify the congregation;

    assemble the aged; gather the children, even infants at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room, and the bride her canopy.

<sup>17</sup>Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.

Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD, and do not make your heritage a mockery,

    a byword among the nations.

Why should it be said among the peoples, "Where is their God?"

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

**PSALM 103:8-14** *spoken responsively by whole verse*

<sup>8</sup> The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

<sup>9</sup> **He will not always accuse,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.**

<sup>10</sup> He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.

<sup>11</sup> **For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love towards those who fear him;**

<sup>12</sup> as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he removes our transgressions from us.

<sup>13</sup> **As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.**

<sup>14</sup> For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.

**SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10**

We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>6:1</sup>As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

"At an acceptable time I have listened to you,  
and on a day of salvation I have helped you."

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.*

**GOSPEL VERSE** *spoken*

**Return to the Lord your God,  
who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger,  
and abounding in steadfast love.**

**HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

*As the gospel is announced, you may trace a small cross on your forehead, lips and chest, a prayer that the Word may dwell in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.*

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

<sup>2</sup>"So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>3</sup>But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, <sup>4</sup>so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup>"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>6</sup>But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>16</sup>"And whenever you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces so as to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. <sup>17</sup>But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, <sup>18</sup>so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

<sup>19</sup>"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; <sup>20</sup>but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*The Very Rev. Mark Ohlemeier  
Rector, St. George's Episcopal Church*

**Evening service only:** *Following the sermon, the assembly STANDS to proclaim the word of God in song.*

HYMN OF THE DAY (Evening service only)

“Our Father, We Have Wandered”

ELW 606



1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;  
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,  
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,



in fool-ish-ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.  
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.  
com-pas-sion-ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,



But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,  
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,  
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.



as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.  
in glad-ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.  
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

INVITATION TO LENT

*The assembly is or remains SEATED. The presiding minister invites the assembly into the discipline of Lent.*

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed.

We begin this holy season by acknowledging our need for repentance and for God's mercy. We are created to experience joy in communion with God, to love one another, and to live in harmony with creation. But our sinful rebellion separates us from God, our neighbors, and creation, so that we do not enjoy the life our creator intended.

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent - self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love - strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us now confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection. The assembly may **KNEEL** or remain **SEATED**.*

Most holy and merciful God,

**we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned by our fault, by our own fault, by our own most grievous fault, in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

**Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.**

## IMPOSITION OF ASHES

*People may come forward and kneel or stand to receive the ashes. If you would like ashes to be brought to you in your pew, please inform an usher. Ministers mark the forehead of each person with a cross of ashes, saying:*



Remember that you are dust,  
and to dust you shall return.

## MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES (Evening service only)

### “Wait for the Lord”

ELW #262

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

*After all who desire have received ashes, the minister continues. The assembly may **KNEEL** or **STAND**.*

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,  
**that we may show forth your glory in the world.**

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,  
**bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive + us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.  
**Amen.**

The assembly **STANDS**.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*The response to “God, in your mercy,” is “**Hear our prayer.**”*

**PEACE** *The assembly is invited to share God’s peace with one another.*

*After the sharing of peace, the assembly is **SEATED**.*

## CHOIR ANTHEM “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me” (evening service only)

*Offerings may be placed in the **wooden box** on the table near the baptismal font at any time.  
Today’s collections benefit the **St. Mark & St. George’s Food Pantry.***



**OFFERTORY** *Spoken in unison* *Please STAND.*

**What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows on the Lord now in the presence of all his people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

*Assistant:* **Let us pray. Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

**And also 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 him thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

On this day of ashes, we turn our hearts again to you, O God, acknowledging our sin, our frailty, and our need for mercy. You formed us from the dust and breathed into us the breath of life. Yet we have turned away, choosing paths of selfishness, injustice, and fear. Still, your love remains steadfast.

In Jesus Christ, you entered into our suffering, bearing our burdens, carrying our sorrows, leading us from death to life. Through his cross, you set us free from sin's power, and through his resurrection, you open the way to everlasting life.

And so, with the church on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come, receive Christ's mercy—bread for the journey, grace for the broken.

## LAMB OF GOD

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace. Amen.**

## COMMUNION Please be SEATED

*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.*

## HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION: *(Evening service only)*

### "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

ELW 599



1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,



from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.  
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.  
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

*Following communion, 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.**

### POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE *spoken in unison*

**Lord, now you let your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.**

**My own eyes have seen the salvation**

**which you have prepared in the sight of every people:**

**A light to reveal you to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Assistant:* Let us pray together... Merciful God, **accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### SENDING

### BLESSING

May God - our tender parent, the crucified one, the reconciling Spirit – Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**



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**SENDING HYMN** (*Evening service only*)

**“Lord, Teach Us to Pray Aright”**

**ELW 745**



1 Lord, teach us how to pray a - right, with rev - 'rence and with fear.  
2 We per - ish if we cease from prayer; oh, grant us pow'r to pray.  
3 Give deep hu - mil - i - ty; the sense of god - ly sor - row give;  
4 Faith in the on - ly sac - ri - fice that can for sin a - tone;  
5 Give these, and then your will be done; thus strength-ened with all might,



Though dust and ash - es in your sight, we may, we must draw near.  
And when to meet you we pre - pare, Lord, meet us on our way.  
a strong de - sire, with con - fi - dence, to hear your voice and live;  
to cast our hopes, to fix our eyes on Christ, on Christ a - lone.  
we, through your Spir - it and your Son, shall pray, and pray a - right.

*Turn to face the cross as it recesses. You may bow as it passes, honoring the mystery of our salvation.*

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** (*Evening service*)

*“Meditation”*

*by B. Portman*

**Ministers of the Liturgy**

**9:30AM Service**

**Presider:** The Rev. Brian Robison  
**Preacher:** The Rev. Mark Ohlemeier  
**Assisting Minister:** Greg Martens  
**Crucifer:** Joe Bono  
**Chalice Bearer:** Fr. Mark  
**Lector:** Kathy Rothgangel & David Buckley  
**Ushers:** TBD

**7:00PM Service**

**Presider:** The Rev. Brian Robison  
**Preacher:** The Rev. Mark Ohlemeier  
**Assisting Minister:** Greg Martens  
**Crucifer:** Walker Skaff  
**Chalice Bearer:** Fr. Mark  
**Lector:** Terry Tribout & Terry Paeltz  
**Ushers:** Nancy Guenther & Danielle Tribout

**Land Acknowledgement**

St. Mark Lutheran Church/St. George's Episcopal 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.