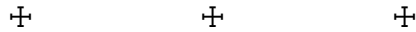




ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Mission

Growing Disciples - Making Christ Known



JANUARY 15, 2023

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

GATHERING

*Offerings may be placed in the plate at the sanctuary entrance.
The Offering will be brought forward by the ushers during the Offertory Anthem.*

Bold responses are spoken by the congregation.

Prelude

“Pastorale” from Partita on ‘O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright’

Tune by Philipp Nicolai; Setting by Michael Burkhardt

Please stand as able.

Processional Hymn “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” ELW 310

SALZBURG

1. Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise;
manifested by the star to the sages from afar,
branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem:
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
2. Manifest at Jordan's stream, prophet, priest, and king supreme;
and at Cana wedding guest in thy Godhead manifest;
manifest in pow'r divine, changing water into wine;
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
3. Manifest in making whole weakened body, fainting soul;
manifest in valiant fight, quelling all the devil's might;
manifest in gracious will, ever bringing good from ill:
anthems be to thee addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
4. Grant us grace to see thee, Lord, present in thy holy word;
grace to imitate thee now and be pure, as pure art thou;
that we might become like thee at thy great epiphany,
and may praise thee, ever blest, God in flesh made manifest.

Please be seated.

Welcome

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who makes all things new,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

The congregation may kneel or sit for the Confession. Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.
We have not practiced your righteousness.
Our hearts have turned away from you.**

**For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,
that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass
and new things I now declare.”

God's mercy makes us new.

We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.

Amen.

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. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Please stand as able.

Gospel Acclamation

“Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

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.

The Holy Gospel John 1:29-42

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁹The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! ³⁰This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” ³²And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.” ³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!” ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” ³⁹He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

“Come and see”

Pastor Timothy McKenzie

Please stand as able.

Hymn of the Day

“Lamb of God” (Your Only Son) ” ELW 336

YOUR ONLY SON

1. Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod and to become the Lamb of God.

Refrain: O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God.
Oh, wash me in your precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

2. Your gift of love we crucified. We laughed and scorned him as he died.
The humble king we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God. *Refrain*
3. I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod and to be called a lamb of God. *Refrain*

Text & Music: Twila Parish, b. 1958; © 1985 Straightway Music/Mountain Spring Music

The Apostles' Creed

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.**

The congregation may kneel or sit for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

(Pastor McKenzie, prayers)

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Put a new song in the mouth of your church. Inspire all the baptized to share the good news of your steadfast love to the ends of the earth. Bless the witness of missionaries, and the mission of each local congregation throughout the earth, to be a light to the nations. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

The waters of baptism call us into life in the Spirit. As Jesus was baptized, revealing the power of water and the word, guide us to protect all sources of water supporting plants, animals and the human communities that depend upon them, so that life may flourish as you have intended. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

In Jesus, you are the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Show your mercy as a light to all nations. Inspire national and global leaders to be servants to your will; fill governing bodies with righteousness; and equip judges with compassion and truth. Merciful God,
recieve our prayer.

You are the Lord of steadfast love; incline your ear to all who cry to you. To the ends of the earth, draw near to all suffering from violence and injustice, poverty and illness, war and death. Send healing and encouragement to: Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert

Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Shirley Larson, Diann Krewson, Mindy Curley, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Connie Pope, Arlene Fielding, Anthony Perrini, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Mickey Byrd, Christopher Shirley, Kaoru Otsubo, Joan Love, Tony Ananich, Betty Lentz, Jon McKenzie, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Sandy Simon, Ingrid Keiris, John Ananich, Sam Temple, Greg Bruce, and Helen Howard.
Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You are glorified in the servants you continue to call. We remember and give thanks for Martin Luther King Jr., who proclaimed the good news of your love for all people. Even when your gospel feels like a sharp sword or polished arrow, give us courage to repent of injustice, so that we might work for racial justice and an end to all forms of injustice and discrimination. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Everlasting Father, we praise you that Christ prepares a place for us in your kingdom. We offer you thanks for the life and witness of Michael Ray Brunner, father of Laura Foust. Welcome Michael into the blessedness of your eternal kingdom and may he share in the inheritance of the saints in light. Strengthen and comfort the extended Brunner and Foust families with the sure and certain hope of the resurrection of Christ Jesus. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.
Amen.

Peace *(Please stand as able, sharing the peace of the risen Christ.)*
The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING *(Offerings for the mission of the church, and those in need, may be placed in the plates at the sanctuary entrance)*

Please be seated.

Anthem “Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” from Cantata 147 Johann Sebastian Bach
Jesu, joy of man’s desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright, drawn by thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light. Word of God our flesh that fashion’d with the fire of life impassion’d. Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying, round thy throne. Through the way where hope is guiding, hark, what peaceful music rings, where the flock in thee confiding, drink of joy from deathless springs. Theirs is beauty’s fairest pleasure, theirs is wisdom’s holiest treasure. Thou dost ever lead thine own, in the love of joy unknown.

Offertory *(The offering is brought forward from the Narthex)*
“Christ, Be Our Light” ELW 715 **CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT**

Text & Music: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 ©1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Offering Prayer

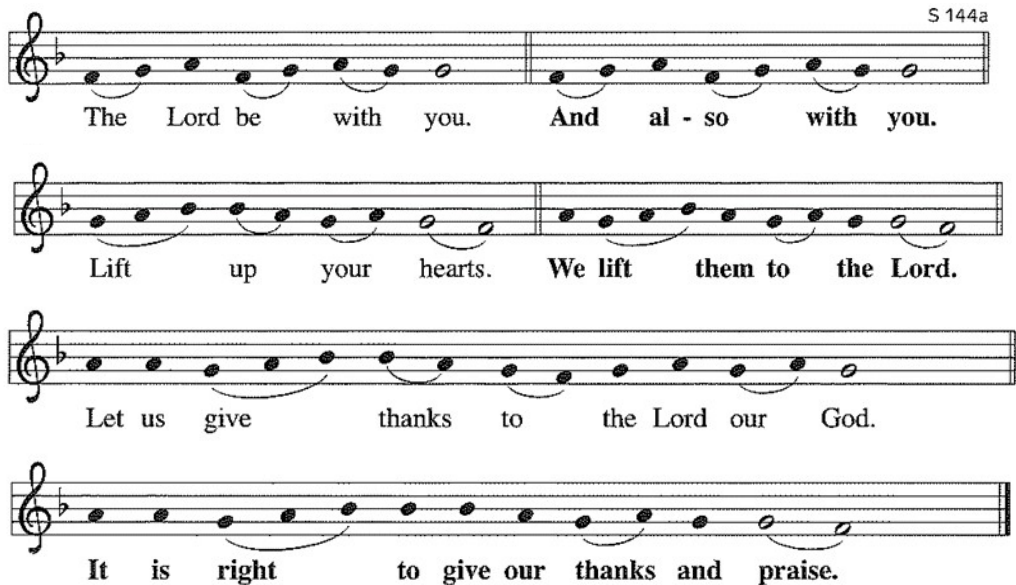
Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,
Amen.

Please stand as able.

Holy Communion

The 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.

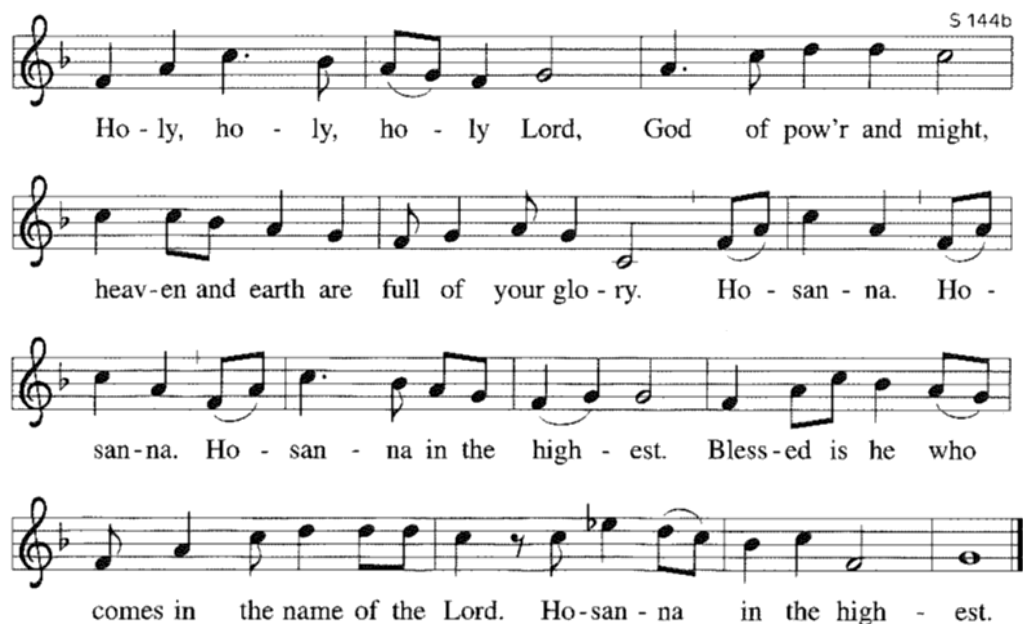
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

Sanctus

“Holy, Holy, Holy” from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

S 144b



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.

Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
Broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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

Come and taste the joy of God!

Please be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is offered continuously in front of the freestanding altar, or at the rail of the high altar in two ways, by "Communion Kit" or wafer and wine in a small cup. Please follow the ushers' prompts, walking forward to the desired communion station, and returning via the side aisles. If receiving a "kit" please seal the used utensils in the zip-lock bag, placing the bag after worship in the marked bowl in the Narthex. Gluten free wafers and grape juice are also available.

Communion Music "Lamb of God" from *Holy Communion Setting Three*

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.

“Fughetta” on ‘O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright’

Johann Christoph Bach

“Bicinium” on ‘O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright’

Michael Burkhardt

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Blessing

Post-Communion Prayer

Let us pray. Holy One, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

SENDING

SENDING BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod

✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

Amen.

Recessional Hymn “Rise, Shine, You People” ELW 665

WOJTKIEWIECZ

1. Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
our human story; God in him is centered. He comes to us,
by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.
2. See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;
he bring us freedom, light and life and healing. All men and
women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.
3. Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling. To all the
world go out and tell the story of Jesus' glory.
4. Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. Tell how the
Spirit calls from ev'ry nation God's new creation.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, slt.; Music: Dale Wood, 1934-2003; T&M: 1974 Augsburg Publishing House

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

Postlude “Maestoso” on ‘O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright’

Michael Burkhardt

✠ ✠ ✠

This service adapted/reprinted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, copyright 2019 Augsburg Fortress and *Sundays and Seasons*, copyright 2020 Augsburg Fortress. CCLI #11377824

Worship Leaders: Pastor Timothy McKenzie (prayers); crucifer/acolyte: Maddie Thompson; lector: Riley Smith; live streaming camera: Joe Barrett; soundboard: Alan Harms; ushers: Kenneth Williams, Larry Dagenhart, Jr., Alan Harms, Dale Hopp, Sally McCauley ; greeters: Joanne Marz, Millie Cansler; communion assistants: Ruth Barrett, Rebecca Huang, Chris & Brooks Stevenson, Nick Wartner; communion helper: Sandy Rach; tabulators: Alan Harms, Doug Milheim; musicians: St. Mark's Choir, Delenn Rumbolo, Christian Souza, cantors; Lester Ackerman, Director of Music Ministry and Organist

Next Sunday Leaders: prayer assistant: Melissa Smith; crucifer: tbd; acolyte: tbd; lector: Karen Feezor; live streaming camera: Ron Wenzel; soundboard: Kevin Feezor; ushers: Team D; greeters: Tom & Kay Sehorn, Michael & Tara Thompson; communion assistants: Barbara Baker, Lisa Barnette, Flora Chance, Cliff Edahl, Ken Hazen; communion helper: Catherine Metze; tabulators: Kevin Feezor, Charles Lakeman

✠ ✠ ✠

Parish News

Coming Up at St. Mark's

From the pastor -

"God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord." (1 Corinthians 1:9)

The season of Epiphany is four to nine weeks (depending on the date of Easter), lasting from the Feast of Epiphany (January 6) through the day before Ash Wednesday (this year, February 22). The season of Epiphany as a whole focuses upon the humanity and the divinity of Jesus Christ. At Epiphany, Jesus' birth is announced through the Magi to the nations, and the season continues to witness to the beginning of Jesus' ministry, his baptism, the calling of his disciples, and his proclamation of the good news. The focus of this season is ever outward toward the world and all nations, hinting at the scope of our proclamation and work as modern-day Christians. On the final Sunday of this season, The Transfiguration (February 19), we see the fullness of Christ's divinity revealed in his humanity, again hinting at the gift of his Spirit which dwells in us. Epiphany is a season in which we respond in faith and service to Jesus Christ, as his contemporary day disciples and messengers, always moving ever outward with faith active in love.

In the grace and peace of Christ,
Pastor Tim McKenzie
pastortimsmc@gmail.com

Worship and Congregational Life

Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The church office will be closed Monday 1/16, in recognition of the federal and state holiday commemorating the birth of Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. King is also commemorated on the Lutheran liturgical calendar on 1/15.

Annual Meeting, 1/29/2023 following the 10:30 service. 2022 Annual Report booklets are available in the Gathering Place. If possible, one per household, please.

The Ethnic Restaurant Group will dine at Mama Ricotta's Italian Restaurant on January 17th at 7:00 PM. Mama Ricotta's is located at 601 S Kings Dr, Charlotte, NC 28204. All people are welcome! Suggestion: bring a friend or neighbor and share the fun. Contact Tom & Judy Tolbert for reservations (803-230-7073, tomtolbert@comporium.net).

The St. Mark's Book Study Group will hold their first meeting of the year on January 26, 2023, at 10 am in the large conference room and via Zoom. Our study this month will be *The Women of Chateau Lafayette* by Stephanie Dray. This is an epic generational saga, based on the true story of an extraordinary castle in the heart of France and the remarkable women bound by its legacy in some of humanity's darkest hours. Protagonists include

French noblewoman Adrienne Lafayette in 1774, a New York socialite in 1914, and a French school-teacher and aspiring artist in 1940, all of whom are faced with the challenges and realities of the wars of their time. Their experiences and actions provide a sweeping novel about duty and hope, love and courage, and the strength we find from standing together on the shoulders of those who came before us. We welcome all who wish to participate in our exploration of new books. Please contact Judy Tolbert or Kay Sehorn for more information.

ROOM IN THE INN is just around the corner. We are concentrating on only the month of February to host 10 homeless men each Tuesday in that month. Volunteers will be needed to supply dinner, breakfast and bag lunches each week, and especially night sitters and van drivers. Please sign up in the Gathering Place. You can also help by donating men's deodorant.

The Christian Education Hour is at 9:30 am on Sundays. Please join us as you are able. Explore the life and faith of C. S. Lewis each Sunday at 9:30 in the Large Conference room. Examine Lewis's experiences with doubt, conversion, grief, and joy and how to apply those lessons today. Professor Michael Ward leads this video course based on Lewis's classic writings beginning 1/8.

"Hybrid Worship" is both in-person and online worship at the same time. The Holy Spirit gathers us both in-person and online as we continue to live together as the body of Christ during this pandemic.

Ushers for Sunday Worship The ministry of ushering is a crucial part of worship because it is one of the most visible ministries in the Church. Please Volunteer by contacting the church office or John Simon.

Online worship continues to be streamed every Sunday at 10:30 am on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/SaintMarksLutheran/>).

St. Mark's email list If you are not receiving emails from St. Mark's, we may not have your correct email address. Please contact the church to let us know. We send at least 2 emails every week.

Stewardship

2023 Stewardship Appeal If you have not done so, please prayerfully consider making a financial pledge of support for St. Mark's in 2023. Your pledge helps St. Mark's ministries of worship, service and fellowship continue over the coming year. Your pledge of support is welcome at any time. Pledge cards are available in the Gathering Place. An online pledge option is also available from our website, or you may use the QR code.

You may use the QR code at left (hover your phone camera to connect) for immediate access to St. Mark's website donation page. Pledges and donations for Altar Flowers may also be made using this code.



2023 Offering Envelopes are in the Gathering Place. If you do not see your envelope box, and would like one, please fill out the form provided and put it in the basket.

Altar Flower Sponsorship If you would like to sponsor live flowers for our Sunday worship service, please sign up on the calendar by the mailbox room or contact the church office.

Social Ministry

We continue to remember the hungry and homeless through our social ministries.

Habitat for Humanity We need your help! The Habitat build is on schedule, and we successfully served lunch to the volunteers on November 12, BUT we are very short of our \$2,000 commitment to the build. If at all possible, please send a donation check to the church office with "Habitat" noted on the memo line. We would like to fulfill our portion of the needed funds. Thank you for your consideration of the appeal.

Loaves and Fishes Please remember families who need some assistance putting food on the table every day. Let's continue to overflow our baker's rack with non-perishable, **non-breakable** food items. Or you can leave your donation by the choir room door from 10:00 - 2:00 Monday - Thursday. "I was hungry and you gave me food" Matt.25:35

Soup Kitchen St. Mark's Soup Kitchen is serving lunch in the Fellowship Hall every Thursday for our neighbors. If you would like to serve, please contact us. You may also support the Soup Kitchen through financial donations sent to the church, or through

St. Mark's online giving portal. Help us share God's love!

Youth and Family Ministry

Youth Classes

Sundays at 9:30: Youth Group in the Youth Room. Godly Play has been temporarily paused.

Confirmation Class meets every other Sunday at 9:30.

Announcements

Open Eyes Help Everyone! If you see leaking pipes or something amiss in the building, please contact the church office.

Scam Alert We have again seen a rise in people

posing as the pastor or a member of St. Mark's, asking for a reply or to click on an encrypted file. Please do not reply to any email or click on any attachment that seems suspicious. Also please know that the church staff will never ever solicit from you. If you are ever in doubt, please call the church (704-375-9185), or email the church office immediately. Thank you!
(stmarkselca1001@gmail.com).

AA meets Monday nights "Third Tradition", 7 p.m., in the Fellowship Hall; Wednesday nights "Just the Basics", 7:30 p.m. in Room 210; Thursday nights "Not a Glum Lot", 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Music Notes

"Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" ELW 310 This hymn received its first publication in 1862 in the journal *The Holy Year* by Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885). "Epiphany" means "manifestation" of Christ to the world, and the author used "manifest" twelve times to describe Christ's birth, baptism, appearance at the wedding feast of Cana, healing the sick, and his powers over evil. Thus this hymn becomes not only praise to God, but a time to learn more about Epiphany and about Christ himself. The tune **SALZBURG** is a late-seventeenth century German tune, probably written by Jakob Hintze (1622-1702), and the harmonization in our *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* is based on a setting by Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750).

This Week: From the Lutheran Church Calendar

January 15, Martin Luther King, Jr., renewer of society, martyr, (1929-1968)

Martin Luther King, Jr. is remembered as an American prophet of justice among peoples and nations, a Christian whose faith undergirded his advocacy of vigorous yet nonviolent action for racial equality. A pastor of churches in Montgomery, Alabama, and Atlanta, Georgia, his witness was taken to the streets in other such places as Birmingham, Alabama, where he was arrested and jailed while protesting against segregation. Dr. King preached nonviolence and demanded that love be returned for hate. Awarded the Nobel Prize in 1964, he was murdered on April 4, 1968 in Memphis. Though most commemorations are held on the date of the person's death, many churches hold commemorations near Dr. King's birth date on January 15, in conjunction with the American civil holiday honoring him.

January 17, Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church (251-356)

Anthony was born in Qemen-al-Arous, Upper Egypt, and was one of the earliest Egyptian desert fathers. Born to Christian parents from whom he inherited a large estate, he took personally Jesus' message to sell everything, give to the poor, and follow Christ. After making arrangement to provide for the care of his sister, he gave away his inheritance and became a hermit. Later, he became the head of a group of monks that lived in community, devoting themselves to communal prayer, worship and manual labor, distributing their earned income as alms. Anthony and his monks also preached and counseled those who sought them out. Anthony and the desert fathers are a reminder of the call for Christians to also be able to renounce the world in service to Christ. The writings of the Desert Fathers are available from several publishers.

January 18, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (January 18-25)

Begun in 1908, the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is an international Christian ecumenical observance framed by two commemorations, the Confession of Peter (Jan. 18) and the Conversion of Paul (Jan. 25). Both apostles are remembered together on June 29, but these two commemorations give us an opportunity to focus on key events in each of their lives. Today we remember that Peter was led by God's grace to acknowledge Jesus as "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:16). This confession is the common confession that unites us with Peter and with all Christians of every time and place.

January 21, Agnes, martyr, (c.291-c.304)

Agnes was a Christian girl of about thirteen living Rome, despite the Roman emperor Diocletian's ruling that outlawed all Christian activity. The details of her martyrdom are unclear, but it is believed she gave witness to her faith and was put to death as a result. Her name appears in all martyrologies in both the East and the West. In art she is often depicted with a lamb, no doubt on account of the similarity of 'agnus' and 'Agnes.'

Adapted from Sundays and Seasons

Ethic Restaurant Group



**Tuesday, January 17
at 7 PM
Mama Ricotta's Italian
Restaurant**

Please RSVP to Tom &
Judy Tolbert by Jan. 15



Book Study Group

Thursday, January 26, at 10 am—
both in person and via Zoom.

We invite all interested persons
to participate in the book group.
For additional information, please
contact Judy Tolbert or Kay
Sehorn.



*Tuesday Evenings
in February
in the Fellowship Hall*

Want to serve? Sign up in the Gathering Space!

Want to help? Please donate men's deodorant.



St. Mark's Annual Congregational Meeting

**1.29.23 4th Sunday after Epiphany
immediately following
the 10:30 am service.**

Thank you for your faithfulness in service
together to Christ at St. Mark's!

St. Mark's Prayer List

Jay Harbinson, David Mathis, Charlie Cox, Virginia Stackel, Joseph Tolbert, Robert Shirley, Rachel Fulp, Danielle Clausen, Carl Sepmeyer, Jeff Casella, Paul Davis, Rona Reeves, David Kutscher, Vann Milheim, Shirley Larson, Diann Krewson, Mindy Curley, Steve Rach, Oakley Coburn, Stanley Davis, Connie Pope, Arlene Fielding, Anthony Perrini, Sergei Kobiakov, Bill Schwartz, Mickey Byrd, Christopher Shirley, Kaoru Otsubo, Joan Love, Tony Ananich, Jon McKenzie, Betty Lentz, Jane Thompson, Kliffia Harman, Sandy Simon, Ingrid Keiris, John Ananich, Sam Temple, Jimmy Schwartz, Greg Bruce, and Helen Howard.
Please email Pastor McKenzie with Prayer List and other prayer requests (pastortimsmlc@gmail.com)

Readings for 1/22/2023, Third Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
*The Lord is my light and
my salvation. (Ps. 27:1)*
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

Birthdays

1/15 Jacob Wenzel
1/16 Betty Lentz
1/16 Melissa Lavoy
1/18 Jonathan Harms
1/18 Jane Thompson
1/19 Genna Hurley
1/20 Tara Thompson



Do you feel like you are in crisis? In Isaiah it is written, "Fear not, for I am with you; do not be dismayed for I am your God." Stephen ministers are here to show the Lord's love and comfort for you in times of trial. If you would like to confidentially speak to a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Tim (pastortimsmlc@gmail.com)

✝ ✝ ✝

Our Ministers

All the people of God at St. Mark's

Rev. Dr. Timothy McKenzie, Senior Pastor
pastortimsmlc@gmail.com

Lester Ackerman,
Director of Music Ministry, Organist
lackerman2@aol.com

Sue Wadgymer, Parish Administrator
stmarkselca1001@gmail.com

Jessie Craig, Finance Administrator
saintmarksfinance@gmail.com